



Okanagan Nation Alliance

101 – 3535 Old Okanagan Hwy, Westbank BC, V4T 3L7
Phone (250) 707-0095 Fax (250)707-0166 www.sylx.org

Request for Proposal

Project: Development of sylx Data Principles

Contract term: 2 years

“mnímłtət i?_kʷu_xatma? sqilxʷ, kʷu təmsqixʷxʷ atłá? t_təmxʷúla?xʷ, i?_túmtəmtət. təł_kʷəl 'əncútn sxʷíc 'c 'xtət i?_túmtəm 'tət ksnpyíłsməntəm kstxt 'əntím uł kskəłqixʷəntəm. i?_misq 'sápi? i?_kʷu_xatma?sqilxʷ kʷu_skʷliwtx i?_túmtəmfət.”

We are the unconquered aboriginal people of this land, our Mother. The Creator has given us our mother, to enjoy, to manage, and to protect. We, the first inhabitants, have lived with our mother from time immemorial.

~ Okanagan Nation Declaration 1987

Organizational Overview:

The Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) is the tribal council for the Okanagan Nation member communities. The ONA's mandate is to advance, assert, support, and preserve Okanagan Nation sovereignty. Further, the ONA is directed to facilitate dialogue and form positions on areas of common concern.

Project at First Glance:

The ONA has been engaging with members and cultural knowledge keepers of the sylx Nation and collaborating with data specialists since 2021 to determine the most effective approaches to sylx data governance and many facets of data management. From the ONA perspective our tribal and collaborative work must consider and be sensitive to the fact that data is relational, reciprocal, and needs to reflect cultural worldview: sylx knowledge, values. This project is a continuum that involves aspects of governance and best management practices so that all work undertaken by this demonstration project will inform sylx people well into the future. It is also imperative that sylx data principles is a means for sylx people to assert sylx data sovereignty, and the creation of data principles must be based on nsylxcən (sylx language), sqlxʷłcawtət (sylx ways), and captikʷł (stories that convey sylx laws, responsibilities, songs, ceremonies, and ways).

The primary purpose and responsibility of the demonstration project is to establish foundations for the Nation Data Governance and management work. The project involves a literature review of captikʷł, conducting captikʷł analysis in relation to data, and implementing a language speaker consensus-building approach to develop sylx data principles and educational materials.

This project will bring together cultural knowledge keepers and fluent and learning nsylxcən language speakers to form a Sylx Okanagan Nation working group that will foster respectful dialogue, sharing and understanding of the objectives of this demonstration project. This ensures that sylx knowledge, cultural values, and worldviews are actively integrated “in motion”. Anticipated deliverables include hosting of captikʷł forum(s), sylx data information resource booklet and confirmed sylx data principles. Please note the sharing of indigenous knowledge will be under the strick guidance and approval of our cultural knowledge keepers and nsylxcən language speakers and Chiefs Executive Council approval.



Key Objectives for the Project:

1. The ONA Data Planner Team, will work to create a selection of captikwł to review and present to nsyilxcən language speakers for further engagement and direction.
2. Conduct a captikwł analysis literature review report for review by the nsyilxcən language speakers' working group and leadership
3. Proposed methods for process engagement with nsyilxcən language speakers and captikwł forum participants
4. Develop and implement a process to engage nsyilxcən language speakers and captikwł forum participants in the assessment and analysis methodologies in identifying data principles and cultural teachings.
5. Co-facilitate captikwł forum(s) to engage Syilx Okanagan nation members
6. Developed Draft of Data principles document that reflects nsyilxcən, sqlxwłcawtət, and captikwł values and worldviews.
7. Data educational information booklet that is guided and directed by nsyilxcən language speaker working group, and leadership
8. Final Nation engagement of data principles and educational information resource booklet

Desired Qualifications:

- Preferred a minimum of (3) years related work experience with syilx research methodology and community-based engagement.
- Extensive knowledge in the following areas: captikwł and a deep understanding of syilx culture and story methodology.
- Proven ability in group facilitation and engagement processes with syilx language speakers and technical staff.
- College or University education in related fields is an asset.
- syilx ancestry is preferred.

Desired Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Knowledge and understanding of syilx interests as they relate to Indigenous knowledge, research, and data sovereignty.
- Strong knowledge and proven experience in areas of syilx cultural research.
- Extensive experience interpreting cultural and technical information gathered through various means of engagement.
- Ability to work closely with elders and community members to ensure inclusion of traditional knowledge and nsyilxcən language.
- Ability to write reports and educational materials.
- Must have excellent interpersonal and community skills to support relationship-building and consensus-building.
- Availability of a reliable vehicle and a valid BC Driver's License.
- Ability to work flexible work hours and willingness to work on evenings and weekends.

Request for Proposal (RFP)

Your RFP, in confidence, must include:

- A concise description of your experience in fulfilling the Roles and Responsibilities;
- A plan to meet deliverables, timelines, and budget;
- References, including names, positions, email, and phone numbers.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Applications for this proposal will be open until filled.

Send your proposal by email with the subject line “**captikwł Analysis and Report**” to:

Okanagan Nation Alliance - Wellness HR

Wellness.HR@syilx.org

