Guidelines

**for linguists and other researchers
working with endangered language communities**

1. **Relationality**: Initiate & always circle back to relationships, prioritising them over specific outcomes and committing to them over the long term (not ending with the end of the research)
2. **Humility**: Honour community expertise, be prepared to listen & learn, and respect multiple understandings of knowing, doing, and languages
3. **Listening**: Pay attention to communities' listening practices, appropriate listening "from within"
4. **Flexibility**: Adapt goals as you learn more, re-evaluate and re-clarify aims & needs of the community, practical considerations, relationship conducts, values & boundaries, and accountability
5. **Sensitivity**: Educate yourself on the context & history of the community, invest in training for trauma-informed work
6. **Respect/Transparency**: Communicate clearly without using academic jargon - aims, benefits, background, former collaborations, envisioned collaboration, gathered information; how can you build & strengthen community capacity, knowledge, understanding, resources, & skills
7. **Reciprocity**: Work in mutually sustaining and beneficial ways; co-create and pay attention to real needs of the community
8. **Self-awareness/Self-reflexivity**: Continuously reflect on ideologies of the disciplines, beliefs, ways of knowing, own background, motives, and goals
9. **Responsibility**: Clearly, honestly and continuously discuss responsibilities & obligations, recognise that you carry immense responsibility, share your knowledge to enable informed decisions
10. **Collaborative collaboration**: All parties should have equal agency in creating the research - research *with* participants, co-creating not only outcomes, but already the research design; sharing knowledge, not only information

Based on:
Leonard, Wesley Y. & Erin Haynes. 2010. Making "collaboration" collaborative: An examination of perspectives that frame linguistic field research. Language Documentation & Conservation 4. 269-293.
http://hdl.handle.net/10125/4482

A Linguist's Code of Conduct: Guidelines for Engaging in Linguistic Work with Indigenous Peoples
Anna Belew and Amanda Holmes, Endangered Languages Project
https://fpcc.ca/resource/a-linguists-code-of-conduct/

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