



To Improve the quality of life for all tribal members, through culturally-competent, custom-fit research

Fast Facts

Native American Heritage Month

Native American Heritage Month starts in November and its Honoring Indigenous Identity & Culture

Highlights

INRG Board Member
Carol Davis

TNRG IRB Member Denise Lajimodiere becomes North Dakota's first Native American Poet laureate.

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

717, Chief Little Shell St. NE, Belcourt, ND | June 2023 | www.tnrg.org



Tribal Nations Research Group

Tribal Nations Research Group promotes high quality research relevant to the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians. The research results provide custom fit data and data ownership, promotes public and private economic development and opportunity, and upholds positive images of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Community.

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What We Do:

Data Center Research
Review Board
Community Engagement & Education
Research and Development
Planning & Professional Services

OLD NEWS

UND, Reginal Universities Receive National Science Foundation Engines Grant



Along with five other reginal universities, UND has been awarded nearly \$1 million from the U.S. National Science Foundation's Regional innovation Engines (NSF Engines) program. UND leads one of the 44 teams nationwide in receiving one of the first- ever NSF Engines Development Awards, which aims to help partners collaborate to create economic, societal and technological opportunities for their regions. UND and its partners from across four states in the region will work to build a framework (the "engine") that catalyzes autonomous system development and fielding, enabling the accelerated realization of economic and humanitarian benefits from autonomous systems technology across a wide range of use cases.

Und will focus on uncrewed aircraft, transportation, energy, national security, and rural health initiatives. The other reginal partners in the grant, as well as their focus areas, are: Tribal Nations Research Group (TMBCI), data protection mining, management, and tribal partner outreach; Montana State University, smart optical sensors; Montana State University MilTech, technology transition from research to commercialization; South Dakota Mines, mining and autonomous mining



OLD NEWS

Data Matters Conference

The 2023 Data Matters Conference was a huge success! We had an amazing turn out with 20 booths registered and about 200 attendees! The Data Matters Conference was one and a half day event and was held at the SkyDancer Event Center. The conference kicked off with Anita Frederick welcoming everyone and explaining a little about the conference. All together there was 13 presenters including the evening event panelists. All the presentations explained how data is used in different areas of work. Each presentation had it's own unique information/ data about their organization or study. The Data Matter Conference featured two keynote speakers Jerilyn DeCoteau and Dr. Stacie Blue both successful TMBCI enrolled members.

The Evening fashion show event put on by Dr. Jessica MetCalfe owner of Beyond Buckskin featuring Bineshi Ikwewag owned and operated by Dr. Angela LaRoocque and her family brought in a crowd of almost 300. The fashion show showcased not only beautiful pieces but beautiful native people as well! Grey Willow Production really did an amazing job with making our conference run smoothly and look amazing as well as the SkyDancer Casino staff! All in all the conference was successful and we look forward to the next one!



UPDATES

Tribal Colleges & Universities Program Research Symposium



The TCUP Research Symposium provides the opportunity for the National Science Foundation to showcase emerging researchers and their research at TCUP institutions. The symposium is part of NSF's on-going efforts to determine impacts and offer the best support for future growth in Native STEM education and research.

Tribal Nations Research Group had a wonderful opportunity to host the Tribal Research Symposium at the National Science Foundation (NSF) building in Washington DC on August 9th, 2023. Tribal College student researchers and faculty from across the US and Hawaii presented their critical community based research projects! Each student showcased their research with the help of their advisor, each research project varied from Linking Cultural Knowledge and STEM to Understanding the Ecological Impacts of Restoration in Hawaiian Fishponds .

The National Science Foundation in partnership with The Tribal Nations Research Group (TNRG) is excited to announce that the 2023 Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP) Research Symposium will be held again in February 28-29, 2024 in Alexandria, VA at the National Science Foundation Headquarters.



TCU Symposium 2023



UPDATES

Bush Feature TNRG President Anita Frederick "Building Dynamic Data"

Bush fellow, TNRG President Anita Frederick was featured in Bush Foundation story. In their she explains her start with TNRG what drove her to bring the correct data to the Turtle Mountain Reservation. Data drives Anita B. Frederick (BF'09). As a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (TMBCI), she has learned firsthand the importance of accurate data and how populations can be underserved when research is lacking. Issues go undocumented and patterns cannot be identified without evidence or documentation—for example, about the extent to which fresh food access may factor into community health. For years, Indigenous populations have been excluded from the process of gathering and reviewing data, leaving gaps and a lack of representation. That's why Frederick focuses on gathering data to improve the lives of those in her tribal nation in Belcourt, North Dakota, as well as other tribal nations. Frederick's journey to dig for data began in 1995 when she worked at Turtle Mountain Community College for 18 years. While there, she managed the student information systems as the dean of students. "I was always really interested in information systems and what they could do for us as people," she says.



To read more please check out the link below!
<https://www.bushfoundation.org/story/building-dynamic-data?fbclid=IwAR3YYRGYSVTKd2bBgxNmi4HfmS3TAoNqvJyflVCdsS5oMy6WsjtqobcPN6o>

North Dakota Healthy Outcomes Program (NDHOP) receives the NDPHA "Public Health Team of the Year Award"!

TMHLC

The Turtle Mountain Healthy Living Coalition received the "Public Health Team of the Year Award" on June 15th at the 2023 Awards Banquet during the Dakota Conference on Rural and public Health. This award honors a team that has worked collaboratively on a unique, creative, or outstanding public health effort, program, or goal.

NDPHA PUBLIC HEALTH TEAM OF THE YEAR



**NORTH DAKOTA
HEALTHY
OUTCOMES
PROGRAM**

HIGHLIGHTS

TNRG Board Member Dr. Carol Davis Water Protector, Anti-Fracking Activist, and Community Leader!

Dr. Carol Davis a TMBC elder has done and continues to do many important things for the TMBC Tribe. One of the main ones is fighting for water! Dr. Davis is educating the TMBCI community and the public about how important our water is as well as fighting for no fracking on the Turtle Mountain reservation.

Former vice president of TMCC, Carol made the decision to take a stand against fracking. She put together a team among them women who led water ceremonies. In the Ojibwe tradition the women are responsible for caring for the water. Dr. Carol Davis continues to speak on and protect the water. The Water Protectors still have meetings and spread awareness about the importance of water and the dangers of fracking.

To read more about Dr. Carol Davis and her work on no fracking check out the link!



<https://tribalcollegejournal.org/protecting-the-sacred-water-bundle-educating-about-fracking-at-turtle-mountain-community-college/>

TNRG Associate Member April Walker a Senior Civil Engineer, Water Protector

April E. Walker P.E., C.F.M. is a licensed professional engineer in ND and SD. She 's a Certified Floodplain Manager and member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers. In addition she has experience in the fields of Water Resources, Transportation Engineering, and in local government administration and planning. North Dakota native who graduated from Turtle Mountain Community High School. She went on to North Dakota State University and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. She currently resides in West Fargo ND and works as a private consultant. Her role as a consultant April is seeking to bring the skills she has acquired to benefit a broader population. April also serves as an Adjunct Professor for NDSU, she is a member of the City of West Fargo's Planning Commission and serves on the Board of Directors for the FM Area Foundation.



OPPORTUNITY

Become an Associate Member!

What is an associate member?

An Associate Member is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians who wants to actively participate in research and initiatives that will improve the standard of living for American Indians. The Mission driving the Tribal Nations Research Group is "To improve the quality of life for all tribal members through culturally-competent, custom-fit research". Associate Members can either directly or indirectly or indirectly apply their knowledge, expertise, and experiences toward addressing the publicly stated mission. An Associate Member can contribute independently or collaboratively with TNRG serving at the Catalyst for positive change among the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians (TMBCI).

Do I have to be enrolled?

We require that all associate members are enrolled members of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians tribe. This assumes that all associate members will have an intrinsic motivation to positively improve the welfare of the TMBCI community

How will I contribute?

We lean on our associate members in their areas of expertise and call on them often to help in different realms of our systems. We also promote their accomplishments on our website and at our events to help promote their careers.

We want you to become an Associate Member today to help shape a better tomorrow for the Turtle Mountain Community Tribe!

To Locate the associate member page on our website at www.tnrg.org

OPPORTUNITY

Data Center Committee

What is a Data Center?

Tribal Nations Research Group has been working consistently to get the Data Center up and running. We currently are dealing with some road blocks but Kylie Keplin Director of Operations has been working diligently to make sure the Data Center will be easy to work with for those who are researching or just collecting data . Presently all the policies are drafted and the website is currently being built. TNRG's number one goal is to create a safe space where the TMBCI's data is protected as well as for those seeking public knowledge to be able to access it without any struggle!

How will the Data Center help the community?

The Data Center will help the community not only improve the data but up to date data that is relevant. The data center will uphold the protection of the tribes data as well as any organization that utilizes it.

Data Center Committee

TNRG is currently looking for community members, program directors, and knowledge keepers to assist in the Data Center as a Data Committee. The data committee will help TNRG to figure out what is needed for a Data Center as well as what they would like to see come from having a data center.

To learn more about the Data Center please check out the website at www.tnrg.org

FUTURE EVENTS

TCUP Research Symposium

Tribal Nations Research Group will be facilitating Tribal Colleges & Universities Program Research Symposium funded by the National Science Foundation on February 28th & 29th, 2024 in Washington D.C



SERVICES

- Community Assessments
 - Community Health Assessment
 - Food Sovereignty
- Community Surveys
- Data Collection & Analysis
- Research Review Board
- Research Catalog
- Program Evaluation
- Data Center
- Community Health Profile & Research Priority Coordination
- Conference Planning and Organization



PROJECTS

Data Center

Tribal Nations Research Group has been working consistently to get the Data Center up and running. We currently are dealing with some road blocks but Kylie Keplin Director of Operations has been working diligently to make sure the Data Center will be easy to work with for those who are researching or just collecting data. Presently all the policies are drafted and the website is currently being built. TNRG's number one goal is to create a safe space where the TMBCI's data is protected as well as for those seeking public knowledge to be able to access it without any struggle!

PLATFORMS

Tribal Nations Research Group is currently on Facebook, Instagram, and updating our Twitter account. Be on the lookout for updates, news, events, and information. We also do a Quick Fact Friday and Lunch & Learns. Check it out!



TNRG Partnerships

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National Science Foundation



Administration for Native Americans



**Turtle Mountain Band of
Chippewa**



University of North Dakota



Committed to the future of rural communities.

**United States Department of
Agriculture**

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Non-Profit Organization

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**Turtle Mountain Community
Public Schools**



The Bush Foundation

