



FNIGC | CGIPN

First Nations Information Governance Centre
Le Centre de gouvernance de l'information des Premières Nations

THE FIRST NATIONS PRINCIPLES OF OCAP®

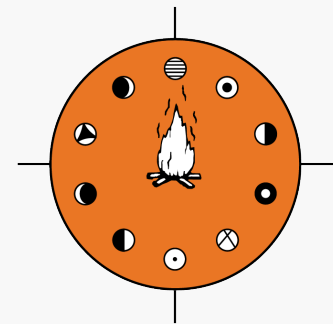
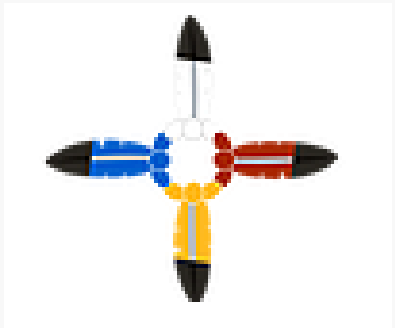
Kristine Neglia

**Senior Manager, Education &
Training**

FIRST NATIONS INFORMATION GOVERNANCE CENTRE

- Rooted in the mid-1990s work to develop OCAP[®] and the Regional Health Survey.
- First Nations non-profit, incorporated in August 2010 following a mandate from the Assembly of First Nations Chiefs in Assembly (#48–2009).
- Guided by principles, research ethics, and a cultural framework developed by First Nations for First Nations.
- Nations come together through Regional processes; Regions come together to do national-level work.

FNIGC MEMBERS & GOVERNANCE



Assemblée des Premières
Nations Québec-Labrador
Assembly of First Nations
Quebec-Labrador



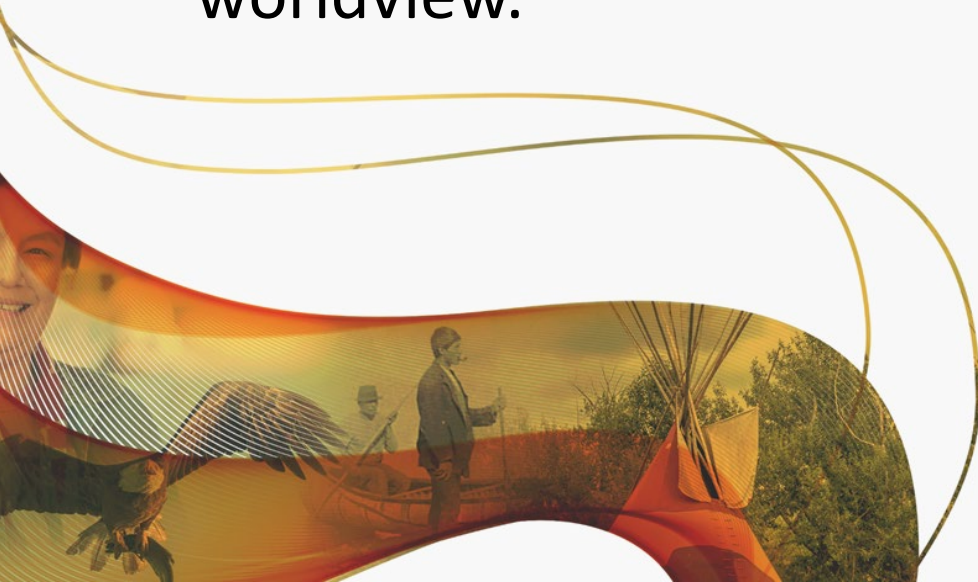
About FNIGC

VISION

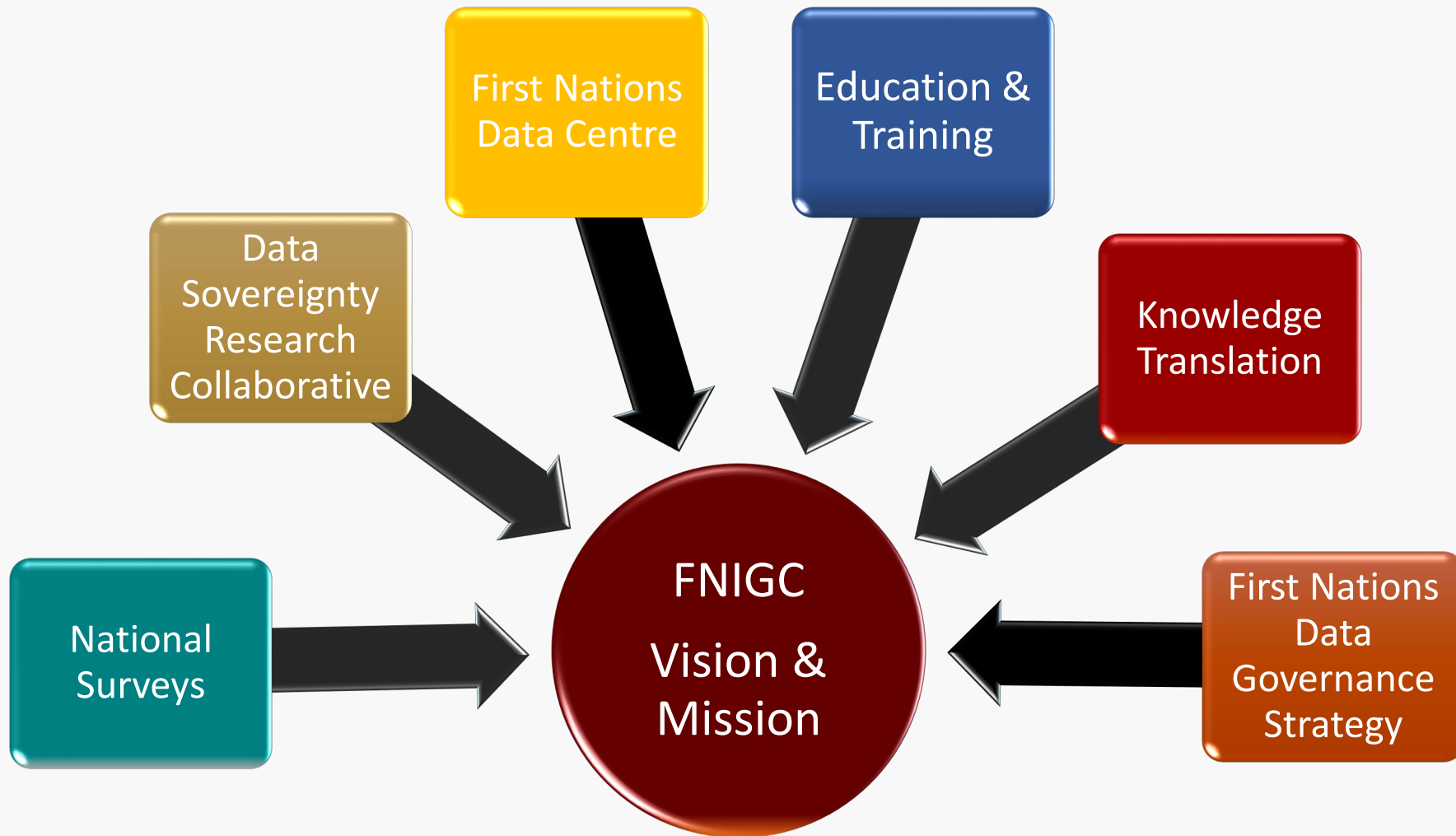
The FNIGC envisions that every First Nation will achieve data sovereignty in alignment with its distinct worldview.

MISSION

With First Nations, we assert data sovereignty and support the development of information governance and management at the community level through regional and national partnerships. We adhere to free, prior and informed consent, respect nation-to-nation relationships, and recognize the distinct customs of nations.



OUR WORK



LEGACY OF UNETHICAL RESEARCH

- Long history of First Nation peoples and communities being subjects of research.
- Much of the research literature has been written from a colonial perspective resulting in a limited representation, and often with stereotypical and damaging depictions of First Nations peoples.
- The legacy of unethical research practices experienced by First Nations communities had led to mistrust in research and information-sharing with non-First Nations researchers, institutions, and governments.

DATA MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- Sharing of First Nations data without the consent or knowledge of the community;
- Commercialization of First Nations data;
- Over-collection of First Nations data; and
- Data collected without the intent or capacity to improve the well-being of First Nations.

FIRST NATIONS DATA SOVEREIGNTY



WHAT IS FIRST NATIONS SOVEREIGNTY

- First Nations, as sovereign states and rights holders, have an inherent right to govern their peoples, lands, and resources.
- These rights are confirmed in Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution, Section 25 of the Canadian Charter of Human Rights, UNDRIP, DRIPA, UNDA

FIRST NATIONS DATA SOVEREIGNTY

First Nations Data Sovereignty is the right (inherent and constitutionally-protected) to exercise authority over its data & information:

- Includes the right to govern the collection, ownership, and application of its own data.
- To protect the traditional knowledge, cultural expressions, and intellectual property.
- Reflects First Nations' desires and interests to manage information in ways that are consistent with their laws, practices, and customs.
- Is a crucial step toward nations' self-governance aspirations and is an exercise of self-determination.

THE FIRST NATIONS PRINCIPLES OF OCAP®

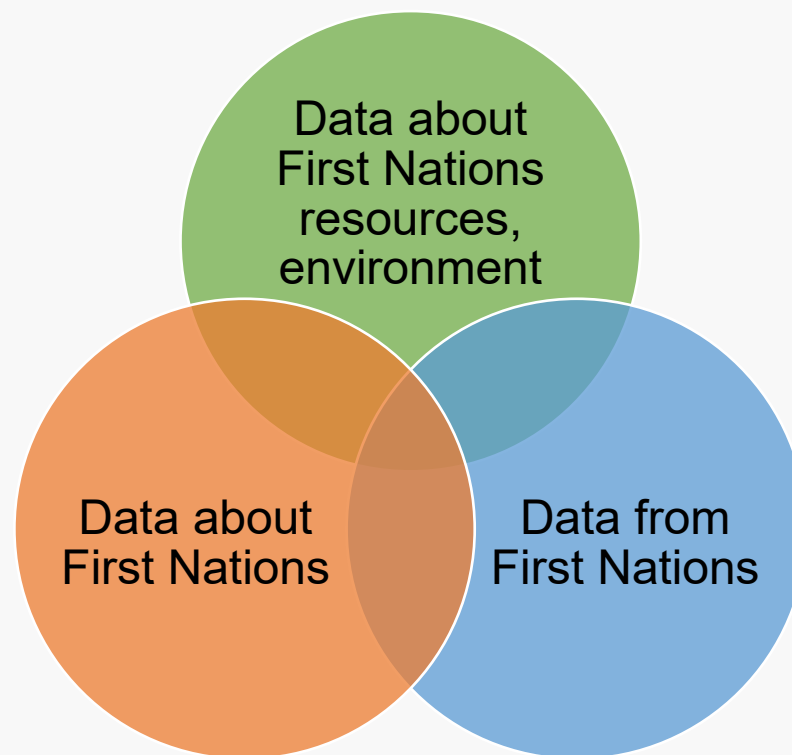


First Nations Principles of OCAP[®]

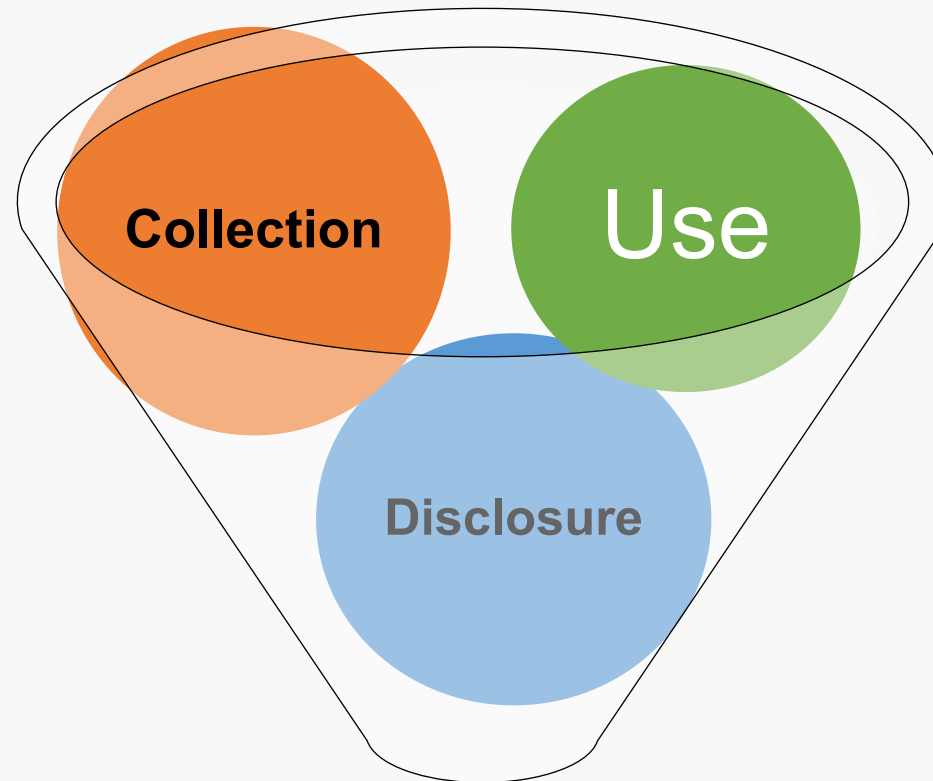
- Originally coined as “OCA”: “Ownership, Control and Access” in 1998 at the National Steering Committee of the First Nations and Inuit Regional Longitudinal Health Survey (RHS)
- The “P” was soon added to create OCAP[®] to recognize the importance of “possession” of First Nations data in achieving “OCA”, and the rights (and limitations) associated with possession.



Ownership



CONTROL



First Nation Control

Access

Who has Access

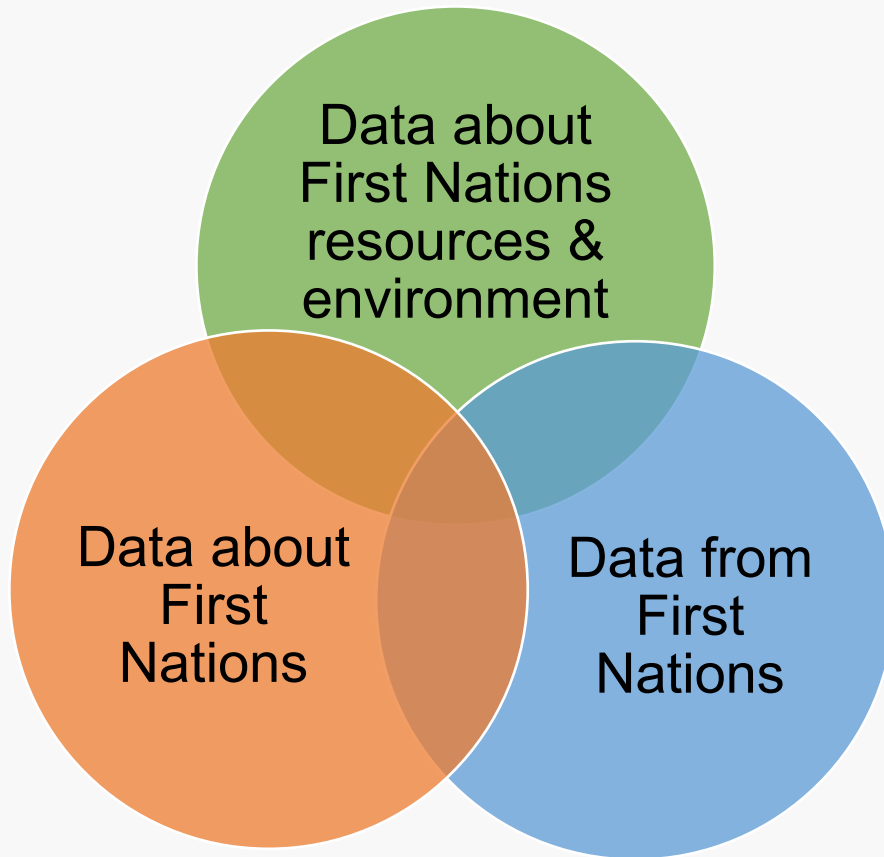
**Limitations of
Access**

**Who does not
have access**

**Conditions of
Access**



Possession

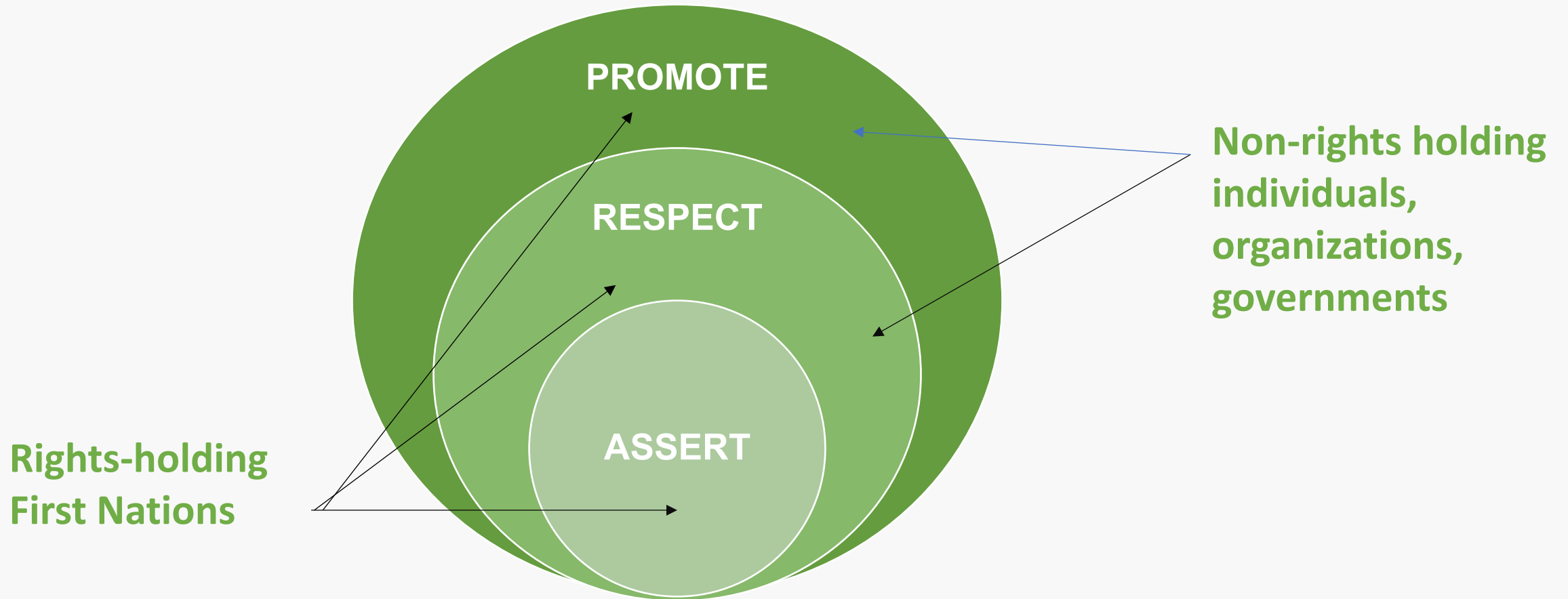


FIRST NATIONS PRINCIPLES OF OCAP®

OCAP® acknowledges and respects that the right of First Nations self-determination includes the jurisdiction to make decisions about research in their communities.

- OCAP® principles are a set of standards that establish how First Nations data should be collected, protected, used, or shared.
- Reflects First Nations commitments to use and share information in a way that brings benefit to the community, while minimizing any possible harm.
- The rights of First Nations communities to own, control, access and possess information about their peoples is fundamentally tied to self-determination and to the preservation and development of their culture.

WHERE ARE YOU LOCATED?



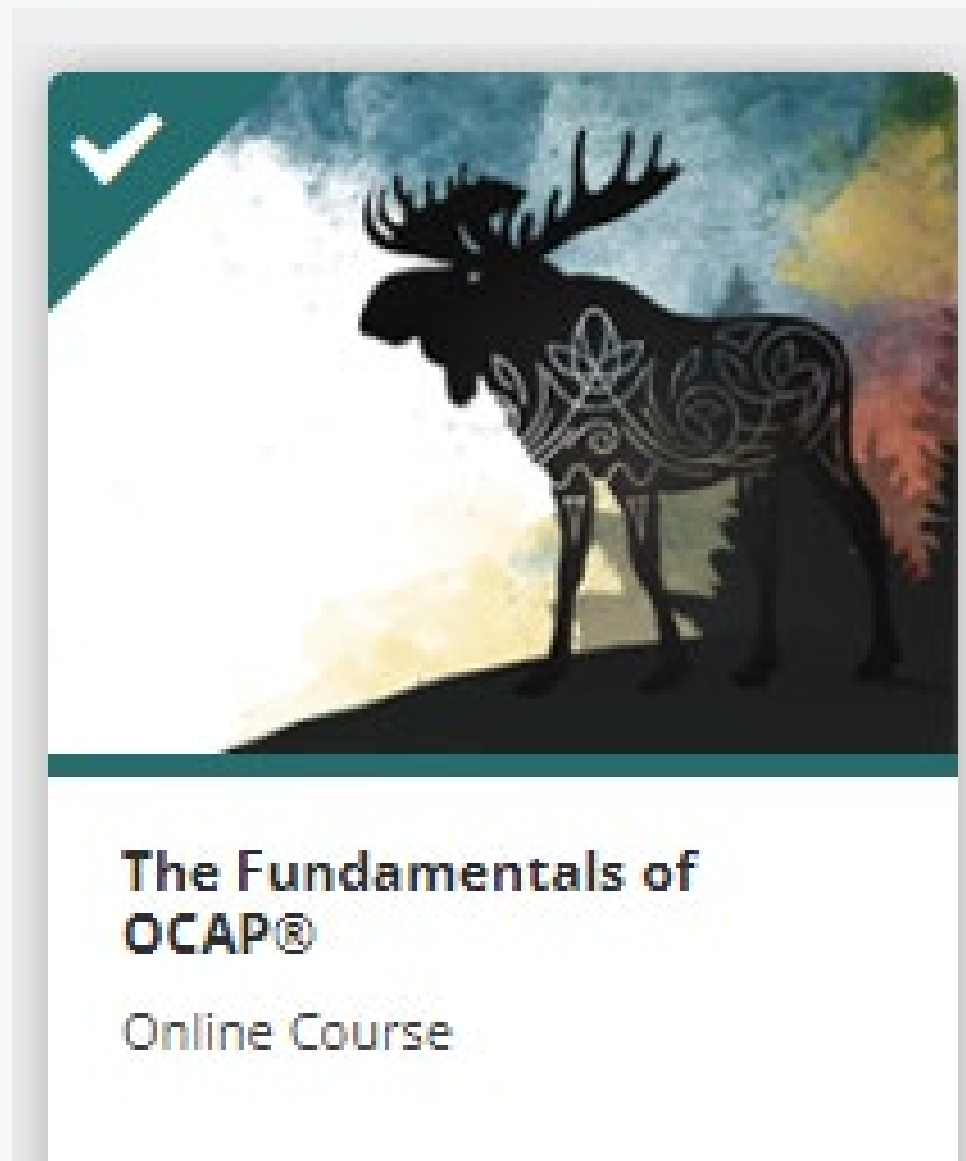


OCAP[®] Trademark

- FNIGC was tasked with stewardship as a protective measure against misuse, misapplication or improper interpretation of what OCAP[®] means and how it is to be applied.
- FNIGC registered trademark status of the OCAP[®] logo in 2015.

FUNDAMENTALS OF OCAP[®]

- Online training course
- Offers a comprehensive overview of the OCAP[®] Principles
- English course launched August 2023
- French Course launched July 2024
- **Registration webpage:**
<https://learning.fnigc.ca>



FNIGC STUDENT BURSARY

- Established in 2011, the FNIGC Student Bursary formerly known as the National Student Bursary, is awarded each year to exceptional First Nation students enrolled in college or university studying in fields related to the advancement of First Nations data sovereignty.
- Awards of \$2,500, free registration to *The Fundamentals of OCAP*® course, and for the second year, a mentorship opportunity within FNIGC's First Nations Data Centre
- The deadline for applications to the 2025 FNIGC National Student Bursary is **Friday, November 7, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. EST.**



**For more information, please visit
WWW.FNIGC.CA**

Chi Miigwetch

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