

What Qualifies as an Authentic Indigenous Resource?

To be labeled as an Authentic Indigenous Resource:

1. “A work must be written by, or have received substantial contribution or participation of, an Indigenous person(s) (i.e. the work must present authentic Indigenous voices)” ([Strong Nations](#)).
2. A work must “depict themes and issues that are important within First Peoples cultures (e.g., loss of identity and affirmation of identity, tradition, healing, role of family, importance of Elders, connection to the land, the nature and place of spirituality as an aspect of wisdom, the relationships between individual and community, the importance of oral tradition, the experience of colonization and decolonization)” ([FNESC](#)).

Considerations:

- Sources used to create these statements are Strong Nations, First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC), ERAC (now Focused Education Resources), Surrey School District, and the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) (UNDRIP), wherein article 11 states:
Indigenous peoples have the right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites, artefacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies and visual and performing arts and literature.
- ERAC (now Focused Education Resources), Surrey School District, and Strong Nations all mention using FNESC as a resource in developing their own statements. As such, it was determined to adopt the same [guidelines](#) as are listed with FNESC.

References

First Nations Education Steering Committee, & First Nations Schools Association. (2016).

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