

Checklist: Systematic Relationship Building & Community Engagement Readiness

Purpose: To ensure systematic and respectful relationship building with communities through progressive phases of engagement

Task: Check off at least four activities in each phase before proceeding to the next phase

Phase 1: Foundation Building

- ☐ Completed comprehensive community background research
- ☐ Established contact with appropriate community leaders
- ☐ Participated in formal introduction protocols
- ☐ Attended at least three community events or gatherings
- ☐ Demonstrated basic cultural protocol knowledge
- ☐ Initiated relationships with diverse community members

Phase 2: Trust Development

- ☐ Maintained regular presence without a specific agenda
- ☐ Provided support for community priorities unrelated to your interests
- ☐ Demonstrated cultural respect through consistent, appropriate behavior
- ☐ Developed connections with multiple community members
- ☐ Shown reliability through follow-through on commitments
- ☐ Navigated at least one cultural misunderstanding successfully

Phase 3: Integration & Acceptance

- ☐ Received invitations to participate in community events
- ☐ Been included in informal decision-making conversations about the project
- ☐ Developed relationships with cultural knowledge keepers
- ☐ Contributed meaningfully to community initiatives or challenges
- ☐ Demonstrated understanding of complex community dynamics
- ☐ Established clear communication patterns and feedback mechanisms