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Mukurtu: an Indigenous Archive and Content Management Tool
New Website Announcement
www.mukurtuarchive.org
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In March 2010 the Mukurtu project was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Digital Humanities Start-Up grant to produce a beta-version of a freely available, open-source, standards-based community digital archive tool and content management system. As the third phase of an ongoing software production project, the Mukurtu team is aware that Indigenous and tribal libraries, archives and museums are underserved by both off-the-shelf content management systems (CMS) and open source CMS and digital archive/web production tools. Over the last decade as web technologies have diversified to include user-generated content and more sophisticated digital archive and content management tools the specific needs of Indigenous collecting institutions have been left out of mainstream productions. Based on long-term research and collaboration with Indigenous communities and collecting institutions, Mukurtu's development and production has focused on producing a digital archive and content management tool suite that meets the expressed needs of Indigenous communities globally. Specifically, Mukurtu:

1. Allows for granular access levels based on cultural protocols for the access and distribution of multiple types of content;
2. Provides for diverse and multiple intellectual property systems through flexible and adaptable traditional knowledge licensing templates;
3. Accounts for histories of exclusion from content preservation and metadata generation sources and strategies by incorporating dynamic and user-friendly administration tools and templates;
4. Provides flexible and adaptable metadata fields for traditional knowledge relating to collections and item level descriptions.

The Mukurtu beta demo version is now available from www.mukurtu.org. Check out the site and follow the links to learn more about the Mukurtu project goals, future development sprints, updates in features and collaborations.