The Native American Institute works to enhance the sovereignty, cultural continuity, and well-being of Tribes, Indian Communities, and Indian people.

Sign up for the NAI newsletter
If you would like to receive the NAI bimonthly newsletter, please email your full name, organization/unit, and email address to nai@msu.edu.

The Native American Institute (NAI) supports scholarship, programming, and research with practical applications in American Indian and Indigenous contexts. NAI supports campus and community collaboration and provides opportunities for faculty, staff, students, and the public to learn about issues facing American Indians and Indigenous Peoples. Through its efforts, NAI promotes sovereignty, self-determination, cultures, languages, traditional knowledge, capacity-building, leadership, and well-being as defined by Tribes, American Indian Communities, and Native organizations.

Core Values
The core values of the NAI are to:

- collaborate with Tribes, American Indian Communities, and Native organizations in an honest, transparent, and respectful manner;
- honor Native cultures, traditions, knowledge, languages, and practices; and
- support scholarship, programming, and research with practical applications in American Indian and Indigenous contexts.
NAI Programs
The Native American Institute (NAI) supports collaborative scholarship and programming for Tribes, American Indian Communities, and Native organizations.

Featured Projects
Anishinaabe Database Access Initiative
In collaboration with MSU Libraries and the State of Michigan Civil Rights Office, NAI is helping Tribal partners and Tribal colleges secure access to databases such as ProQuest by including them on MSU’s licenses. This will enable them to access files and documents that can aid them in their research on boarding schools and repatriation.

Michigan Boarding Schools Speaker Series
In partnership with MSU’s American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program, MSU’s Indigenous Law and Policy Center, and the Native Justice Coalition, NAI hosts renowned speakers who address the formation and impacts of Michigan boarding schools.

Resources for MSU
Guide to Land Acknowledgements
The NAI provides a land acknowledgment for use by the university and individuals to raise awareness about the Indigenous histories, perspectives, and experiences that took place before MSU was established.

nai.msu.edu/about/guide-to-land-acknowledgements

Reciprocal Research Guidebook
The NAI developed A Guidebook to Centering Community in Partnerships with Indigenous Nations to be used as part of a larger effort to support planning for and reflecting on research partnerships. It can be used individually, within a community of scholars, or in a graduate-level course.

nai.msu.edu/projects/reciprocal-research-guidebook