

## **CALL FOR BOOK CHAPTERS**

### **Indigenous Food Sovereignty: Concept, Cases and Conversations**

Indigenous food sovereignty is more relevant in the era of reconciliation for First Nations/Metis and Inuit peoples in Canada and North America. The alarmingly high rate of food insecurity among Indigenous peoples in Canada and resulting poor health and well-being outcomes compares very poorly to the rest of the Canadian population. According to recent available estimates, and 55% of First Nations households as compared to 7.7% of average Canadian households experienced moderate to severe food insecurity (Health Canada, 2012). There are multiple and complex factors for such disparaging rates of First Nations Food insecurity in Canada. At the same time, the cultural values and Indigenous perspectives on food security has been recognized as an essential pre-requisite for conceptualizing and designing food security issues among Indigenous communities in Canada ((Power, 2008). Food sovereignty, and in particular Indigenous Food Sovereignty challenged the dominant perception and intentions of food security, that emerged as a ‘big-tent’ and multi-faceted concept (Patel, 2009). The semantics and ideological debates between food security and food sovereignty by scholars and practitioners still persists (See a dedicated issue by ‘Dialogues of Human Geography’, Volume 4, Issue 2, 2014). Indigenous food sovereignty, adds another layer of complexity, evolved in Canada (Morrison, 2012) to position and support Indigenous self-determination and reclamation of traditional food systems and cultural identify of Indigenous communities from Canada (Morrison, 2012). A traditional food system is defined as “all food within a particular culture

available from local natural resources and culturally accepted. It also includes the socio-cultural meanings, acquisition, processing techniques, use, composition and nutritional consequences for the people using the food” (Kuhnlein & Receveur 1996, p. 418). Largely as a result of Indigenous efforts, Indigenous or traditional foods and associated knowledge systems have been rediscovered by scholars (Kuhnlein 2014), governments (Council of Canadian Academics 2014) and international agencies such as United Nation’s Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO 2013) as a viable strategy to improve well-being and mitigate complex challenges of achieving food and nutritional security for Indigenous communities in Canada and elsewhere. In this period of reconciliation, therefore, it is imperative to acknowledge and celebrate the role of Indigenous food systems in preserving, nurturing and protecting health and food security of Canadian communities and beyond.

We would like to invite contributions from scholars, practitioners, academic and non-academic researchers and students on this important area with hope to chart out a path to feeding the future. We look forward to your submissions for this exciting new book.

*Note: Indigenous refers to First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples.*

We invite contributions in three sections:

- A) Concepts of Indigenous food systems and/ or Indigenous food sovereignty:**
- B) Empirical research on Indigenous food systems in Canada and elsewhere**
- C) Commentary and Conversations on Feeding the Future through Indigenous foods**

**Potential topics under any of the three categories may include:**

- 1) Indigenous philosophies and perspectives on traditional food systems including food as cultural identity
- 2) Community-based innovations (initiatives, action-research, policies, practices) to improve the food security/ sovereignty of Indigenous communities in Canada facing unique and serious food security issues due to Government-led developmental/ policy-related, economic, cultural challenges and environmental changes
- 3) Innovative Indigenous land and food production, consumption and sharing systems as sustainable food systems
- 4) Community based initiatives and Indigenous Agrarian movements demonstrating effective and sustainable agriculture land-use (production) by local and Indigenous communities
- 5) Indigenous Seed saving stories and projects.
- 6) Critical review and analysis of recent legislative or policy changes on First nation's food security or food sovereignty
- 7) The role of Indigenous Women in maintaining local First nation's food security and food sovereignty
- 8) Lessons learned from the international experiences on effective partnership projects on Indigenous food security
- 9) Issues, challenges and perspectives on protection of traditional rights of access, harvesting, production, consumption and marketing of Indigenous food systems resources (e.g. land)
- 10) Issues and Innovations in market value chains while securing Indigenous food security and food sovereignty
- 11) Threats/challenges to and opportunities for Indigenous Food Sovereignty interventions

At this stage, we would like to invite abstracts of 500-750 words with a clear title, names of contributing authors and their affiliations. The abstract should be specific and concise and include specific purpose and objectives of research, background information, research approach and methods, key findings and key contributions to existing literature and practice of Indigenous food sovereignty in North America. This interdisciplinary book will be used as a text book for various undergraduate and graduate courses focusing on food sovereignty and Indigenous food sovereignty / systems in North American Universities and possibly beyond. We also believe that it can be used a reference books for senior undergraduate and graduate students, researchers, scholars, practitioners and teachers in Indigenous Studies/ Aboriginal Health/ Aboriginal Social Work and Development and Aboriginal Governance programs in Canada and USA.

**TIME LINE:**

**2016**

**Sept 18- Oct 18: Chapter proposals due**

**Oct 30- Nov 25: Screening and Invitation to Authors to submit full  
Chapter drafts**

**2017**

**Feb 1-March 15: First Draft Due**

**June 30 2017: Feedback to Authors**

**Oct 30-Nov 30: Final Chapter submission to Canadian Scholars  
publishing**

Please send your abstract to one of the editors at [priscilla.settee@usask.ca](mailto:priscilla.settee@usask.ca)

OR [s.shukla@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:s.shukla@uwinnipeg.ca).