



Ethics and Code of Conduct

Saskatchewan Archaeological Society

Effective Date: November 1, 2025

1. Purpose

This policy establishes the ethical principles and standards of conduct expected of all individuals and entities associated with the Saskatchewan Archaeological Society (SAS). It is designed to guide behavior across all SAS activities, including:

- Archaeological fieldwork and research
- Publications and academic contributions
- Education and outreach (e.g., ArchaeoCaravans, public programs, workshops, field schools, etc.)
- Advocacy and public engagement
- Organizational administration

This policy reflects the SAS' commitment to respect for cultural heritage, environmental responsibility, academic and professional integrity, social justice, and inclusivity.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all individuals and organizations involved in SAS activities, including but not limited to:

- Members
- Staff
- Volunteers
- Contractors and consultants
- Chapters and affiliated groups
- Collaborative researchers, archaeologists, and cultural heritage professionals
- Community partners and stakeholders

All members are expected to uphold this policy as a condition of membership.

3. Core Ethical Principles

The SAS expects all individuals to uphold the following principles across all Society activities, including archaeological work, education, outreach, advocacy, publications, administration, and community engagement:



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Website www.TheSAS.ca

Respect Cultural Heritage

Safeguard archaeological and cultural resources, support community stewardship, and honor Indigenous and local knowledge systems in all SAS programs and communications.

Ensure Environmental Responsibility

Conduct all fieldwork, events, and organizational activities with minimal ecological impact and a commitment to sustainable practices.

Act with Scientific, Educational, and Academic Integrity

Commit to accuracy, honesty, transparency, and proper attribution in all research, publications, educational materials, advocacy statements, and public communications.

Uphold Cultural Sensitivity and Indigenous Rights

Engage in respectful consultation, obtain informed consent where appropriate, and prioritize Indigenous and community-driven approaches in both archaeological and non-archaeological initiatives.

Promote Non-Discrimination and Inclusivity

Foster safe, inclusive, and equitable environments across all SAS programs, events, and publications, etc. free from harassment, discrimination, or bias based on race, gender, sexuality, disability, religion, or other identities.

Maintain Confidentiality and Privacy

Protect sensitive information obtained through research, education, advocacy, or administrative work. Respect privacy and adhere to relevant legal, ethical, and cultural protocols.

Avoid Conflicts of Interest

Disclose any real or perceived conflicts in professional, educational, or advocacy contexts, and refrain from using SAS roles or platforms for personal or financial gain.

Encourage Public Responsibility and Advocacy

Promote ethical stewardship of heritage through responsible advocacy, education, and outreach. Represent the SAS and the archaeological profession accurately and constructively in public forums and media.

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4. Professional Conduct

All SAS-affiliated individuals must:

- Support the Vision, Purpose, and Values of the SAS.
- Behave ethically and respectfully in all roles and interactions.
- Respect the rights of landowners, tenants, permit holders, and all community partners.
- Follow applicable provincial, federal, and international laws and conventions related to archaeology and heritage.
- Accept the decisions of the SAS Board and general membership, as per the Society's bylaws.

5. Implementation

This policy is supported by a series of procedural guidelines and documents tailored to specific SAS activities. These include both archaeological and non-archaeological functions of the Society, such as:

- Fieldwork and research protocols
- Educational programming and outreach (e.g., ArchaeoCaravans, workshops, field schools, public events, etc.)
- Publications, communications, and media engagement
- Advocacy and public policy initiatives
- Organizational administration

All SAS-affiliated individuals are expected to read, understand, and follow these supporting documents in conjunction with this overarching policy. These guidelines operationalize the ethical principles outlined above and ensure that consistent standards are applied across all areas of SAS activity.

6. Reporting and Enforcement

Violations of this policy may be reported to the Executive Director.

All reports will be reviewed confidentially and handled in accordance with SAS procedures for ethical accountability.