

ASTRO2020 STATE OF THE PROFESSION AND SOCIETAL IMPACTS

EXCERPTS SUPPORTING A COMMUNITY ASTRONOMY MODEL

Section 3.4.1 Engagement with Local and Indigenous Communities: The Model of Community Based Science

“Community-based science—a model for research in which **at every step in a project at least partial control remains with the community**—is an approach that has been implemented to various degrees in archaeology, forestry, arctic science, and others. It can serve as an example for a Community Astronomy approach to active, upfront, and sustained engagement with local and Indigenous communities.” [Section 3-33, Figure 3.14]

“The model of community-based science calls for researchers not to insist on exclusive control even in situations where it would be legally permitted to do so” [Section 3-32, Box 3.3] and “...would **ensure that local stakeholders have meaningful influence—including through decision-making and governance structures** at every stage—and involve local stakeholders in periodic assessments of when to decommission facilities.” [Section 3-35]

“**Conclusion:** NSF, NASA, DOE, facility managing organizations, project consortia, individual institutions, and other stakeholders can work to **build partnerships with Indigenous and local communities that are more functional and sustained through a Community Astronomy approach**, and by increasing the modes of engagement and funding for: (i) meaningful, mutually beneficial partnerships with Indigenous and local communities, (ii) culturally supported pathways for the inclusion of Indigenous members within the profession, and (iii) true sustainability, preservation, and restoration of sites.” [Section 3-35]

