Creating a Collaborative Curation Model

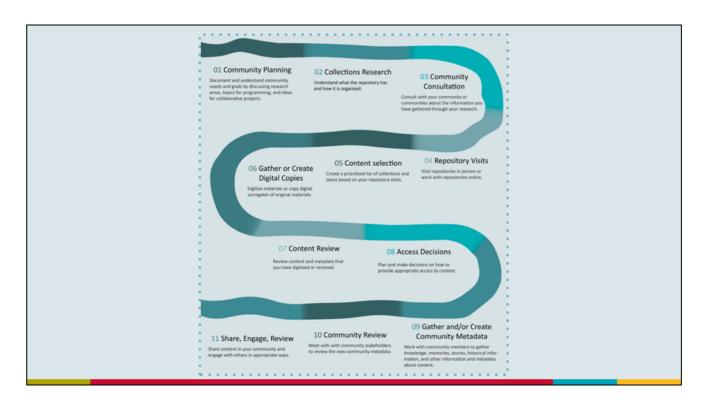
Digital Stewardship Curriculum

What is a Collaborative Curation Model?

- A plan, outline, or steps for...
 - Working with outside repositories
 - Working with your own community/ communities
- Knowledge focused
- Adaptable & flexible
- You might be wondering, what is a Collaborative Curation Model? A Collaborative Curation Model is a plan, outline, or steps for:
 - Working with outside institutions
 - For example, if you are an Indigenous archives, library, museum, cultural center, or other program or department...you might be interested in working collaboratively with federal, state, University, or local non-Indigenous archives, museums, or other external repositories
 - If you are a non-Indigenous institution, you might be interested in making your collections more accessible or engaging in partnerships with Indigenous communities some of this content might be helpful in your considerations and processes
 - Working with your community or communities
 - If you work in an Indigenous community, you might think about who in your community you work with, or want to work with. Is that governance, Tribal council, other departments or programs, groups or individual community Elders and cultural knowledge bearers, youth groups, school teachers, etc.
 - A collaborative curation model is Knowledge Focused it values building knowledge (whether about processes, about collections, about items), and it values the people providing knowledge
- A CC model is adaptable and flexible.
 - When creating a model, you should give yourself enough flexibility to make decisions on a case-by-case basis
 - Your model will also be adapted over time, shaped by your experiences, your community, and technological changes
- Members of the Tribal Digital Stewardship Cohort Program at WSU started drafting their own Collaborative Curation Models over a year. Many people were interested in getting copies of digital files from other institutions, or beginning a long term partnership with organizations. These professionals drew on visits to federal repositories in Washington, DC to add to their models over the year. It is a slow process to create, test, and improve a Collaborative Curation Model.



- To develop ideas for Collaborative Curation Model training, our staff at WSU drew from a project we knew very well. The Plateau Peoples' Web Portal is a long term collaboration between currently 8 Plateau Tribes and Nations, who parter together in one project, as you can see in the background image, the Columbia River unites the nations, while the Tribal Paths on the site reiterate the tribal sovereignty and unique approach to the project of each Indigenous community involved.
- In addition to a Memoranda of Understanding that each signatory Tribe and Nation holds with WSU as a University. The Plateau Peoples' Web Portal project has a Statement of Commitment for all partners to agree to. This can be viewed on the About page on the website
- One important aspect of the Portal is that Tribal partners can find, renarrate, and share their records, photographs, songs, stories, and other items that may be located at far away institutions. This digital file sharing process can occur in many different ways, depending on the holding institution, and WSU staff supports the goals and decisions of the Tribal partners every step of the way.
- As the Portal has developed, we can look back at past work, and determine steps that were taken to create one individual item. This thought process resulted in our Collaborative Curation Model for the Plateau Peoples' Web Portal.



- These are all of our steps for our Collaborative Curation model, based on our work with the Plateau Peoples' Web Portal tribes and nations.
 - We chose the metaphor of a river, because as you flow through the steps, some may be repeated, or the process may linger on some areas more than others.
 - You will have your own processes in your community you'll decide what this looks like for you - and what your various steps are for working with your community and with outside institutions.

Our steps are:

- Community Planning
- Collections research
- Community consultation
- Repository visits
- Content selection
- Gather or create digital copies
- Content review
- Access decisions
- Gather and/or create community metadata
- Community review
- Share, engage, review

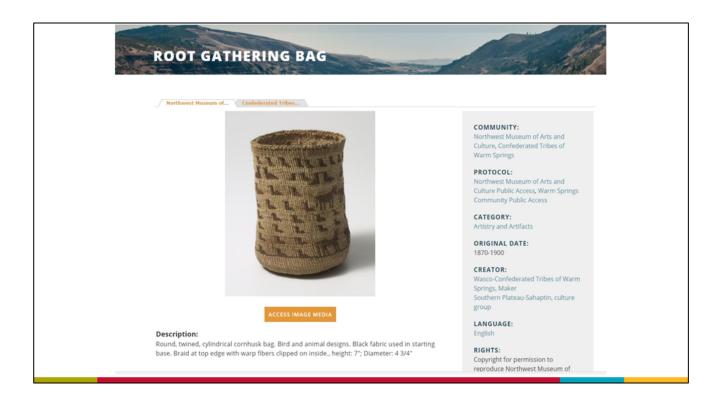


- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
 - Culture and Heritage
 - Community Elders
- Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture
- Washington State University/Plateau Peoples' Web Portal

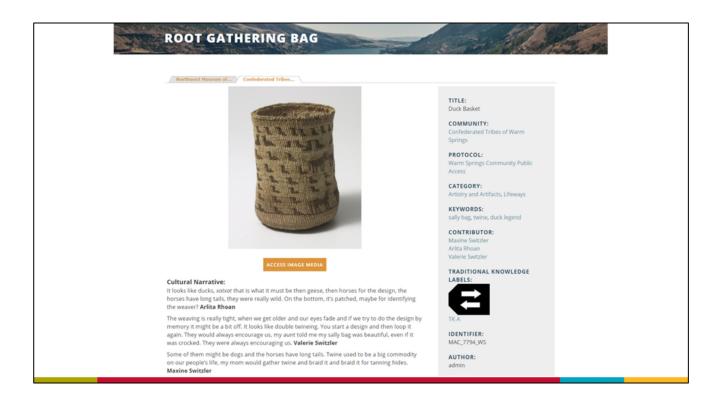
Duck Basket Example

Collaborative Curation in Action

- To illustrate our Collaborative Curation Model for the Plateau Peoples' Web Portal, I will show you one particular item's (The Duck Basket's) journey through this model.
 - This example comes from the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Tribal Path on the Plateau Peoples' Web Portal., Maxine Switzler, Arlita Roan, and Valerie Switzler are the women in this picture, and the people responsible for the Collaborative Curation process and knowledge around this basket.
 - The other collaborators involved are Washington State University (as Portal support staff), and the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture.



- This is a screenshot of a record on the Plateau Peoples' Web Portal for this "Duck Basket". It was selected by Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs representatives as they reviewed all items in a Tribal pass (or compilation of relevant items) from the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture.
- The Portal is built on the Mukurtu CMS platform, which allows for multiple community records, which appear as tabs at the top of the item.
 - We are now looking at the first tab, which shows the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture record. You can see the image of the basket, The title of "root gathering bag," a category of artistry and artifacts, a date range, rights and reproduction information, and a very basic physical description of the basket.
 - Nothing in this record is obviously wrong or offensive, but it is a very basic museum record, a bit sterile and standing alone.
- https://plateauportal.libraries.wsu.edu/digital-heritage/root-gathering-bag-3



- If we click on the second tab, we can see the confederated tribes of warm springs community record, with many new fields adding and enriching the story of this basket.
 - The title of "Duck Basket" has been added, along with Community and Protocol for Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, sharing with a public audience.
 - The category of Lifeways has been added, as well as the key words sally bag (the specific type of basket), twine, and duck legend. The contributors of this Knowledge are Maxine Switzler, Arlita Rhoan, and Valerie Switzler.
 - A traditional knowledge label has also been added, informing the viewer that the knowledge in this record should be attributed to the women contributing and the Confederated Tribes of Warms Springs. The Cultural narrative contains a written quote from each woman about the cultural knowledge they have chosen to share about the methods and materials of twining, memories of weaving with family, and the legend depicted in the imagery.
- https://plateauportal.libraries.wsu.edu/digital-heritage/root-gathering-bag-3

Cultural Narrative:

It looks like ducks, *xatxat* that is what it must be then geese, then horses for the design, the horses have long tails, they were really wild. On the bottom, it's patched, maybe for identifying the weaver? **Arlita Rhoan**

The weaving is really tight, when we get older and our eyes fade and if we try to do the design by memory it might be a bit off. It looks like double twineing. You start a design and then loop it again. They would always encourage us, my aunt told me my sally bag was beautiful, even if it was crocked. They were always encouraging us. Valerie Switzler

Some of them might be dogs and the horses have long talls. Twine used to be a big commodity on our people's life, my mom would gather twine and braid it and braid it for tanning hides. Maxine Switzler

Traditional Knowledge:





- Finally, in the traditional knowledge field, the women recorded a video, sharing the legend woven into the duck basket.
 - https://plateauportal.libraries.wsu.edu/digital-heritage/root-gatheringbag-3



01 Community Planning

- We can look at the story of this one item added to the Portal by Valerie, Maxine, and Arlita by looking at the steps of our Plateau Peoples' Web Portal Collaborative Curation Model.
 - Our step 1 community planning involved many visits to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs before doing anything. It was about 2 YEARS of discussions, listening to what the community wanted, meeting with different departments, before moving on to any of the other steps.







02 Collections Research

 Community members did research at various institutions holding their collections -- getting to know what is there, what the processes are -- different at each institution-- seeing the overlaps in collections also helps to see what is missing in the records.



03 Community Consultation

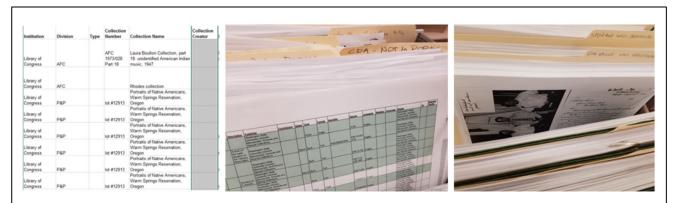
- Valerie took pictures, print outs a finding aid aback to WS and discussed there:
 - o Emphasized Community and family connections.
 - Then would update requests for more materials on subsequent visits.
 - After two years this lead to the final selection process at the repositories.





04 Repository Visits

- Multiple trips
- Consultation
- Viewed, held, stayed with materials
- Step 4: repository visits these were multiple trips with groups of community members, Elders viewed, held, touched, and stayed with a great many materials, including this duck basket.



05 Content Selection

- Adding to the Portal
- WSU worked with MAC
- Step 5: Content selection the final selection of what materials should go on the Portal, in the images you can see what is contained in what we on the project team call a "pass" - a prepared spreadsheet (digital and printed out) and copies or photos of materials to review. From there, the Tribal representative, with the help of their communities, use the Pass to make those final selections.



o6 Digitize, Create Digital Copies

- Digitization at the MAC
- Metadata and uploading at WSU
- Step 6: Gather or create digital copies
 - For the duck basket, the digitization and photography of items happened at the NW-MAC, and then WSU staff worked with their metadata, crosswalking it to the Portal fields, and finally uploading the item to the Portal.
 - For other items, this happens other ways, items might be loaned and digitized in house, or researchers might need to digitize materials at another collecting institution.



07 Content Review

Different community members and representatives

- Step 7 Content review -
 - Content review after selection by multiple sets of stakeholders (which
 might be different community members and representatives depending
 on the content) -- this was after selections -- could be seen as
 redundant but for us it is necessary to ensure community needs met.
 - For our Portal process we are able to put items in an "Under Review" protocol, which restricts access to only those in the Tribal community who need to weigh in during this step.





08 Access decisions

- Step 8 Access decisions In general for the Portal, we worked together to determine access at WSU and then for their own materials in the PPWP.
 Warm Springs community have 8 Cultural protocols in the PPWP governing access, and also use TK Labels.
 - It is important to remember that access decisions can change, so this step can be revisited as often as needed.



o9 Gather and/or Create Community Metadata

- Step 9 Gather and/or create community metadata -
 - For the Duck Basket, this gathering was done through conversation.
 The written quotes in the Cultural narrative field were transcribed while the speakers shared, and the video was shot as the women talked together about the duck basket.
 - This step takes time, effort, coordination, and sometimes additional tech skills or funding if recording audio/visual media.



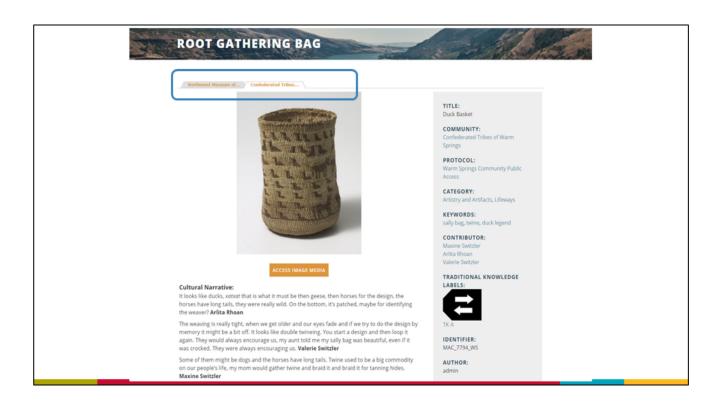
10 Community Review

- Step 10 Community review -
 - The community members who created the community metadata review their additions.

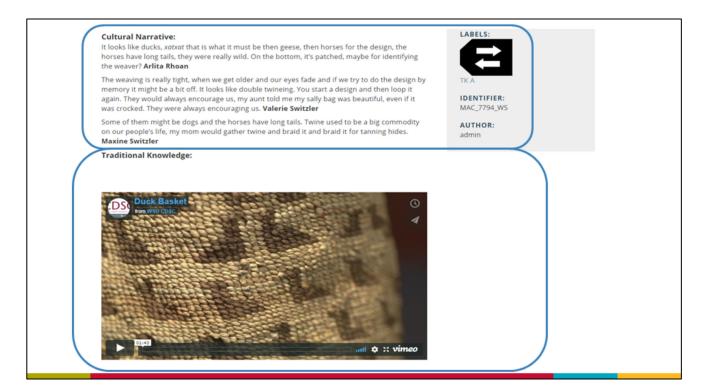


11 Share, Engage, Review

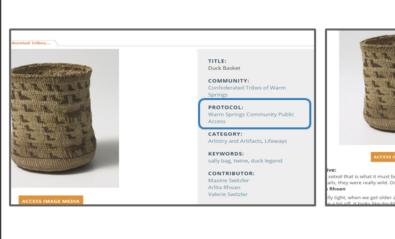
- Step 11 Share, engage, review -
 - This is the step that appears last on our model, but this is work that will continue indefinitely. The duck basket item (or other items on the Portal) might be shared with the Warm Springs community and interested publics, for children's language immersion classes, or for curriculum development as part of state mandate for public education to include local Tribal history in Oregon Senate Bill 13.

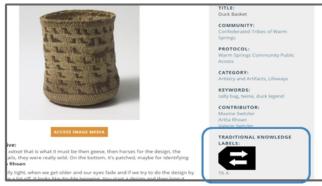


 While this is just one item selected and created by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs representatives on the Plateau Peoples' Web Portal it shows all the thought that went into creating the "Community Record" tab by the women of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.



- The cultural narrative, by typing up words shared around the table.
- The decision about using the Traditional Knowledge Label to specify where the knowledge should be attributed - to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the cultural knowledge holders Valerie, Maxine, and Arlita.
- And the traditional knowledge in the stories shared within the video, valuable knowledge to pass down to the next generation.





- Add Cultural Protocols and Traditional Knowledge labels -
 - Save Community Records using appropriate Cultural Protocols and Traditional Knowledge Labels in Mukurtu CMS.
 - Apply the necessary Cultural Protocols and Sharing Settings that you have decided upon for each record.
 - Add appropriate Traditional Knowledge labels to the items and Community Records to educate and inform site users.

O1 Community Planning Document and understand community needs and goals by discussing research areas, topics for programming, and ideas for collaborative projects. O2 Collections Research Understand what the repository has and how it is organized. Consultation Consult with your community or communities about the information you have gathered through your research.

1. Community planning

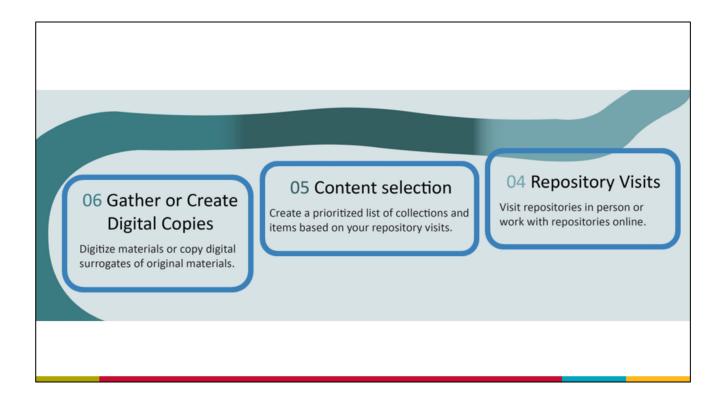
a. Document and understand community needs and goals by discussing research areas, topics for programming, and ideas for collaborative projects.

2. Collections research

Understand what the repository has and how it is organized.

3. Community consultation

 Consult with your community or communities about the information you have gathered through your research.



4. Repository visits

a. Visit repositories in person or work with repositories online.

5. Content selection

a. Create a prioritized list of collections and items based on your repository visits.

6. Gather or Create Digital Copies

a. Create or copy digital surrogates of original materials.

O7 Content Review Review content and metadata that you have digitized or recieved. O8 Access Decisions Plan and make decisions on how to provide appropriate access to content.

7. Content review

a. Review content and metadata that you have digitized or recieved.

8. Access decisions

 Plan and make decisions on how to provide appropriate access to content. 11 Share, Engage, Review
Share content in your community and engage with others in appropriate ways.

10 Community Review
Meet with with community stakeholders to review the new community metadata.

Work with community members to gather knowledge, memories, stories, historical information, and other information and metadata about content.

9. Gather and/or create community metadata

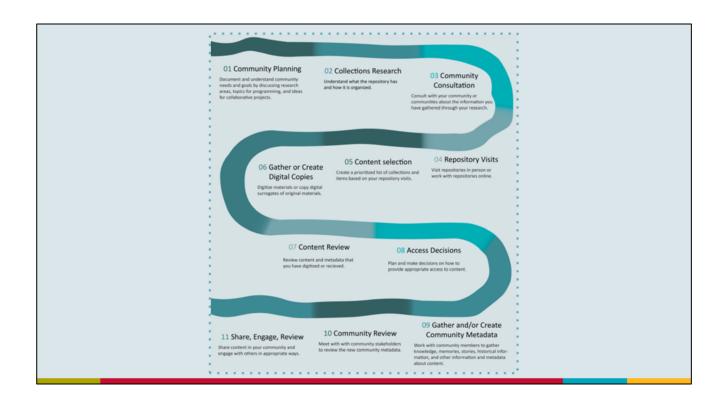
a. Work with community members to gather knowledge, memories, stories, historical information, and other information and metadata about content.

10. Community review

 Meet with with community stakeholders to review the new community metadata.

11. Share, engage, review

 Share content in your community and engage with others in appropriate ways.



• These are all of our suggested steps for Collaborative Curation, but you will have your own process in your community.



Discuss or Reflect

Choose *one* step from our Plateau Peoples' Web Portal Collaborative Curation Model Example

- Discuss with others if possible, or reflect on your own -
 - Choose one step from our Plateau Peoples' Web Portal Collaborative Curation Model Example.
 - See additional instructions on the next slide.

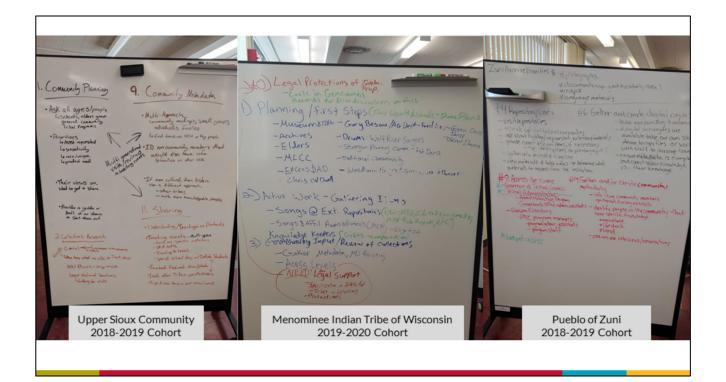
Discuss or Reflect

- Choose one step from our PPWP Collaborative Curation Model Example
- Explain the step, in relation to your community
 - How might you change/add to the step to make it more relevant to your situation?
 - o Get specific about what actions you would take.
- When ready, start adding a few other steps to your own Collaborative Curation Model
- Talk with others, or jot down some reflections for yourself -
 - O Take 20 or 30 minutes for this.
 - O Choose one step from our PPWP example model just one.
 - Instead of the duck basket and Plateau Portal, how would this step work for YOUR community or institution?



Next Steps

Start drafting your own Collaborative Curation Model steps.



- Get out the whiteboards, markers, legal pads, whatever helps you get some big ideas and brainstorming out. These whiteboards are examples of people's' first drafts from the Tribal Digital Stewardship Cohort Program. You could do this over a few hours, or spread over a couple days or weeks. -
 - You will start with just a few steps. Keep it small and approachable at first. From there, you can expand into more steps if it makes sense, or keep it limited to a few.
 - You might also take a look at our model example on the SHN, and have a discussion about what steps you might change, remove, or add for your purposes.
 - In past training, the number of steps people created ranged from a couple steps to a dozen steps, it all depends on what works well for your institution. Remember that what you create will be adapted and changed over time as you learn from experience.

Get to work on your Model...

- Choose THREE steps to focus on first (then expand)
- List out title of step, what is included in that step (what YOU would do for each step)
- Think of specific examples (collections, items, partners) to guide your thinking
- Adapt/change our example model to inspire your work, or start fresh with your own ideas
- Start to think about what YOUR Collaborative Curation Model will look like -
 - Use the SHN resource Collaborative Curation Model Worksheet and our example Model to help you make a draft.
 - Keep working at it until you have a draft you are satisfied with.
 - Then, when you are ready, start to test it in the field!
 - Use your collaborative curation model in actual partnerships and collaborations (with outside institutions, with your own community).
 - This will be the best way to then adjust and change things as needed, to find out what works and doesn't work.

Credits

- Images:
 - Collaborative Curation Model created by Center for Digital Scholarship and Curation and Kim Christen, graphic designed by Lotus Norton-Wisla
 - o Screenshots of the Plateau Peoples' Web Portal
 - All other images Kim Christen
 - o Slide 31 photos: Lotus Norton-Wisla, Washington State University
 - Created by Samantha Odegard and Drew Brockman (Upper Sioux Community), Rebecca Alegria and Monique Tyndall (Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin), and Cordelia Hooee and Lynn Bowannie (Pueblo of Zuni)
- Presentation template by <u>SlidesCarnival</u>.
- This template is free to use under <u>Creative Commons Attribution license</u>.
- These slides contain changes to color scheme and content.

Using this Resource

The Digital Stewardship Curriculum is an Open Educational Resource created by the Center for Digital Scholarship and Curation.

All presentations and resources created by the CDSC are licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 license (CC BY-NC-SA). Please share, reuse, and adapt the resources and provide attribution to the Center for Digital Scholarship and Curation, Washington State University.