PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT

AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples is committed to meeting and upholding the standard of ethical behaviour at all stages of the publication process. The ethics statement for AlterNative is based on the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors. These guidelines include the editor following certain rules on relations with readers, authors, and reviewers as well as procedures for handling complaints. Conformance to standards of ethical behaviour is expected of all parties involved: Authors, Editors, Reviewers, and the Publisher. Moreover, this ethics and malpractice statement sets out the specific responsibilities for all parties involved to ensure AlterNative complies with internationally accepted guidelines on carrying out ethical and culturally competent research involving indigenous peoples.

Author Responsibilities

Reporting standards: Authors should present an accurate account of the research performed, and offer an objective discussion of its significance. Underlying data should be represented accurately. The manuscript should contain sufficient detail and references to permit others to replicate the work.

Cultural competency and community representation: Authors of research that involves indigenous communities should have approval from recognized knowledge holders of the band, tribe, sub-tribe or nation involved in the form of research agreements and Ethics committee’s approval. Authors are expected to understand and respect indigenous worldviews and involve the community in determining the conduct of the research. They should design a study with participatory research and give the community and individual participants say in the anonymity and use of data. Dishonest, false or culturally incompetent statements and research conduct constitute unethical behaviour and are unacceptable.

Originality and plagiarism: Authors should ensure they have written entirely original works. The work and words of others must be appropriately cited or quoted. Plagiarism in all its forms is unethical and unacceptable.

Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication: The manuscript should offer new, original insights or interpretations that have not been published before or are under consideration for publication at another journal. Articles that have emerged from PhD theses or conference presentations are justifiable provided they meet the standards of presentation for a peer-reviewed article.

Acknowledgment of sources: The work of others must be properly acknowledged. Authors should cite publications that have been influential in determining the nature of their work.

Authorship: Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution or interpretation of the reported study. All those who
have made a significant contribution should be listed as co-authors. Others who have contributed in certain substantive aspects to the manuscript are listed in the acknowledgments section. All co-authors and responsible authorities at the institute or organisation where the research was carried out should have approved the submitted version.

**Disclosure and conflicts of interest:** Authors should declare all funding sources and any actual or potential conflicts including any financial, personal or other relationships with other people and organisations. Examples of potential conflicts of interest which should be disclosed include employment, consultancies, honoraria, paid expert testimony, grants or other funding.

**Fundamental errors in published work:** Authors are obliged to promptly notify the journal editors or publisher to retract the article or publish an appropriate erratum if they discover a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her published work.

**Editor Responsibilities**

**Publication decision and accountability:** The editors are accountable for everything they publish and have sole responsibility for the acceptance or rejection of a manuscript. The editors may confer with reviewers or editorial board members when making publication decisions. Articles are considered and accepted on their academic merit and without commercial influence. The editors will guard the integrity of the published record by issuing corrections and retractions and pursuing suspected or alleged research and publication misconduct when needed.

**Cultural competency and community representation:** The editors should ensure articles published in *AlterNative* show an understanding and respect of indigenous worldviews, knowledges and traditions and that the research reported was carried out in accordance with internationally agreed guidelines on ethical and culturally competent research with indigenous peoples. The editors expect authors to have obtained approval from recognized knowledge holders from the indigenous community under discussion and will only publish articles that advance indigenous knowledge.

**Fair play:** Unbiased consideration should be given to each manuscript, judging each on its merits without regard to the race, religion, nationality, sex, political philosophy, seniority, or institutional affiliation of the author.

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will be assigned to an Associate or Guest Editor to ensure a fair and appropriate process. Editors should require all contributors to disclose relevant competing interests and publish corrections if competing interests are revealed after publication.

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**Promptness:** Peer reviewers should only agree to review manuscripts for which they have the subject expertise required to carry out a proper assessment in a timely manner and should notify the editorial office immediately if they cannot fulfil this task so that alternative reviewers can be assigned.

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**Cultural competency and community representation:** Reviewers should further evaluate manuscripts in regards to accurate and ethical representation of indigenous worldviews and community representation.

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Scientific misconduct: In cases of alleged or proven scientific misconduct, breach of understanding and respect of indigenous knowledge or betrayal of an indigenous community’s or participant’s trust, fraudulent publication, or plagiarism, Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga will collaborate with the editors and, where possible, facilitate in the resolution of these cases.

References:

