

Editing With Respect: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Handbook 2026 Summary

A summary of the topics and ideas covered in “Editing with Respect: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Handbook 2026”.

Purpose and Audience

The handbook is intended to be a starting point for editors who are interested in learning how to edit consciously and sensitively. It will be continually updated to best serve editors thinking about these topics.

Guiding Principles

Editing with Respect: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Handbook 2026 is driven by the belief that EDI is everyone’s responsibility, along with the understanding that this work impacts each of us differently. As such, the document’s recommendations are grounded in intersectionality. This well-renowned framework (popularized by Kimberlé Crenshaw) is crucial for making sense of how the overlap of our social identities determines the privileges we have and oppression we face.

Content Overview

1. **Why Think About EDI?:** The significance of EDI in general and the role of editors in supporting clients striving for inclusive representation.
2. **Editors vs. Authenticity Readers:** The differences and similarities between editing and sensitivity reading.
3. **Editing with EDI in Mind: Before the Project**
 - Understanding one’s personal connections, biases, and suitability for projects.
 - Understanding the writer or client, their backgrounds, and lived experiences.
 - Understanding the target audience and the importance of editing with it in mind.
4. **Editing with EDI in Mind: During the Project**
 - How editors can flag language or framing that might be polarizing and harmful.
 - How editors can communicate honestly, openly, and respectfully.
 - How editors can manage fundamental disagreements that may arise with clients.
5. **Recommended Practices for Inclusive Language:** Recommendations to help editors ensure their knowledge or points of references are relevant, including flagging concerns, being aware of cultural and historical contexts, keeping up with changes in language, using specific terminology and querying when needed.
6. **Editing Content About Indigenous Peoples**
 - The complexity of editing content by or about Indigenous people and special considerations for non-Indigenous editors working with Indigenous clients.
 - Recommended practices for non-Indigenous writers or clients who want to include Indigenous Knowledge or depictions of Indigenous Peoples in their material, including:
 - Understanding the significance of trust, reciprocity, and collaboration
 - Reflecting on how or why Indigenous Knowledge fits into the material
 - Seeking permission to share this Knowledge, especially with Oral Tradition
 - Asking the source if and how they want to be credited
7. **Additional Considerations**
 - The importance of assessing the suitability of images and accessibility.