Tribal Repatriation Checklist

For a typical repatriation, the order of essential items on this list are chronological. Importance is indicated by color, as shown here:

- **Essential**: Critical for Repatriation Outcome
  - Helpful: Improve communication, reduce misunderstandings, and address Tribal financial and labor costs

### Consult with Tribes

**Required:**
- Tribal preferences for treatment & handling
  - Museum transportation and consolidation of collections
  - Museum signage, display, teaching collections, collection locations
- Tribal preferences for inventory & summary process
- Tribally identified cultural affiliation
- Tribal identification of cultural items
- Museum knowledge of contamination
- List of other consulting Tribes

**Helpful to Discuss Consultation Expectations with Tribes:**
- Frequency of meetings
- Outcome of meetings
- Tribal needs
  - Tribal funding needs
  - Reburial preparation location
  - Reburial preparation assistance
  - Reburial location assistance

### Review Preliminary Inventory & Summary Prior to Submission

**Confirm Tribal Consensus for Consultation Record:**
- Cultural item identifications: were Tribal identifications accepted and clearly identified?
- Cultural affiliation: was the Tribe clearly listed as culturally affiliated?
- Missing objects & Ancestors: are these addressed, or is there a plan to address them?

### Finalize, Submit, and Publish Inventory & Summary

- May update per review of catalogs, field notes, or other information
- Tribes may reverse finalization if desired
- Identify relevant timelines

### Place Claim

**Tribe Should Include in Claim:**
- Clear timeline for museum to accept claim, transfer control, and perform physical transfer

**NOTE:** Tribe may submit Claim any time during Consult.
- Coordination of Federal and State repatriation process
- Requests for additional documentation
- Helpful to copy NAHC and National NAGPRA
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- **Transfer Control (i.e. Ownership)**
  
  **Review & Prepare:**
  - Discussion of care and treatment at the museum, prior to transfer

- **Transfer Possession (i.e. Physical Transfer)**
  
  **Decide:**
  - Protocol for transfer: secure, safe, respectful
  - Paperwork for transfer to verify everything has been transferred (i.e., box or tray inventory)

- **Reburial Preparation or Equivalent**
  
  **Decide:**
  - Who will conduct the physical transfer (museum, Tribe, other, both)?
  - Paperwork for transfer to verify everything has been transferred (i.e., box or tray inventory)

- **Cultural Items Not Reburied (e.g. basketry):**
  - Use
  - Needs/Care
  - Location
  - Tribal and museum capacity

- **Reburial**
  
  **Advance Logistics:**
  - Location and size of reburial area
  - Date & time
  - Paperwork and permits
  - Excavation of reburial area (heavy equipment, shovels?)

  **On-Site Logistics:**
  - Security and privacy
  - Transportation of Tribal Ancestors and cultural items
  - Participants
  - Ceremonial needs

- **Document & Finalize Repatriation**
  
  **Keeping Ancestors Safe:**
  - Tribe notifies NAHC, Museum, National NAGPRA that reburial has occurred
  - Document reburial location in Tribal register

  **NOTE: This step is best practice, but optional**
  - Consider documenting location with NAHC, land management agency, CHRIS, etc.
  - Plan long-term management of reburial location with land owner