

Erin A. Hogg and John R. Welch

Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC

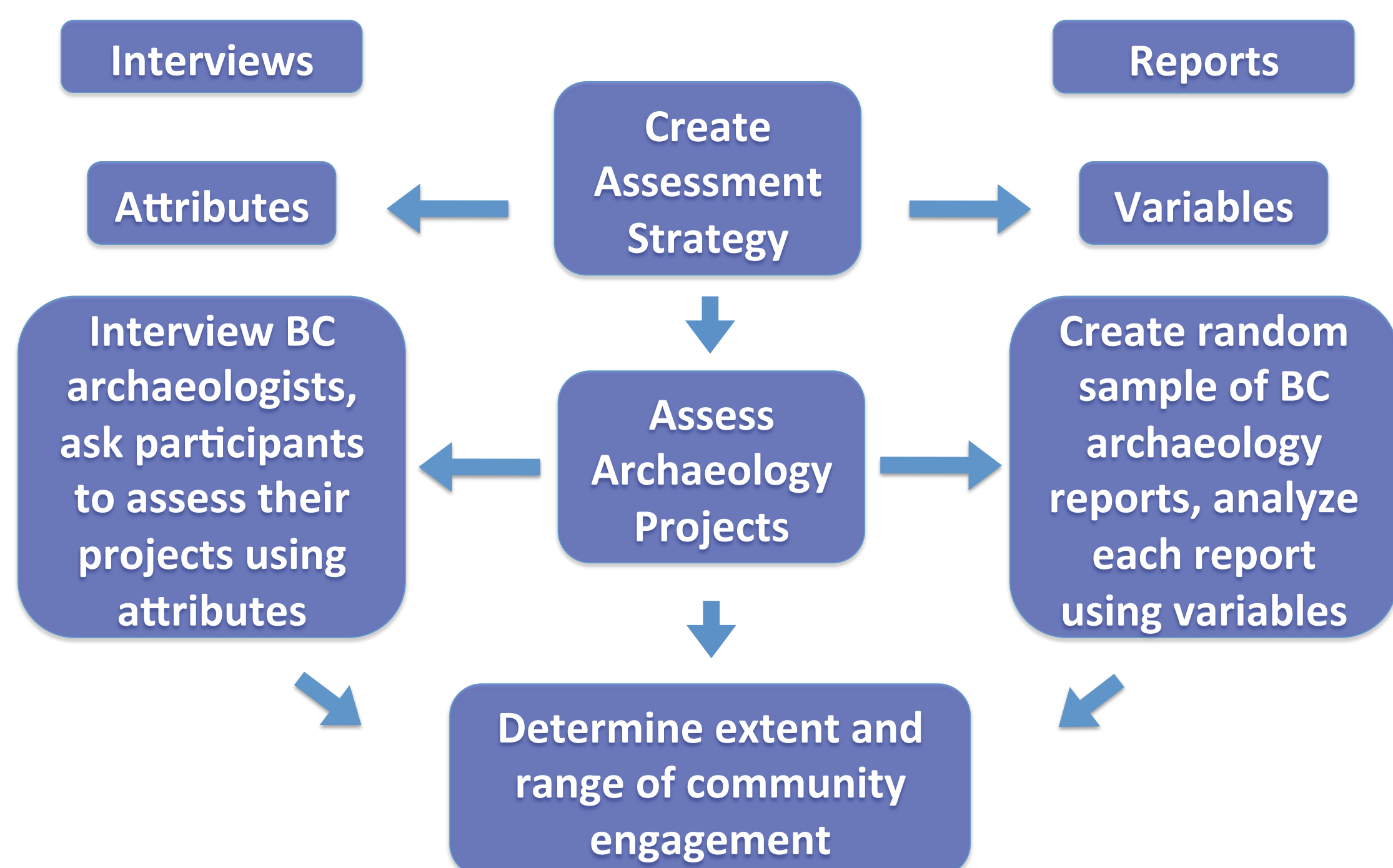
The future of archaeology requires more effective community-engagement. We used measurable attributes to assess engagement in BC archaeology projects, gaining insight into recommended and less recommended practices and affording glimpses of what the future might hold.

Collaboration is the Future of Archaeology

- Collaborative practices are required by legal and ethical standards, as well as demanded for by communities.
- Collaborative practices in archaeology include many forms of community-engaged research.
- By paying attention to collaborative projects archaeologists can identify the most just and effective forms of community engagement, including engagement with descendant groups.
- Our research seeks to determine how, to what extent, and to what ends archaeologists and descendant and steward communities are working together in British Columbia.

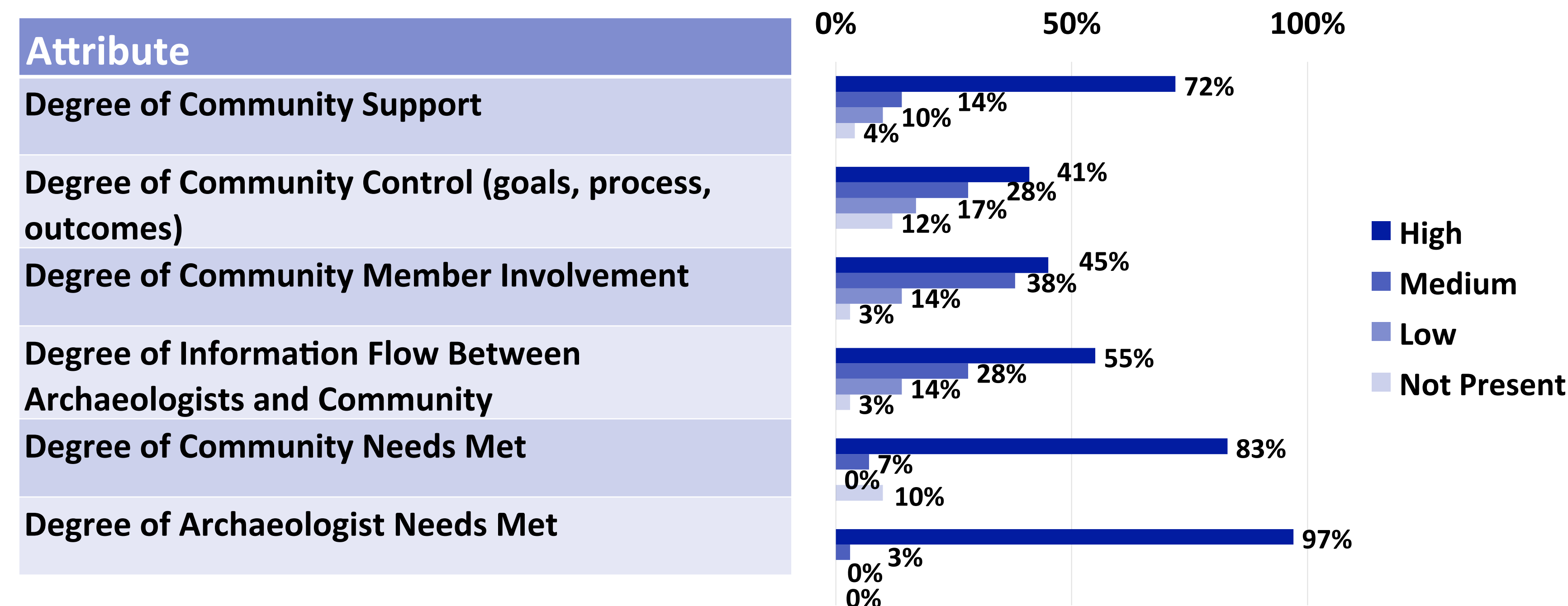
Assessing Community Engagement

- We determined the extent and range of community engagement by:
 1. Creating an assessment strategy to measure diverse aspects of community engagement.
 2. Assessing individual archaeology projects.
- We used two sets of data:
 1. Interviews with 19 BC archaeologists (assessed 29 projects including 8 consulting, 12 field schools, and 9 research projects).
 2. Random sample of 100 BC archaeology reports from 2000–2010 (85 AIA, 11 excavations, 1 site alteration, 2 inspects, and 1 field school report).

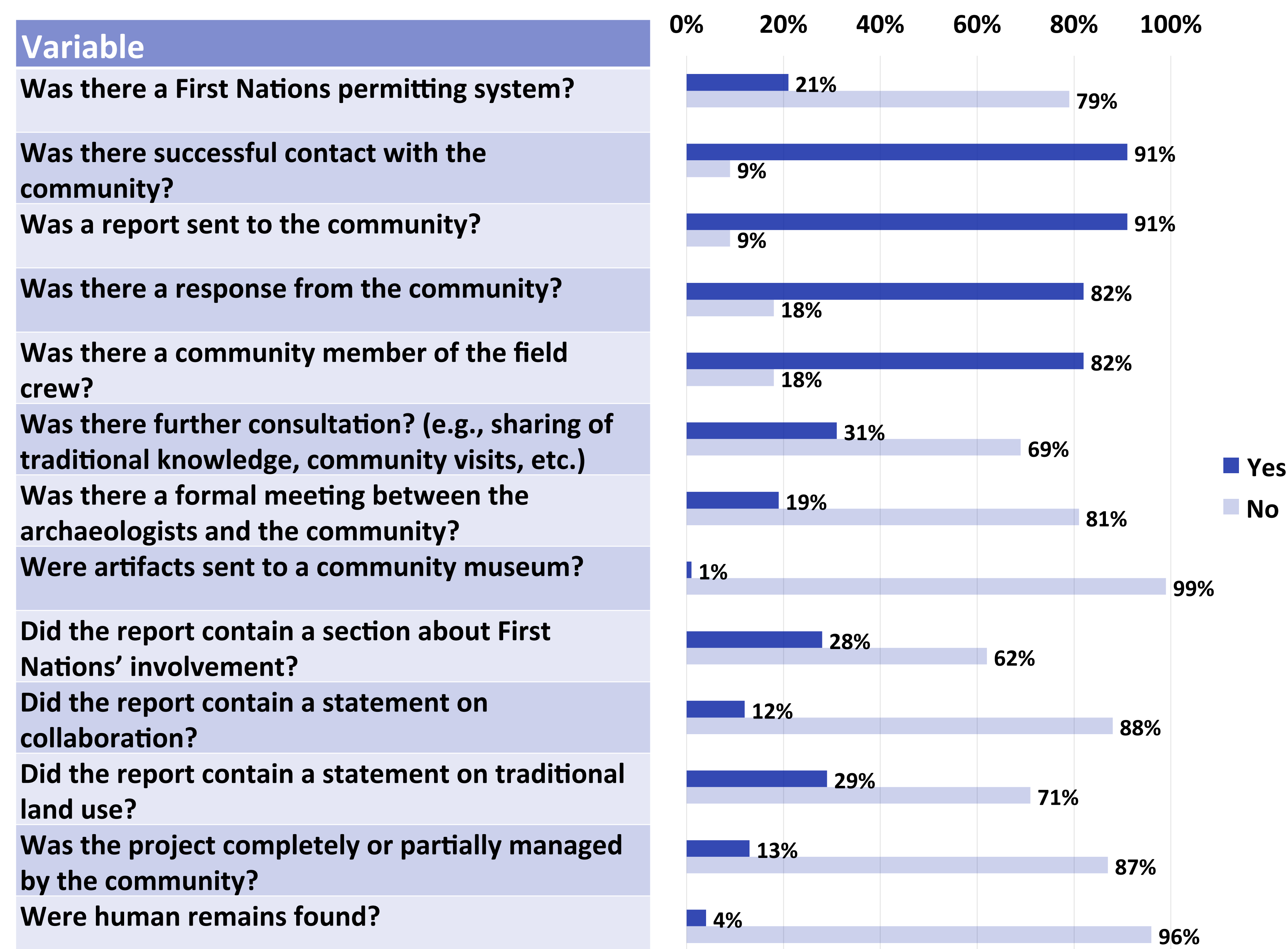


Assessment Strategies and Results

- Interviewees ranked each attribute as high, medium, low, or not present.



- Each report was analyzed for the presence or absence of each variable for each project.



What Does this Mean?

- Some aspects of engagement are more challenging than others to implement. For example, some communities trust archaeologists to completely design the project.
- Community engagement can vary depending on the type and timeline of the project.
- More indigenous communities are directly involved in archaeology, including managing consulting projects.
- Archaeologists indicate that being seen as a successful community collaborator is good business practice.
- Meaningful engagement includes opportunities for direct involvement, long-lasting relationships, and escalating respect and trust.
- Community engagement tends to help break down barriers between researchers and subjects and between tangible and intangible elements of heritage.
- Learning and teaching engagement promises to help the next generations of archaeologists and community leaders work together effectively.



Figure 2. Word Cloud of interviewee descriptions of community engagement.

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