

ENVIRONMENT

**QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER**

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MEET THE ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR



Welcome to this edition of the Environment Quarterly Newsletter!

Sheko:lih,

We had an incredible summer, and fall is here again! Autumn is a wonderful time to hunt, harvest, and preserve delicious foods from our gardens to enjoy over the cold winter months and gather with family and friends. As the leaves begin to change colours and fall off the trees and the weather gets colder, there is excitement in the air as another season is upon us.

Reflecting on this past summer, the Environment Sector began travelling again, attending Chiefs Assemblies, the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement 50th Anniversary meetings, the AFN Climate Gathering and more. Ambitious timelines and work lie ahead with the Repeal and Replacement of the Safe Drinking Water Legislation. We all know the Settlement Agreement to the class action also commits the federal government to make all reasonable efforts to develop and introduce new First Nations water legislation in consultation with First Nations by December 31, 2022.

The OFNYPC attended the AFN Climate Gathering in Fredericton in September 2022, and developed an incredible report they have shared in this newsletter for everyone to review. The Environment Sector, with expertise from Dr. Deb McGregor, Cathy Guirguis from OKT law, Stephanie Allen, and Stephanie Kearns, completed six virtual workshops on revisions to the EA toolkit. The workshops focused on Canadian Law, Indigenous Knowledge Toolkit, and Indigenous Laws toolkit. Feedback from First Nations participants and an expert panel provides a one-of-a-kind toolkit that will promote learning from the success of other First Nations across Canada.

Much has been accomplished, and we are delighted to share the latest updates with you. Thank you to the Chiefs Committee on Environment for assisting over the last few months presenting on multiple panels, providing openings and closing at meetings, and always providing valuable contributions and feedback on the many environment files.

Should you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Padulo at Kathleen.Padulo@coo.org.

Kathleen Padulo
Chiefs of Ontario, Director of Environment

Environment Team at Chiefs of Ontario:



Ryan Bowie, Program Manager

Ryan Bowie's work is focused on the Great Lakes region and the policies and agreements that manage Great Lakes water quality and ecosystem health. He also works on the federal government's proposal for the Canada Water Agency. You can reach Ryan at Ryan.Bowie@coo.org



Lillian Trapper, Ontario Regional Climate Change Coordinator

Lillian Trapper is the Regional Climate Change Coordinator for the Chiefs of Ontario. Lillian works closely with the Assembly of First Nations on a myriad of Climate and Environment files. You can reach Lillian at Lillian.Trapper@coo.org.



Sally Gaikezheyongai, Environment Coordinator

Sally Gaikezheyongai is the Environment Coordinator for the Chiefs of Ontario's Environment Sector. Since 2010, Sally has worked to assist the team with their meetings. You can reach Sally at Sally.Gaikezheyongai@coo.org.

UPDATE ON ONGOING COO PROJECTS

First Nations Environmental Assessment Toolkit Update

The COO Environment Sector continues to work on creating an Ontario First Nations Environmental Assessment Toolkit. We aim to have the Toolkit and associated factsheets ready for March 31, 2022.



COO Environment Sector hosted a Focus Group on September 21-2, 2022, at the Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville with a number of selected reps to review the draft toolkit. Recommendations from this group informed the workshops to be delivered soon after.

Many thanks to Dr. Dan Longboat of Trent University, Kimberly Jorgenson of Mattawa First Nations Management, Vern Cheechoo from the Mushkegowuk Council, Drew Hill of Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation, Rod Whitlow of Six Nations, Lynn Rosales from Aamjiwnaang, Samantha Keysis from Sagamok, and Keith Nahwegahbow from Whitefish River First Nation for providing recommendations to improving the toolkit.

Three online training workshops were held online October 12, 19 and 26, presenting three main sections of the final toolkit:

- Using Canadian Legal Tools to Protect Your Rights & Interests during an Environmental Assessment
- Indigenous Laws and Environmental Assessment
- Indigenous Knowledge and Environmental Assessment

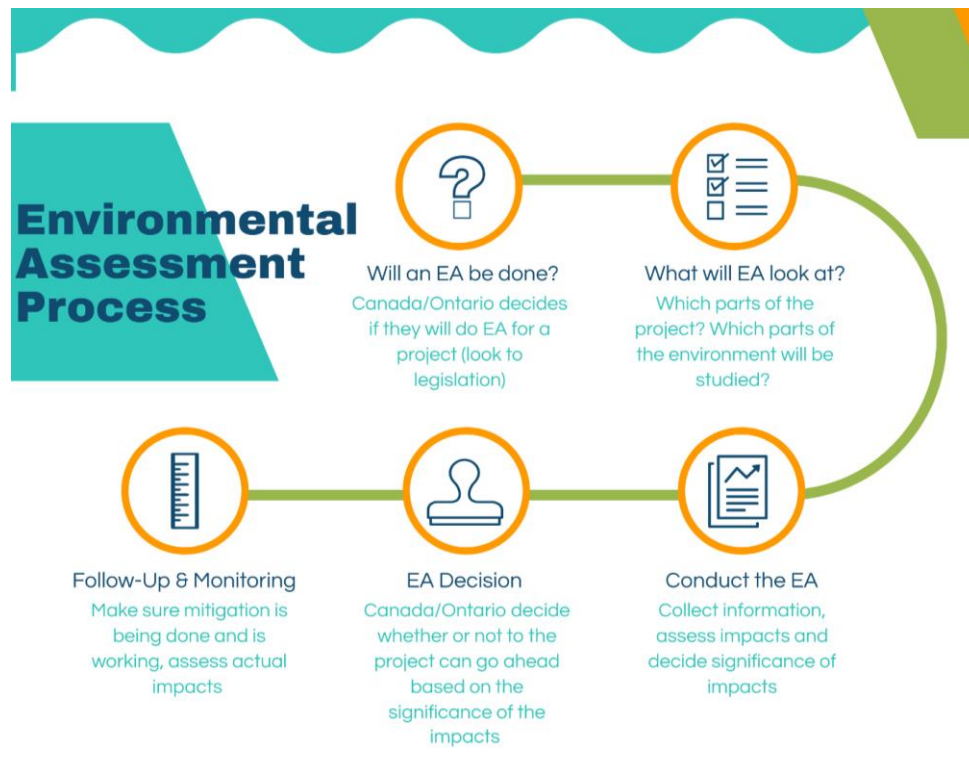
All First Nations Leadership in Ontario will receive a free copy of the toolkit when it's completed. Everyone who has attended the workshops to help us develop the toolkit will receive a free copy.

2022 COO Environmental Assessment Toolkit

The 2022 Version of COO's Environmental Assessment (EA) Toolkit, is broken into four sections:



The EA Toolkit focuses on giving you **the tools you need to get the most for your First Nation out of the EA process and protect your rights and interests**. It offers practical tools like checklists and infographic summaries. It also has case studies so you can learn from the successes of other First Nations across Canada. The 2022 EA Toolkit is not a summary of existing Canadian and Ontario Environmental Assessment laws. The law is always changing, and the aim of this Toolkit is to be useful for the long term.



A slide from a workshop presentation by OKT Law

Canada Water Agency Engagement: Phase 2

The COO Environment Sector continues to work to secure funding for Phase 2 engagement on the creation of a Canada Water Agency (CWA). The CWA is a proposal from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), with support from Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, intended to improve freshwater management practices and coordination across Canada.

The Environment Sector conducted Phase 1 pre-engagement on the CWA, consisting of two information sessions and six workshops online in the winter/early spring of 2022. We have been in conversation with the CWA transition team for updates on the development of the Agency, the feedback they have received thus far, and to discuss our request for funding.

The expectation is for the CWA to begin operations before the end of this year, but with the full scope and many of the functions are still to be determined. The federal government has signalled that modernization of the Canada Water Act is likely to begin in the near term, and this will likely impact the CWA. We plan to conduct our next round of workshops this winter with Provincial Territorial Organizations and Independents.

The objective of the Phase 2 project we are currently proposing are:

1. Continue to ensure First Nations are prepared to make informed decisions related to the establishment of the CWA as well as freshwater governance; management; transboundary issues; climate change; emergency preparedness; water quality monitoring; ecosystem protection; enhancement of environmental sustainability; economic development; and infrastructure.
2. Identifying means to achieve objectives around assertion of First Nations' jurisdiction and relationship to water, and ensure First Nation priorities are included in the final configuration of the CWA.
3. Support the capacity of communities to make informed decisions by establishing dedicated water leaders with the Provincial Territorial Organizations.
4. Continue to support ongoing working relationships with ECCC and other partners working to establish the Canada Water Agency (CWA).
5. Develop a position on water stewardship directed by and agreed to by Ontario First Nations.
6. Continue to ensure alignment and continuity of work by coordinating ongoing meetings with the Chiefs Committee on Environment and by providing regular updates to First Nations leadership.

WATER HIGHLIGHTS



2022 Great Lakes Public Forum September 2022, Niagara Falls, Ontario

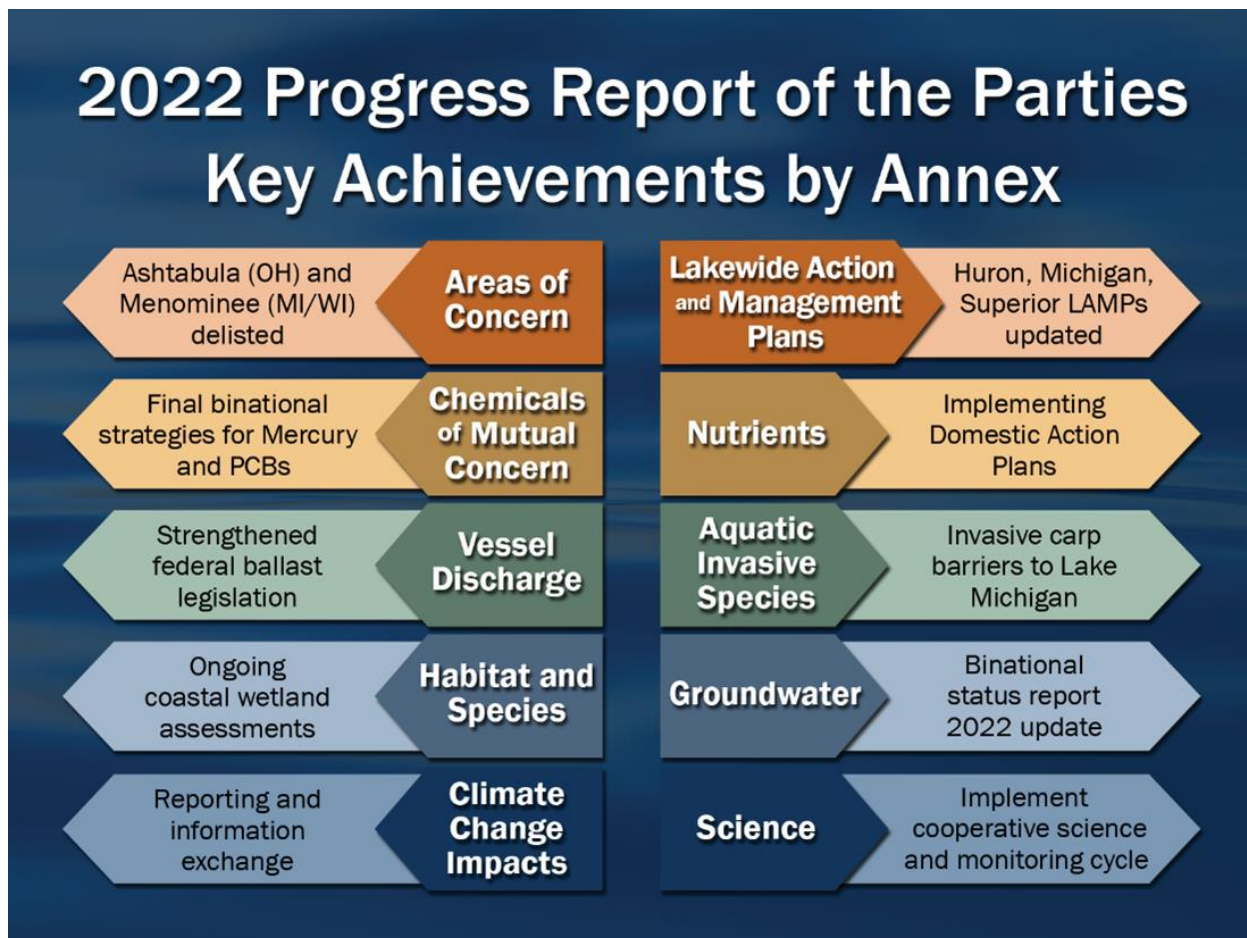
The Great Lakes Public Forum, held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, from September 27-29, was a successful event that benefited greatly from the contributions of First Nation's representatives. Well attended, both in-person and online, the event was opened by Elder Tina Roundpoint from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne and Chief Mark Hill from Six Nations of the Grand. Day 2 was opened with an address from Ontario Regional Chief Glen Hare, who highlighted the Water Declaration and the legacy of Grandmother Josephine Mandamin in guiding First Nations' efforts in Great Lakes restoration and protection. ORC Hare also participated in a discussion panel with the Minister of Environment and climate Change Canada, Steven Guilbeault, and the Regional Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection agency, Debra Shore. The panelists discussed enduring issues, such as the problem of algae blooms in the Great Lakes and emerging concerns where climate change brings greater uncertainty to the health of the Great Lakes basin. ORC Hare stressed the need for First Nations to be at the forefront of Great Lakes stewardship with support as full partners with federal and provincial governments. Day 2 also featured a screening of the Chiefs of Ontario documentary *Water*. The documentary explores women's relationships and roles in caring for the water, and was very well received by those in attendance.

Representatives from First Nations participated in several panels throughout the tree day Forum on a wide range of topics, including Areas of Concern (AOCs), Reducing Risks from Harmful Chemicals, and Protecting and Restoring Native species and their Habitats. There was also a panel dedicated to Indigenous-led Restoration and Protection of the Great Lakes that included First Nations, US Tribal and Métis representatives. In the Indigenous-led panel, Naomi Williams of Walpole Island First Nation discussed the challenges and successes of restoration projects in her community, and Ariel Berwick from the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians discussed the importance of youth involvement. Abraham Francis from the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne drew attention to the environmental violence inherent in the degradation of Great Lakes ecosystems, and raised the point that this needs to be addressed in determining what a recovered AOC looks like. Sylvia Plain from Aamjiwnaang First Nation further stressed the environmental racism people in her community experience, and the gravity of the commitments needed from governments and industry to address the health of the environment and Aamjiwnaang people. Chief Dean Sayers from Batchewana First Nation noted the long view Anishinaabe have for understanding environmental change, and that taking into account seven generations forward and into the past is needed for climate resilience. The panel format was a welcomed departure from past events that were more focused on presentations from the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Annex Leads.

There were also sessions for participants to hear about and provide feedback to the Great Lakes Executive Committee Co-Chairs and International Joint Committee members on the 2022 Progress of the Parties Report, the State of the Great Lakes Report, and future priorities for science and action. Elder Tina Roundpoint closed out a highly engaging Forum that benefited from strong contributions from First Nations representatives who participated in the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA). The Great Lakes Public Forum takes place once every three years as part of the commitments under the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA).

For more information on how Ontario First Nations can get involved, please contact Ryan Bowie who is the lead on the Great Lakes files at Ryan.Bowie@coo.org

Progress of the Parties Report



International Joint Commission (2022) <https://ijc.org/en/canada-us-achievements-protecting-great-lakes-highlights-2022-progress-report-parties>

Canada and the United States recently released the third Progress Report of the Parties, pursuant to the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA). The Progress Report describes recent achievements in restoring and protecting Great Lakes water quality and ecosystem health.

Highlights of the Report include:

1. Two Areas of Concern (AOCs) were delisted (the Lower Menominee River, and the Ashtabula River AOC – both in the U.S.), and all the management actions in four others were completed.
2. Strategic plans are now in place to reduce threats to the Great Lakes from each of the Chemicals of Mutual Concern, including newer threats such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).
3. Efforts are slowing phosphorus inputs that cause toxic and nuisance algae blooms in Lake Erie, with the U.S. leading in taking action to reduce agricultural

and municipal sources of phosphorus to the watershed. However, the Report notes that significant additional work is needed to meet targets.

4. Addressing climate change impacts is still in its infancy; however, Canada and the U.S. are focusing on the development of climate change adaptation strategies throughout the Great Lakes.
5. Engagement continued with Indigenous Peoples and Tribes on enhancing and promoting the common understanding of Traditional Ecological Knowledge and its application towards the restoration and protection of the Great Lakes. For First Nations, the new Canada Ontario Agreement (2001) requires a higher level of involvement of First Nations in decisions and in the use of Traditional Ecological Knowledge as much more support for engaging First Nations is needed.

In addition, the Report notes the involvement of First Nations in several restoration projects in the overview of Lakewide Management actions.

This 2022 Progress of the Parties Report marks the end of a three-year reporting cycle mandated by the GLWQA. A new cycle begins with establishing binational priorities for science and actions. The Progress Report, along with the State of the Great Lakes Report, was presented and received public input at the Great Lakes Public Forum in Niagara Falls. The International Joint Commission (IJC) is seeking further public feedback on the Progress Report. Links to a survey, ways to submit written comments, and a series of upcoming lake specific webinars this fall for commenting to the IJC on the Progress Report of the Parties can be found here: <https://ijc.org/en/2022-Great-Lakes-Progress-Input> Deadline for comments is December 23, 2022.



Photo courtesy of Lillian Trapper



On September 28, 2022, the Chiefs of Ontario launched their Water documentary at the Great Lakes Public Forum. This 22 minute video was produced by COO Environment, Signal Films and dedicated to the memory of Grandmother Josephine Mandamin. The documentary includes CBC footage of Josephine's niece, Autumn Peltier, who was elected by Anishinabek Nation to take over Josephine's role as the Chief Water Commissioner.

Six First Nations women were interviewed about the roles and responsibilities we all have towards water, the lifeblood of every living thing. They speak frankly about what is happening to water in our communities and all over the world, suggesting different ways we can all rise to challenge of building a healthier relationship to water thus ensuring the next seven generations can also enjoy this amazing gift. We hope their message will inspire others to speak up for the water.

Women Interviewed in the order they appear in the video:

- **Kahontakwas Diane Longboat**, Turtle Clan, Mohawk Nation, Six Nations of the Grand River
- **Elizabeth Eshkibok – Trudeau**, Cultural Practitioner, Shkagamik-Kwe Health Centre, Sudbury
- **Lorraine Whiteduck-Liberty**, Gii Mookii Kwe, Grandmother/Elder, N'bissing First Nation
- **Laura Horton**, Dene/Anishinaabe, Elder and Grandmother, Rainy River First Nations
- **Mary Elliott**, Elder and Knowledge Keeper, Atikameksheng Anishinawbek
- **Sheri Longboat** BES MA BEd PhD | Associate Professor, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development | University of Guelph

Vimeo Link to the Water Documentary: <https://vimeo.com/705484136/78a42267e8>

First Nations Drinking Water Legislation: Updates

Background Information

A joint decision from the Federal Court of Canada and Manitoba Court of the Queen's bench approved the \$8 billion settlement in the national class-action lawsuit related to safe drinking water for First Nations.

The terms of the settlement include:

- \$1.5 billion in compensation for individuals deprived of clean drinking water,
- A legally binding commitment for the federal government to funding the entire costs of ending DWA', and
- A commitment to repeal the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act (SDWFNA) by March 2022 and to replace it with a new legislation in consultation with the First Nations by December 2022;
- The creation of a \$400 million First Nations Economic and Cultural Restoration Fund;
- The creation of a First Nations Advisory Committee on Safe Drinking Water;
- Support for First Nations to develop their own safe drinking water by-laws and initiatives.

Repeal of the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act was passed in June 2022 as part of Bill C-19 Budget Implementation Act. A joint technical working group (JTWG) committee comprised of Canada/AFN representatives and a co-development approach has been established. The mandate of the JTWG is to work collaboratively and transparently to co-develop legislation for safe drinking water and wastewater for First Nations (the legislation), which will replace the current legislation.

The participation of the Assembly of First Nations is mandated by AFN resolution 01/2018: *First Nations Led Process to develop new federal safe drinking water legislation*. Through this resolution, the AFN is mandated to communicate to the federal government that, in keeping with the government's commitments to reconciliation with First Nations, a joint legislative co-development process and mandate will proceed in full partnership with First Nations. This also includes the development of a joint working group on safe drinking water for First Nations.

ANALYSIS

1. Canada has the obligation to co-develop with First Nations a new SDWFN Act.
2. Canada has the obligation to align this with UNDRIP, Section 35, and the class action settlement.
3. COO and AFN warned Canada that we are not a proxy for FPIC of rights holders, First Nations government and leadership.
4. Canada should produce a draft of the legislation for FN to review and they must inform and ensure they understand this, have been heard, and that it has their consent.
5. Any regulations or implementation of the legislation must be guided by FPIC in the same manner.

6. Canada's deadlines and timing are their obligations and duties and First Nations have been ready for this work for decades and are not a reason for stalling or stopping the work.

CURRENT STATUS

2022-2023 Water Engagement Strategy:

- On-going engagements at the Regional level facilitated by Regional water coordinators will continue on a monthly basis.
- Upcoming regionally led engagement sessions will complement the technical joint working group meetings to ensure widespread First Nations participation is achieved with extended dialogue on water issues.
- Regional Chiefs meetings will occur throughout the winter 22-23 with a focus on the SDWFNA.

Additional engagement focused on First Nation drinking water legislation in 2022-23:

- Youth water summit (virtual) September 21, 2022.
- National legislative Summit and Legal Think Tank (virtual) October 12-13, 2022.
- 3rd Annual AFN Virtual Water Summit (virtual) October 27, 2022.
- 6th Annual Water symposium targeted to be in-person February 7-9, 2023.
- Regional Engagements, with First Nations leadership winter 2023.
- New meetings.
- AFN water technicians and RWC's joint meetings monthly.
- Water and Legislation Experts Meetings – leaderships, technical, and legal.

Update Note: Bill 23 – the Proposed More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022.

- The Provincial Government proposes to amend a wide array of laws and policies to make it easier and faster to build new homes for Ontarians as part of its commitment to build 1.5 million homes over the next ten years.
- For example the Provincial government is removing “duplicate requirements and streamline the evaluation process” for what qualifies as a wetland under the province's Wetland Evaluation System as part of the “government's commitment to support the construction of 1.5 million new housing units over the next ten years.”
- The Leadership Council will meet at the Fall Chiefs Assembly the week of November 14, 2022, to discuss strategies and next steps in responding to the governments unravelling of land use planning and environmental protections mechanisms.

Environmental Capacity & Regulatory Gap On-Reserve Project UPDATE:

Summary of Project Engagement and Findings

Methods:

- Presentations including at Special Chiefs Assembly;
- COO Communications including weekly e-blasts, Environment newsletter, etc.;
- Presentations and discussion: Chiefs Committee on the Environment meetings; Six Nations Environment Committee meeting;
- One-on-one discussions with First Nations and PTO Environment staff;
- Widely distributed survey – utilized Anishnawbek Nation survey as template for consistency across region;
- Focus group discussion – September 2022, OFNTSC, TechNations, 13 participants

Results - Key Environmental Issues Raised:

Climate change	Water Quality/Quantity/Contamination	Solid waste management
Air pollution	Wastewater	Contaminated sites/disposal of contaminated fill
Biodiversity/Habitat/species loss – protection and monitoring	Lack of regulations/standards	Lack of resources (staffing, \$\$)
Agriculture	Food security	Green space
Impacts from off-reserve	Environmental emergencies/Spills	Identification and preservation of cultural and/or significant areas

Capacity Issues/Needs Raised:

- Resources – staff, training, funding;
- Public Awareness and education;
- Technical Support to implement, monitor, and enforce;
- Proper Equipment and facilities;
- Enforcement – who and how – e.g. dedicated First Nation COs/Eos;
- Collaboration models – Tribal Councils, province, municipalities, etc.

Approach:

- The most support was for Options 1 and 3 below – using First Nations own environmental laws and option to adopt provincial.
- **It was also noted by respondents that they prefer Option 1 and 3 combined.**
- There was no support for improving and using existing federal laws and regulations (including Indian Act by-laws)

1. A new federal law that would recognize each First Nation's environmental laws;
2. Improve existing federal laws and regulations (e.g. Canadian Environmental Protection Act);
3. A new federal law with flexible measures for environmental protection on reserve, including the option for First Nations to choose to adopt provincial standards.

Other Recommendations:

- Implementation of Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action;
- Recognizing different solutions for different priorities – First Nations need to be able to choose what is right for them based on the circumstance;
- Recognition and respect of inherent First Nations rights and title.

Notes:

- First Nations and PTO resources are used responding to external pressures such as developments in their territories; changes to provincial and federal laws/regulations; government initiatives, requests; and many duty to consult related pressures. This leaves little, if any, resources for a First Nation to work on their own internal priorities;
- First Nations and their representative organizations are working on environmental protection in a wide range of ways already – this initiative could assist in addressing two key gaps to support First Nations in the work they are already doing: regulatory and capacity;
- First Nations in Ontario have vastly different priorities due to the wide geographic area and pressures they are experiencing in their regions – there needs to be flexibility in the approach to solutions however collaboration, education and sharing was repeatedly flagged.



CLIMATE CHANGE HIGHLIGHTS



Youth Report from the 2nd Annual AFN Climate Gathering September 27-29, 2022 Fredericton, NB

The Ontario First Nations Young People's Council (OFNYPC) selected Winter Dawn Lipscombe (Treaty 3) and Kathleen Doxtator (AIAI) as the Ontario Youth Co-Chairs in June 2022 for a one-year term - this includes serving as the Ontario representatives to the Assembly of First Nations National Youth Council (AFNNYC). They are supported by Janine Frogg (NAN) and Taysha Fuller (Six Nations) as their alternates.

Meeting the Minister

Alberta rep Roman Buffalo-Yaghi and Ontario rep Winter Dawn met with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada, Steven Guilbeault. The youth took the opportunity to discuss the impacts of climate change on infrastructure in northern First Nations, as well as advocate for investments into technology that supported immediate climate adaptation and mitigation.

Making Connections

While at the Climate Gathering, Winter Dawn met with a delegation of youth from Onigaming in Treaty #3. She also participated in an interview for a film about the gathering being document by Wabanaki Media. Throughout the gathering she also attended panels and keynotes, including Knowledge Keeper Albert Marshall and a panel looking at international examples of climate action.

Youth Reflection

In the face of devastating climate events, such as the flooding in Treaty #3 or the forest fires across British Columbia, it's easy to feel demoralized or question how we restore balance for Mother Earth. In times like this it's important to come together, to allow our kinship and community to help us chart a path forward. Several themes emerged throughout the panel discussions and concurrent sessions, namely that the knowledge we need exists within us already and we have a responsibility as First Nations to foster this knowledge. We do this by being on the land, strengthening our language, and being active participants of ceremony. This isn't anything new to us.

Colonialism hasn't been kind but we are resilient. This gathering has demonstrated how dire climate change is but it's also highlighted the ways we have harnessed our traditional eco knowledge, brought new and diverse voices to the table, and collectively worked to make ideas come to life. We are making progress.



Photos courtesy of Lillian Trapper

Assembly of First Nations 2nd National Climate Gathering - Draft Summary:

As part of developing a First Nations national climate strategy and implementing the *Declaration of a First Nations Climate Emergency (Resolution #05/2019)*, on “September 27th to 29th”, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) hosted its 2nd National Climate Gathering in Fredericton, New Brunswick, on the traditional territory of the Mi’kmaq, Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) and the Peskotomuhkatiyik (Passamaquoddy). The gathering brought together over 450 First Nations representatives, leadership, youth, women, Knowledge Keepers, and others from coast-to-coast-to-coast to continue to advance our understandings of the complex and interconnected nature of climate change. This included a further exploration of First Nations experiences in various areas including health, well-being, culture, language, water, food security and housing, among others.

The gathering offered an opportunity to explore solutions that First Nations are advancing in the face of rapid change at the local, regional, national, and international levels. The theme of the gathering: Preserving our Earth, Land and Water for future generations, provided a strong youth presence that could be felt by all who attended.

Over the course of the three days, attendees had the opportunity to choose from thirty-eight concurrent sessions across a range of topics including Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs), Nature-based Carbon Projects, The future of Energy in Canada and Impact Assessment, among many others. The AFN will be releasing a summary report in the new year along with a video summary that includes one on one interviews with presenters and attendees, as well as video and audio footage captured throughout the course of the exciting three-day event.”

United Nations Climate Change



Photo courtesy of Lillian Trapper

Conference of the Parties 27 (COP 27) is taking place November 6 – 18, 2022 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. An AFN delegation will be attending this conference. On October 27, 2022, the UN Environment Programme release the Emissions Gap Report 2022 that recommends to stop the use of fossils fuels and invest in renewables. See link for report. https://www.unep.org/news-and-stories/story/world-headed-climate-catastrophe-without-urgent-action-un-secretary-general?utm_source=Un+Environment+Masterlist&utm_campaign=25fe1350cf-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_10_27_09_55&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b9e62347f7-25fe1350cf-116472864

A group of over 200 organizations released an open letter to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to place human rights including Indigenous rights at the centre of the energy transition during COP 27. See link for open letter.

https://media.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/Appeal_COP27_final_12_10_2022.pdf

The Climate Action Tracker (CAT) provides independent scientific analysis that evaluates government climate action against the globally agreed to goal of holding below 2°C, and their efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. The CAT have released a report on what has happened since COP 26 in Glasgow, Scotland on October 26, 2022. See link for report.

<https://climateactiontracker.org/press/release-global-climate-report-card-finds-some-progress-but-action-across-all-sectors-must-accelerate-dramatically-to-limit-warming-to-1-5c/>

Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework

The federal government released its Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework for Project Reviews and Regulatory Decisions this fall. The Framework supports the consistent application of provisions dealing with Indigenous Knowledge in federal legislation that require Indigenous Knowledge be considered, when provided, alongside other factors, in project reviews and regulatory decisions.

The document is posted on the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada's website, and can be found here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/programs/aboriginal-consultation-federal-environmental-assessment/indigenous-knowledge-policy-framework-initiative/indigenous-knowledge-policy-framework-project-reviews-regulatory-decisions.html>.