

KI TA SKI NAW

Our Land

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE • INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE BUILDING • ACTIVISM & ADVOCACY

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY • CULTURAL WELLBEING • RESISTANCE & DECOLONIZATION

REFLECTING & ACTING ON HYDROPOWER & ENERGY JUSTICE

2019 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 8-10, 2019

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG, MANITOBA



WANISKA TAN
An Alliance of Hydro Impacted Communities



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Welcome to Winnipeg, a city that is located on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples and the homelands of the Métis Nation. On behalf of the *Wa Ni Ska Tan* Steering Committee, we want to express our gratitude to you all for participating in the 2019 *Ki Ta Ski Naw, Our Land* International Conference.

We of course welcome those of you who have travelled here from across Manitoba. But we also extend a warm welcome to visitors arriving from elsewhere in Canada and the US as well as those from Latin America, Europe, and Asia. Participants include members of hydro-impacted communities and their allies. The great diversity represented by this group promises to make this an especially rich, rewarding, and impactful three-day experience.

“Wa Ni Ska Tan” is a Inini (Cree) word meaning “wake up” or “rise up”; it can be thought of as a call to awaken. Several years ago when we met to contemplate our collective goals and shared objectives at one of our earliest gatherings, Elder David Laithlin from Mosakahiken (Moose Lake) Cree Nation, offered this name as a reminder of our overarching goals as we sought to reflect on and act upon our experiences. *“Wa Ni Ska Tan”* is also a reminder for us all: to work together to create public awareness and to work toward social change. These twinned activities are reflected in the byline of this conference: “reflecting and acting on hydropower and energy justice”.

Our Alliance is a wholly independent research collective housed within the Environmental Conservation Lab at the University of Manitoba here in Winnipeg. It includes members of 24 hydro-impacted First Nation and Métis communities as well as 23 researchers from nine universities and representatives from 24 non-governmental organizations and legal firms. Those of us who make up the *Wa Ni Ska Tan* Alliance have been working together to confront the hydro-related legacies of colonialism playing out on the land and waterways across Manitoba and beyond. These activities take the form of research, education, policy work, advocacy, and direct action. By emphasizing and deliberately acknowledging the importance of land-based Indigenous knowledge, including efforts at resisting oppression and revitalizing cultural practices and knowledge in Indigenous contexts, *Wa Ni Ska Tan* seeks to dispel myths associated with the production of hydropower in the homelands of Indigenous people everywhere.

This conference represents one step of many as we build collective dialogue and pathways toward environmental, social and political change regarding hydropower. We hope that all of you feel comfortable sharing your experiences with one another in this affirming and supportive environment, regardless of what or where you call home. We hope that this sharing will in turn give rise to social change. This in the short-term as we participate in a direct action on the last day of the conference. This in the medium-term as we share our collective vision for an international alliance that works for the concerns and interests of all those in attendance, especially those impacted by hydropower. And this in the long-term as we build on the momentum generated over the next three days and as we collectively move forward into the future.

Welcome again to you all and thank you for taking the time to travel and attend the 2019 *Ki Ta Ski Naw, Our Land* International Conference.

Ekosani mina kinanaskomitinan,

Ramona Neckoway, PhD
University College of the North

Stéphane McLachlan, PhD
University of Manitoba

FRIDAY EVENING

Plug In Gallery Meet & Greet

6:00PM – Doors Open

7:00PM – Storytelling with
Duncan Mercredi

Appetizers by:



Beer and Wine
available for purchase

Duncan Mercredi,
Cree Poet and Storyteller

Duncan Mercredi has lived in Winnipeg for many years and brings a deep knowledge of the “urban trapline” to his poetry and stories. Duncan was born and raised in Misipawistik, Grand Rapids Manitoba, into a family of Cree and Métis heritage. At a young age he spent a great deal of time with his grandmother, who taught him many stories of the community and the family. When he moved to Winnipeg as a young man, he dedicated himself to telling and listening to the stories of urban Indigenous people. He has published four books of poetry: *Dreams of the Wolf in the City*, *Wolf and Shadows*, *Spirit of the Wolf: Raise your Voice*, and *The Duke of Windsor: Wolf Sings the Blues*. As a story teller, he has performed in many venues including schools, festivals and community events. Duncan has also been a tireless supporter of Indigenous writing in Manitoba, and he is a founding member of the Winnipeg Indigenous Writers Collective, where he has provided guidance and encouragement for a whole generation of amazing new writers. Duncan is working now on a collection of short stories, a book (or two) of poems, and several performance pieces.



SATURDAY EVENING

Riddell Hall, University of Winnipeg

6:00PM – Doors Open

6:30PM – Dinner

7:30PM – Keynote Presentation by
Tshaukuesh Elizabeth Penashue

8:30PM – Round Dance with the
Chitek Lake Singers

Dinner catered by:

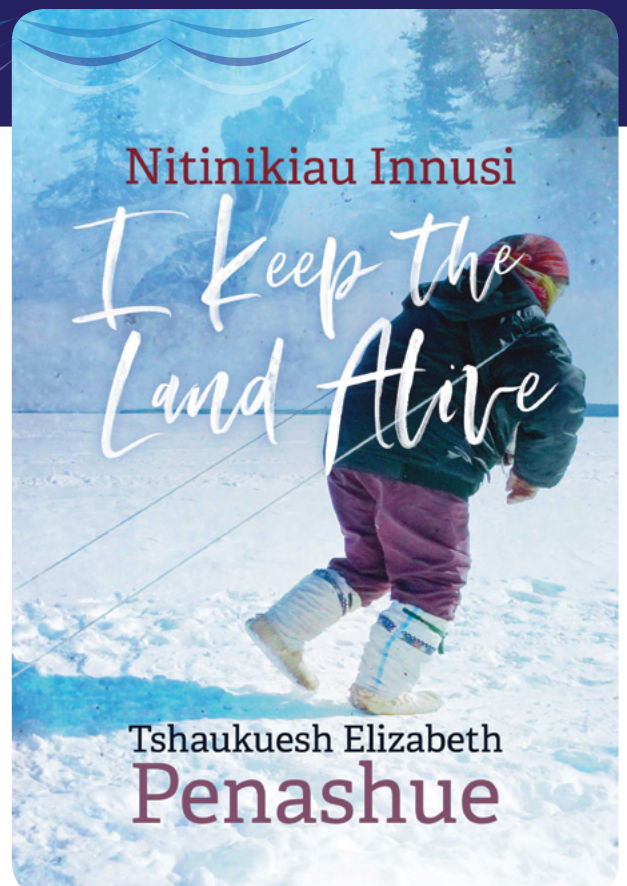
DIVERSITY
food services

MENU

Soup: Northern Plains Field Mushroom

Main: Bison Tenderloin with Wild Rice Pilaf

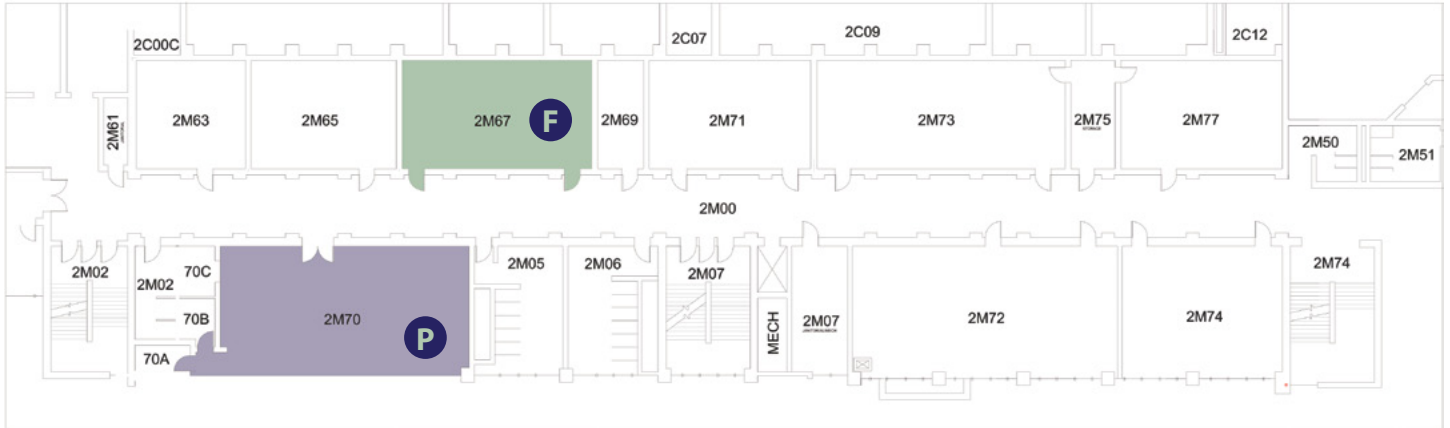
Dessert: Saskatoon Berry Tarts



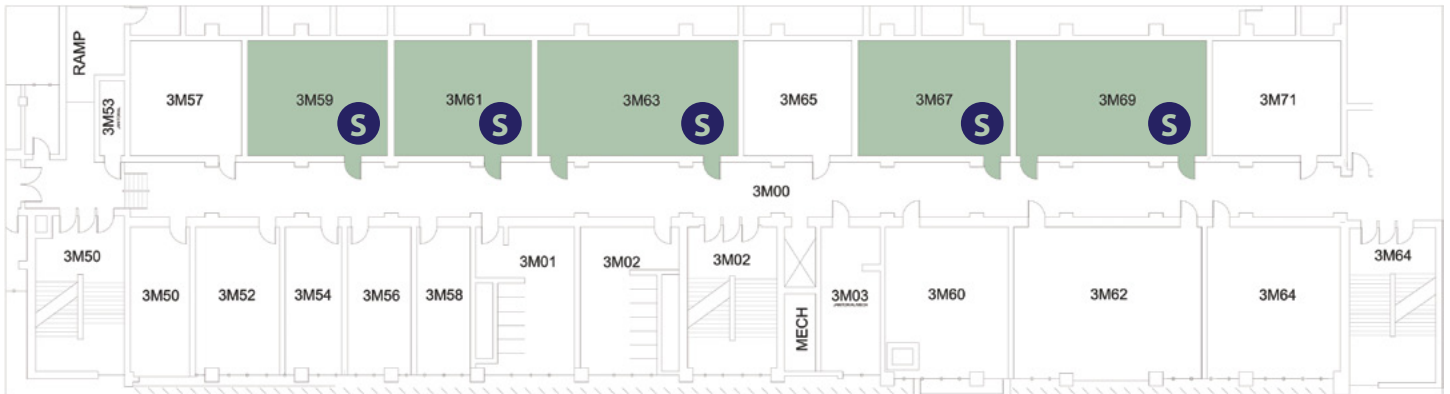


CONFERENCE MAPS

Manitoba Hall (2nd Floor)



Manitoba Hall (3rd Floor)



P Research Poster and Visual Arts Display Room

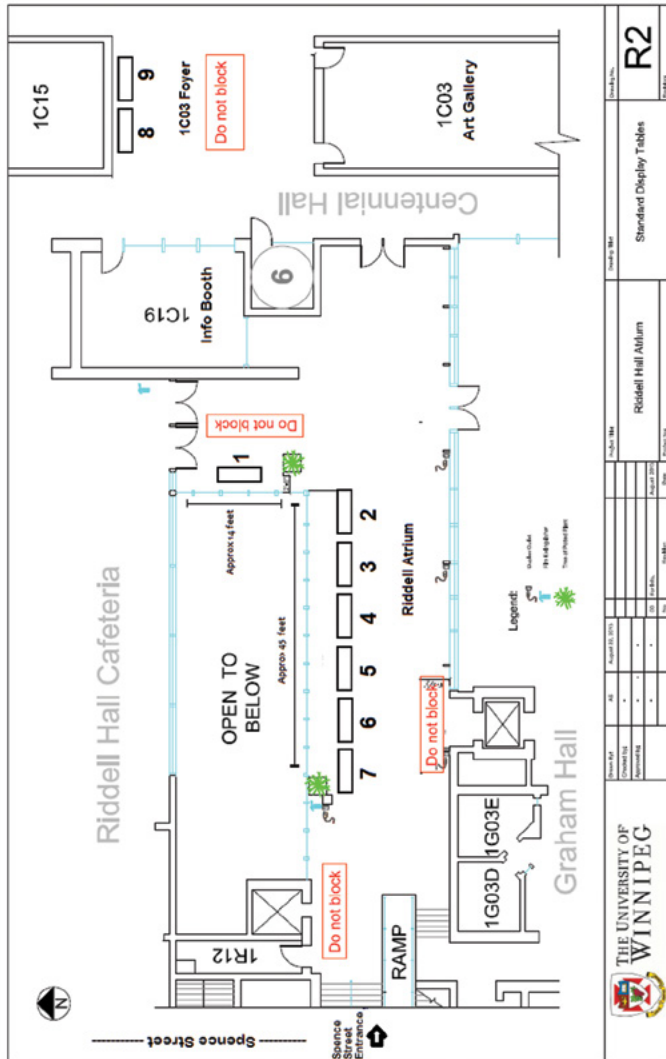
Friday Breakout Session Rooms:	Saturday Breakout Session Rooms:
2C06 F	3M59 S
2C11	3M61
2C13	3M63
2C15	3M67
1L13	3M69
2M67	3C01
3C01	

ELDERS ROOM
 Located at **3M56**
 and open throughout the
 conference for Elders.
 Bannock and Tea provided.

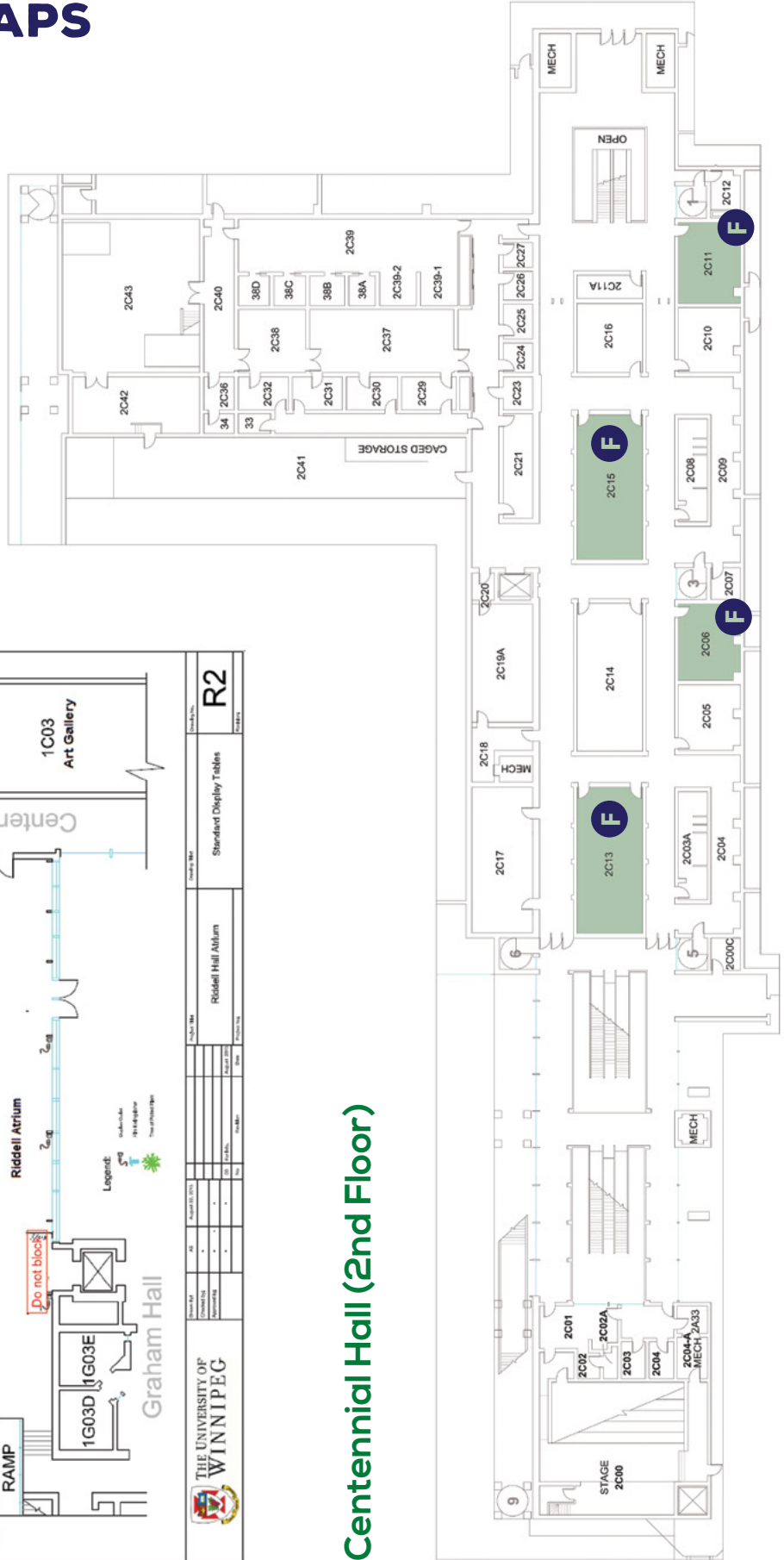


CONFERENCE MAPS

Riddell Hall Cafeteria



Centennial Hall (2nd Floor)





AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Friday, November 8th, 2019

TIME	SESSION	ROOM
7:00am	Pipe Ceremony	Convocation Hall
8:00 am	Breakfast	Riddell Hall
9:00 - 10:00 am	PLENARY Opening Ceremony and Welcome	Convocation Hall
10:00 - 11:00 am	Panel: From Site C through Keeyask to Muskrat Falls	
11:00 - 11:30 am	Break	Riddell Hall
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Keynote presentation by Winona LaDuke	Convocation Hall
12:30 - 1:30 pm	Lunch	Riddell Hall
1:30 - 3:00 pm	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	
	#1 Mapping Conflicts and Resistances Around Hydropower Projects	2C06
	#2 Lake Stories: From Granville to Winnipeg	2C11
	#3 Writing Your Own Story: Journalism for Community Members	1L13
	#4 Up the Nelson River – The Fraught Relationship between York Factory First Nation and Hydro in Our Inineu Territory	2C15
	#5 Community/Hydro Partnerships: Exploring the Aboriginal Rights to Water and Benefit-Sharing	2M67
	#6 Film Session: Voices of Teesta	3C01
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Break	2C15
3:30 - 5:00 pm	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	
	#1 Preparing for the Next Generation of Hydroelectric Licensing	2C06
	#2 My Story is a Shared Story, Building the Circle of Protector	2C11
	#3 Activist Movements of Latin America: Dam Resistance	2C13
	#4 The Use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) platforms in Mapping Indigenous Traditional Knowledge	2C15
	#5 Traditional Knowledge & Understanding Hydro Impacts	2M67
	#6 Film Session: Documenting Hydro Impacts in Northern Manitoba	3C01
6:00 - 9:00pm	FRIDAY NIGHT MIXER	Plug In Gallery
	Featuring Cree Poet & Storyteller, Duncan Mercredi	



EXHIBITORS

Wa Ni Ska Tan Alliance of Hydro Impacted Communities

Breaching the Peace Book Table

Kis Kin Ha Ma Ki Win,
Learning Science Through Land

University of Manitoba Press

University of Manitoba Engineering
Access Program

Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition

Interchurch Council on Hydropower



AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Saturday, November 9th, 2019

TIME	SESSION	ROOM
8:00 am	Breakfast	Riddell Hall
9:00 - 10:00 am	PLENARY Opening Youth Statement Reflections from Friday's Sessions	Riddell Hall
10:00 - 11:00 am	Keynote Presentation by Deepa Joshi: Like Water for Justice	
11:00 - 11:30 am	Break	Riddell Hall
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Panel: International Resistance to Hydro Development	Riddell Hall
12:30 - 1:30 pm	Lunch	Riddell Hall
1:30 - 3:00 pm	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	
	#1 Dam(n)ing Manitoba's North	3M59
	#2 Our Voices Together in Trauma & Resilience – Sharing Stories of Gendered Violence of Resource Development	3M61
	#3 Tracking Change: Local and Traditional Knowledge in Watershed Governance	3M63
	#4 Photo Voice for Community-Based Research and Activism	3M69
	#5 Global Activism and Resistance	3M67
	#6 Film Session: Indigenous Perspectives on Climate Change & Resistance Activism	3C01
3:00 - 3:30 pm	Break	3M Hallway
3:30 - 5:00 pm	BREAKOUT SESSIONS	
	#1 Megadams = Megadamage: Building US/Canadian Alliances Centred on Grassroots Resistance	3M59
	#2 Building Water Governance: Treaty #3 Anishinaabeg and the Journey Toward the Nibi (Water) Declaration	3M61
	#3 Cultural Camps as a Path to Healing	3M63
	#4 Voicing from Within: Cultivating a Collaborative Arts Curriculum	3M69
	#5 Powered Up: Resistance, Decolonization, and Energy Justice	3M67
	#6 Film Session: An Analysis of Hydro Development in South Indian Lake: Oral History, Licensing, and Aboriginal Rights	3C01
6:00 - 11:00pm	SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER Keynote Presentation by Tshaukuesh Elizabeth Penashue Round Dance with the Chitek Lake Singers	Riddell Hall

Sunday, November 10th, 2019

TIME	SESSION	ROOM
8:00 am	Breakfast	Riddell Hall
9:00 - 10:00 am	PLENARY Keynote Presentation by Senator Mary Jane McCallum	Riddell Hall
10:00 - 11:00 am	Panel: Different Ways of Taking Action on Hydro Development	
11:00 - 11:30 am	Break	Riddell Hall
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Taking Action in Solidarity	Riddell Hall
1:00 - 2:00 pm	Lunch	Riddell Hall
2:00 - 2:30 pm	Conference Closing Ceremony	Riddell Hall
2:30 - 4:00 pm	Action: March to Manitoba Hydro Building	Riddell Hall



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Tshaukuesh Elizabeth Penashue

Labrador Innu cultural and environmental activist Tshaukuesh Elizabeth Penashue is well-known both within and far beyond the Innu Nation. The recipient of a National Aboriginal Achievement Award and an honorary doctorate from Memorial University, she has been a subject of documentary films, books, and numerous articles. She led the Innu campaign against NATO's low-level flying and bomb testing on Innu land during the 1980s and '90s, and was a key respondent in a landmark legal case in which the judge held that the Innu had the "colour of right" to occupy the Canadian Forces base in Goose Bay, Labrador. Over the past twenty years she has led walks and canoe trips in nutshimit, "on the land," to teach people about Innu culture and knowledge.

Her recent publication, *Nitinikiau Innusi: I Keep the Land Alive*, began as a diary written in Innu-aimun, in which Tshaukuesh recorded day-to-day experiences, court appearances, and interviews with reporters. Tshaukuesh has always had a strong sense of the importance of documenting what was happening to the Innu and their land. She also found keeping a diary therapeutic, and her writing evolved from brief notes into a detailed account of her own life and reflections on Innu land, culture, politics, and history.



Senator Mary Jane McCallum

Senator Mary Jane McCallum is a citizen of the Barren Lands First Nation in Brochet, Manitoba. She attended the Guy Hill Residential School in The Pas for 11 years. She started her work as a dental assistant in 1973, attained her Dental Nursing Diploma in 1977, her Dental Therapy Diploma in 1979, and her Doctor of Dental Medicine in 1990. She worked as an Assistant Professor supervising 4th year dental students as well as providing dental treatment in Churchill in the first year after graduating. She moved on to provide dental care in all the northern nursing stations that have a clinical set-up as well as some of the southern health centres for the majority of the past 28 years. She worked as the Regional Dental Officer from 1996-2000 for the province of Manitoba.

Senator McCallum has spoken on many occasions to different groups throughout the country about the residential school experience. She was appointed to the Senate of Canada on Dec. 2, 2017, where has continued to advocate for the rights of Indigenous Peoples. In addition to her work in the Senate Chamber, she plays an active role as a member of the Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples and the Standing Committee on Energy, the Environment, and Natural Resources. She continues to work with Manitoba communities on issues including the advancement of oral and holistic health, child and family welfare, and environmental concerns.

Senator McCallum and her husband Ron Phillips have two daughters, Courtenay and Keeley Phillips. Mary Jane and her family have also reunited with her son who she had given up for adoption in 1975.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Winona LaDuke

Winona LaDuke is an internationally renowned activist working on issues of sustainable development, renewable energy, and food systems. She lives and works on the White Earth reservation in Minnesota, and is a two-time vice-presidential candidate with Ralph Nader for the Green Party.

As Program Director of the Honor the Earth, she works nationally and internationally on issues of climate change, renewable energy, and environmental justice with Indigenous communities. She is also the founder of the White Earth Land Recovery Project, one of the largest reservation-based non-profit organizations in the US.

For her leadership and community commitment, LaDuke was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 2007. Additionally, she was nominated by Time magazine as one of America's fifty most promising leaders under forty years of age, plus was awarded the Thomas Merton Award, Ms. Woman of the Year Award, and the Reebok Human Rights Award. The White Earth Land Recovery Project has also won many awards-including the prestigious 2003 International Slow Food Award for Biodiversity.

A graduate of Harvard and Antioch Universities, LaDuke has written extensively on Native American and environmental issues. She also serves on several boards and has authored five books, including *Recovering the Sacred*, *All our Relations*, and *Last Standing Woman*.



Deepa Joshi

Deepa Joshi is a feminist political ecologist whose work analyses shifts in environmental policies and how these restructure contextually complex intersections of gender, poverty, class, ethnicity and identity. She has worked primarily in South Asia as well as in South East Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America focusing on the incongruence of water supply/sanitation, irrigation and water-energy policies with complex ground realities. Her published findings present ethnographic analyses of how the complexity of inequity is reiterated across institutions in the rules and processes of policy-making; in policies per se and in implementing institutions at scale. Deepa's interests lie in translating policy research outcomes and experience into gender and environment academic courses and local research and activist capacity initiatives. She has been leading these activities on several bilateral projects in South and South East Asia and Africa and she currently coordinates two longitudinal projects on the themes of environmental justice and climate change in the Eastern Himalayas and in the Eastern Gangetic Plains (India, Bangladesh and Nepal)



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH SCHEDULE

Friday Plenary 10:00am – 11:00am

PANEL: Site C through Keeyask to Muskrat Falls

Moderator: Sarah Cox, *Investigative Journalist and Author*
Robert Spence, *Tataskweyak Cree Nation*
Denise Cole, *Labrador Land Protectors*
Connie Greeyes, *Fort Frances, BC*

Friday Plenary 11:30am – 12:30am

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:

Winona LaDuke: *Honor the Earth*

Friday Breakout Sessions 1:30pm – 3:00pm

ROOM 2C06: Mapping Conflicts and Resistances around Hydropower Projects

Daniela Del Bene, *Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Autonomous University of Barcelona*

There have been several attempts to keep records of hydroelectric dams in the world. However, existing databases fail to address the conflicts and resistance by local people or organizations. This workshop discusses the value of building an effective database that builds a counter-memory to mainstream narratives around hydropower and presents the first advances done in the EJAtlas.org, a global atlas of 300 cases of resistance around the world, documented through co-production of knowledge between researchers and activists.

ROOM 2C11: Lake Stories: From Granville to Winnipeg

David Bighetty, *Granville Lake*
Daniel Gladu Kanu, *Director, Lake Winnipeg Indigenous Collective*

Storytellers from Granville Lake and Lake Winnipeg will share experiences of living along the shores of these two lakes, the meaning of water to their livelihood and spirit, and the changes they have witnessed due to large scale developments and misuse of waterways. Despite the various ways their lives have been adversely disrupted, First Nations are engaged in ceremony, research, legal protections, habitat restoration, and advocacy in order to protect the lakes and their communities. This session will explore these actions through storytelling.

ROOM 1L13: Writing Your Own Story: Journalism for Community Members

Jonathan Ventura, *Freelance Journalist*

Journalism has the power to hold leaders accountable for their actions, but how can community members ensure journalism is exercising its true potential? This workshop will explore: how journalism and newsrooms work; how to control your story in order to effectively communicate; what makes reporting in Indigenous communities unique; and hands-on tips for pitching and writing your own article. This workshop will leave community members better prepared for when a journalist calls or when you feel ready to write your own story.

ROOM 2C15: Up the Nelson River: The fraught relationship between York Factory First Nation and Hydro in our Ininew Territory

Louisa Constant, *York Factory First Nation*
Flora Beardy, *York Factory First Nation*
Jim R. Beardy, *York Factory First Nation*

In 1957, York Factory First Nation members were relocated to the shores of Split Lake on the Nelson River System. Construction of the Kelsey dam began the following year. Now, after 60 years of hydro regulation in the territory, York Factory sits as an uneasy partner on the Keeyask development. Presenters will share their candid perspectives on hydro development, both as impacted community members and as project partners attempting to collaborate for the benefit of the community.

ROOM 2M67: Community/Hydro Partnerships: Exploring the Aboriginal Rights to Water and Benefit-Sharing

Treading Water, as Long as the Rivers Flow: Legal Research and Legal Opinion on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights to Water - Jared Wheeler, *Jerch Law*

A Discussion on Disparity in Hydroelectric Benefit-Sharing Across Canada -

Julio Lucchesi Moraes, *Université de Saint-Boniface* and
Melanie O’Gorman, *University of Winnipeg*

Across Canada, natural resource development is occurring at a rapid pace, creating both opportunities and challenges for communities. In this panel, Jared Wheeler of Jerch Law will discuss the current state of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights to Water in Canadian law. Additionally, researchers Julio Lucchesi Moraes and Melanie O’Gorman will use examples of existing and planned dams in Canada to discuss the employment achievements/prospects, business opportunities and profit-sharing included for First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities in these agreements.



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH SCHEDULE

ROOM 3C01 (Film Session): “Voices of Teesta” Documentary Screening & Folklore Storytelling

Minket Lepcha, *Lepcha Community*

Voices of Teesta explores the unique relationship the indigenous Lepcha community has with the River Teesta via their folklore, sacred rituals, practices and scriptures. Seen through the eyes of villagers living along the River Teesta, this documentary shows how various communities struggle to strike a balance between their faith associated with the River and the need to adapt to the changing economic realities in the wake of hydro development. Miss Lepcha’s storytelling and plant display brings indigenous stories alive.

Friday Breakout Sessions 3:30pm – 5:00pm

ROOM 2C06: Preparing for the Next Generation of Hydroelectric Licensing

Byron Williams, *Public Interest Law Centre*
Patricia Fitzpatrick, *University of Winnipeg*
Heather Fast, *Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba*

Over the last 45 years, hydroelectric development on the Churchill-Burntwood- Nelson system has had devastating and irreparable consequences on the North. The serial nature of the development agenda contributed to a patchwork system of environmental and waterpower licenses. An important feature of these licenses is the inclusion of expiration dates. The purpose of this session is to initiate dialogue amongst potential intervenors in re-licensing applications through a review of the current system and group discussion on developing a community-based research agenda.

ROOM 2C11: My Story is a Shared Story, Building the Circle of Protectors

Denise Cole, *Labrador Land Protectors*

With a focus on the resistance to the Muskrat Falls hydro project in Labrador, this workshop will explore the direct impacts on people and draw connections with others who are experiencing cultural and environmental genocide from similar water and land violations. Using Indigenous Sharing Circle techniques, presenters will work to grow solidarity and empowerment with attendees regarding the efforts of decolonization and our responsibilities to protect land, water, and lives for the next generations.

ROOM 2C13: Activist Movements of Latin America: Dam Resistance

Elisa Estronioli, *Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens*
Isabel Cristina Zuleta Lopez, *Movimento Rios Vivos*
Shannon Chief, *Odiskwagami Anishnabe/Wolf Clan*

Countries across South and Central America experience violence and displacement because of dams and resource extraction. In Brazil policies are being rolled out supporting large-scale development projects, displacing vulnerable, traditional, and Indigenous communities. In Colombia, social movements in defense of territories and communities affected by dams and mining are met with violence and human rights violations. Presenters will speak to these realities and discuss ways to strengthen ties between social movements of the global north and south.

ROOM 2C15: The Use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) platforms in Mapping Indigenous Traditional Knowledge

Nunaliit atlas framework for safekeeping of knowledge and telling stories
Amos Hayes, *Carleton University*

Rediscovering the Voice of Nibi and its environs through the application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Technology
Victoria Grima, *University of Manitoba*

Within the Indigenous ancestral cultural landscape, waterways have been used as our modern-day “highways” since time immemorial. However, due to the constant demands of the industrial economy, during the last decade Indigenous communities have been and are experiencing a disconnection with their ancestral relationship with ‘Water’. Yet, new geographical technological applications, such as GIS and Online Atlas, are paving the way for collecting, connecting, presenting, and preserving interactively the various forms of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge. In this respect, this session shall explore how the application are helping with data stewardship, digital capacity building, community-led knowledge mobilization and connecting with past landscapes.



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH SCHEDULE

ROOM 2M67: Traditional Knowledge and Understanding Hydro Impacts

Assessing Cultural Impacts in the Alberta Oilsands: Building Resilience within Indigenous Communities
Thomas Dyck and Megan Firth, *Integral Ecology Group*

Contributions of fishers' knowledge to understand potential impacts from dams in tropical rivers
Dr. Renato Silvano, *Universidade Federal Do Rio Grande Do Sul*

Diversification of Livelihoods in a Region Impacted by Hydroelectric Development: A Case Study in the Lower Mekong (Mun River/Sebok River)
Abby D'Souza, *Tracking Change*

Indigenous mapping to better understand the potential impacts of hydroelectric developments
Steve DeRoy, *Firelight Research Inc. (The Firelight Group)*

ROOM 3C01 (FILM SESSION): Documenting Hydro Impacts in Northern Manitoba

After the Dams
by **Ariel Guerchicoff**, *Independent Filmmaker* and **Guadalupe Moreno Campos**, *Visual Artist*


Socio and Economic Impacts of Hydro-Impacted Communities and their Poor Relationship with Manitoba Hydro
by **Carol Kobliski**, *Nelson House* and **Michael Tyas**, *University of Manitoba*

Dammed and Unmanned: A Story of Resistance in Grand Rapids
by **Michael Tyas**, *University of Manitoba* and **Stéphane McLachlan**, *University of Manitoba*

This film session will feature three film documentary shorts (full length documentaries of two are in development) focusing on hydro impacts in northern Manitoba. "After the dams" shows through testimonies and environmental footage how northern Manitoba communities were affected since the arrival of Manitoba Hydro, disrupting their entire way of life. Despite Manitoba Hydro's divide and conquer approach to working with communities, Kobliski's film portrays the similarities of the impacts in various northern Manitoba communities. "Dammed and Unmanned" delves into the contemporary struggles that the community of Grand Rapids is facing as Manitoba Hydro cuts costs, and potentially, corners.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH SCHEDULE

Saturday Plenary 10:00am – 11:00am

KEYNOTE: Like Water for Justice

Deepa Joshi, *Honorary Research Fellow, Coventry*

Saturday Plenary 11:30am – 12:30am

PANEL: International Resistance to Hydro Development

Elisa Estronioli, *Brazilian Movement of Communities
Affected by Dams*

Jonathan Gonzales Quiel, *Autonomous University of Chiriquí,
National Network in Defense of Water in Panama*

Marie-Ève Marleau, *Committee for Human Rights in Latin America*

Saturday Breakout Sessions 1:30pm – 3:00pm

ROOM 3M59: Dam(n)ing Manitoba's North

**Dam(n)ing the People: Environmental and Social Impacts
of Hydroelectric Development on Northern Manitoba's
Indigenous Peoples**

Samantha Blais, *University of Alberta*

**Narrative Memory Map: Reigniting a Severed Connection
to the Land**

Melanie Belmore, *University College of the North*

**A Sample of Our Research Conducted in Hydro-impacted
Communities**

Henk Warnar-Brown, *University College of the North*

Delia Chartrand, *Libraries and Archives Canada*

This paper panel includes three unique perspectives on the impacts associated with hydro dam development in Northern Manitoba. First, Samantha Blais will use photographs, archival research, and oral histories to illustrate the environmental damage that development causes on the traditional economy of Indigenous communities. Secondly, Melanie Belmore will describe the importance of narrative memory mapping as a tool to stay connected to the land for all individuals that live in the respective territorial area or miles away. Finally, Henk Warnar-Brown and Delia Chartrand will share two projects that have the potential to strengthen community resilience and adaptation.

ROOM 3M61: Our Voices Together in Trauma & Resilience - Sharing Stories of Gendered Violence of Resource Development

Louisa Constant, *York Factory First Nation*

Martina Saunders, *York Factory First Nation*

Hilda Anderson-Pyrz, *Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc.*

Connie Greyeyes, *Fort St. John, BC*

As partners working with Amnesty International, the presenters in this workshop were part of research looking into how energy development affects communities, women and girls. Specifically, this workshop will focus on the real impacts experienced in York Factory First Nation located in northern Manitoba and communities in northeast British Columbia. Presenters will talk about their research with Amnesty International and the current work being done to put an end to ongoing issues resulting from gendered violence and energy development.

ROOM 3M63: Tracking Change: Local and Traditional Knowledge in Watershed Governance

Elder Cleo Reece, *Fort McMurray First Nation,
Keepers of the Athabasca*

Abby D'Souza, *Tracking Change*

Renato Silvano, *Universidade Federal Do Rio Grande Do Sul*

Bruce McLean, *Mikisew Cree Nation*

Tracking Change is a six-year SSHRC-funded research initiative. Guided by a Traditional Knowledge Steering Committee, its purpose is to build capacity for Indigenous peoples and local fishing communities to document and share their own knowledge about changes in the sustainability of freshwater ecosystems and the associated impacts on local fishing livelihoods. In this panel, presenters will bring together research from across Canada, Thailand and Brazil and discuss global impacts and patterns of hydroelectric development.

ROOM 3M69: Photo-Voice for Community-Based Research and Activism

Evan Bowness, *University of British Columbia*

Natalie Baird, *University of Manitoba*

How we can build a network of learning and action to empower communities affected by hydroelectric development? In this hands-on workshop, we will use "photo-voice" to collectively provide some insight into this important question. Photo-voice is gaining momentum as a powerful tool for community-based research and community organizing. It involves two main steps: First, we capture experiences and perspectives through photography. Second, we reflect on the photos taken and interpretations of what they mean. Through examples of



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH SCHEDULE

successful photo-voice projects, we'll discuss how it works and how to overcome challenges that may come up. We'll then use those skills in an applied photo-voice exercise aimed at continuing this conversation after the conference ends.

ROOM 3M67: Global Activism and Resistance

Catastrophic Disasters and Slow Violence: Thinking about the Impacts of the Xe Pian Xe Namnoy Dam in Southern Laos
Ian Baird, *University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Rivers and Peoples in Panama, Subjectivities in Resistance
Maira Oliva Rios, *Centre for Social Anthropology Research and Superior Studies, Mexico City*

Water as a living being, Respect, Indigenous Perspective on Energy and Ecological Justice
Carl Wassilie, *Alaska Inter-Tribal Council*

Exploring cultural-spiritual vulnerability of ethnic communities impacted by hydro-electric projects: A case study from the Western Ghats, India
KJ Joy, *Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management*

ROOM 3C01 (FILM SESSION): Indigenous Perspectives on Climate Change & Resistance Activism

Indigenous Perspectives on Climate Change and Energy Justice in the Prairies
Laura Cameron, *Prairie Climate Centre, University of Winnipeg*
Dave Courchene, *Turtle Lodge, Sagkeeng First Nation*

While collaboration between Indigenous communities and researchers on climate change has increased in recent decades, relatively little work in this field has focused on the Canadian Prairies, until now. In this session, partners from the Turtle Lodge and the Prairie Climate Centre discuss Indigenous perspectives on climate change in the Prairies. They share a selection of short videos in which community members describe some of the changes they are experiencing in their environments, as well as a range of solutions they are pursuing – from land-based and cultural education initiatives to community-based renewable energy projects.

Indigenous Resistance Activism: Pragmatic Causal Effects Examined
Tyrone Otte, BA (Hon) AC-PPA fmak., *Executive Producer, By Your Pants Media Productions*

Featuring an 11-minute version of Indigenous Sovereignty, Environmental Thresholds: a Grassy Narrows Blockade Documentary, this workshop will explore the experience of the filmmaker in producing the work, and Indigenous resistance activism generally. Workshop discussions will center

on effective strategies and methods of Indigenous resistance activism and how these can be applied practically in the context of hydro-impacted Indigenous nations. The discussion will also look at how activism can strengthen, heal, and advance the interests of hydro-impacted communities.

Saturday Breakout Sessions 3:30pm – 5:00pm

ROOM 3M59: Megadams = Megadamage: Building US/Canadian Alliances Centred on Grassroots Resistance

Angela Giles, *Atlantic Regional Organizer, Council of Canadians*
Denise Cole, *Labrador Land Protectors*
Margaret E. Sheehan, Esq., *North American Megadam Resistance Alliance*

This facilitated session will bring together frontline land and water defenders and allies to build strategies that amplify their collective resistance. We will give an overview of hydropower as a false solution to the climate crisis, report on policies and laws in the US and on resistance to new transmission corridors. Together, presenters and participants will explore strategies of resistance including policy and grassroots organizing that can empower local communities working for energy justice.

ROOM 3M61: Building Water Governance: Treaty #3 Anishinaabeg and the Journey Toward the Nibi (Water) Declaration

Prof. Aimée Craft, *Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa*
Priscilla Simard, *Grand Council Treaty #3 Women's Council, Couchiching First Nation*
Anita Collins, *Grand Council Treaty #3 Women's Council, Seine River First Nation*

The development and ratification of a Nibi (Water) Declaration engaged the ceremonial and traditional governance processes of the Anishinaabeg of Treaty #3 and builds on a rich legacy of knowledge, water teachings, stories, songs, language, and ceremonies. Through research, Elder knowledge, and video, panelists will share their respective contributions to the Declaration - vision, process and community engagement - to show how Indigenous legal and political orders can be revitalized in contemporary governance contexts.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH SCHEDULE

ROOM 3M63: Cultural Camps as a Path to Healing

Ellen Virginia Cook, *Misipawistik Cree Nation*
Eunice Beardy, *Tataskweyak Cree Nation*
Stella Neff, *Misipawistik Cree Nation*
Karleen Keeper, *Tataskweyak Cree Nation*
Carol Kobliski, *Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation*

Last summer a dozen women from four hydro-impacted communities gathered at Misipawistik Culture Camp to discuss a path to healing from the adverse effects of hydro development. These women will share the discussions had and the plans for moving forward as water protectors and stewards of the environment. Plus, presenters will answer big questions, including: "How is hydro continuing to impact our lives today?" and "How can we engage and inspire youth to help protect our land and water?"

ROOM 3M59: Voicing from Within: Cultivating a Collaborative Arts Curriculum

Kate Braun
Thunderbird Who Sits In The Center, **Alesia Constant**
Francisco Ormaza, *Visual Artist*
Dana Vanderburgh, *PhD Student Indiana University Bloomington*

Voicing From Within is an ongoing research project that strives to harness the power of artistic expression to respond to the social and environmental challenges of hydroelectric damming affecting local communities. Collaborate and explore with Thunderbird Who Sits In The Center Alesia Constant, Dana Vanderburgh, Kate Braun and Francisco Ormaza as they model their multidisciplinary arts workshop scheduled to run during summer 2020. Guests at this workshop will participate in drawing, writing, movement, and more!

ROOM 3M67 (PAPER PANEL): Powered Up: Resistance, Decolonization, & Environmental Justice

Damming Rainy Lake and the Ongoing Production of Settler Colonialism
Johann Strube, *The Pennsylvania State University*

Decolonizing Our Way to Sustainability Learning to Learn from Indigenous Resurgence in the Canadian Context
Derek Kornelsen, *Rootstalk Resources*

Relationships with the Land and Manitoba Hydro
Joseph Dipple, *University of Manitoba*

Hydrophones as a Tool for the Defense and Protection of Rivers and Territory
Jonathan Gonzalez Quiel, *Autonomous University of Chiriquí, National Network in Defense of Water in Panama and Cultural Survival*

ROOM 3C01 (FILM SESSION): An Analysis of Hydro Development in South Indian Lake: Oral History, Licensing, and Aboriginal Rights

This session starts with a documentary film and is followed by a presentation.

An oral history and analysis of hydroelectric development in O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation (South Indian Lake)

Presenters:

Leslie Dysart, *Community Association of South Indian Lake*
Marcel Kreutzer, *Prairie Climate Centre*
Ian Mauro, *University of Winnipeg*
Laura Cameron, *Prairie Climate Centre*
Alan Diduck, *University of Winnipeg*

In the early 1970s, the community of South Indian Lake was forced to relocate to the western shore of Southern Indian Lake due to hydro-related flooding. This oral history film explores the perspectives of hunters, trappers, fishers and other local residents to highlight their lived experience with hydroelectric development. The film features community perspectives related to the impacts of the flooding, collapse of the fishery, the Augmented Flow Program and tactics used by Manitoba Hydro.

Licence to Learn: Exploring the Implications of the Churchill River Diversion and Section 35

Dave Scott, *Swan Lake First Nation*
Leslie Dysart, *Community Association of South Indian Lake*

In 1973 Manitoba Hydro began the Churchill River Diversion which would end up diverting 75% of the volume of the river to power hydro dams in Northern Manitoba. Not long after, the Augmented Flow Program was implemented, allowing the public utility to exceed agreed upon water levels of South Indian Lake. The results have been devastating. This workshop will explore the ongoing licensing issues that continue to wreak havoc on South Indian Lake and how Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution can be applied.



ART BUILD!



TIME

All day Saturday and Sunday, 8am to 2pm

LOCATION

Tony's Café, 2nd Floor of Leatherdale Hall

There will be an ongoing art build on Saturday and Sunday of the conference. Please stop in at Tony's Café on the 2nd floor of Leatherdale Hall. You will find everything you need make a poster for the rally on Sunday or contribute to the art installation being created as part of this conference.

This art build is being facilitated by Shawn Kettner and Samantha Harrison.

Shawn Kettner

Shawn is a puppet maker, educator, art build coordinator and the designer/owner of Patient Puppets, medical puppets designed for education. Shawn has coordinated many art builds for the Climate Action community. As coordinator of Many Voices, One World she has worked with storyteller Jamie Oliviero, on numerous social justice project in Winnipeg schools and abroad, most recently completing *We Walk Each Other Home* at Sargent Park School.

Samantha Harrison

Samantha Harrison has been making puppets and props for as long as she can remember and for the last two years she has been lucky enough to make puppets full time! Her work can be seen on stage at MTYP, Rainbow Stage, and in hospitals worldwide.

www.patientpuppets.mb.ca

Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources



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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH SCHEDULE

Sunday Plenary
9:00am – 10:00am

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Senator Mary Jane McCallum

10:00am – 11:00am

PANEL: Different Ways of Taking Action on Hydro Development

Carl Wassalie, *Alaska Inter-Tribal Council*
Rita Monias, *Pimicikamak Cree Nation*
KJ Joy, *Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management & Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water*

11:30am – 1:00pm

PLENARY LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION: Taking Action in Solidarity

VISUAL ART DISPLAYS

Art as a Pathway to Knowing

Kianna Durston, *University of Manitoba*

This project is collectively made up of individual art pieces created by youth participants of the kis kin ha ma ki win land-based summer camps. Camp participants learnt a textile dyeing method called “Ice Dyeing” as well as how to create a natural Soundscape of the surrounding environment. The results urge the viewer to listen and connect to the movement and manipulation of water and its outcomes.

Drawings of stories from the past: Northern Manitoba communities

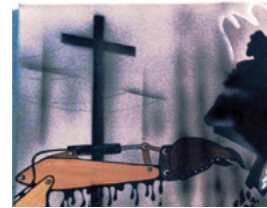
Guadalupe Moreno Campos, *Independent Visual Artist and Performer*

During the 2019 Hydro Tour in South Indian Lake, Guadalupe collected water to be used in drawings with Chinese ink. In this work, she uses large amounts of water as the uncontrollable medium in which the ink flows to reconstruct images of the past from community stories. The watery images that emerge, she found, was the best way to transmit how houses, landscapes shores and people were affected by the uncontrollable fluctuations in water levels.

Displayed in the Manitoba Boardroom, 2nd Floor, Room 2M70. Meet the artists at 3pm on Saturday

Realities of Hydro Development: Tataskweyak Cree Nation

Robert Spence, *Tataskweyak Cree Nation*



Robert Spence, a community and Council member of Tataskweyak Cree Nation, has over time been inspired and created art centered on the tragedy that is hydro development. He has also taken and gathered photographs of the environmental

degradation of the surrounding lakes that reflect the gruesome fates of the voiceless moose. Robert’s pictures also put into perspective the cultural devastation that arises from the influx of drugs and alcohol into his community

Water Memories

Betty Carpick, *Public Programming Coordinator at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery and Independent*

Interdisciplinary Artist, Arts Educator, Environmentalist



On a large-scale and hand-drawn unbleached cotton waterways’ map of Northern Manitoba, participants will have opportunities to work individually on a collaborative stitching with embroidery thread. Novices and experienced sewers can stitch

marks, images, and/or words that relate to personal experiences, memories, and realities about the diversion of the Churchill River by Manitoba Hydro. By using the language of embroidery we’ll weave in history, spirituality, geography, natural wonders, and ethnology of place to, in essence, create a new map



RESEARCH POSTERS

Displayed in the Manitoba Boardroom, 2nd Floor, Room 2M70
Meet the Researchers at 3pm on Friday

Arsenic + Fools Gold: Portraying a Mined Landscape in Northern Manitoba

Dilaxshy Sivagurunathan, *University of Manitoba*

Northern Manitoba has a fragile and complex environment that is rich in diversity but is disregarded in many ways by the province. Hinged on Snow Lake's history of mineral extraction, this practicum aims to explore the intrinsic link between the current Canadian economy and the ecology. Dilaxshy Sivagurunathan believes there is a current disconnect with the public's understanding of where these materials originate, the environmental and social impacts that derive, and the complexity ingrained within these connected layers.

Path Dependence and Politics of Difference in Manitoba's Hydro-Scape

Katarina Djordjevic, *University of Manitoba*

Katarina Djordjevic's research tries to chart the production of inequality in Manitoba's hydro-scape in an effort to deconstruct the past and reckon with "ongoing ruination wrought by colonialism...by structures and processes that erase distinct ways of living and being" (Dempsey, 2016, p.240). She aims to respond to the need of making infrastructure visible to "see how our present landscape is the product of past projects, past struggles, [and] past corruption" (Robbins, 2007, p. 32) by examining power geometries which underlie northern hydropower developments.

Adverse Effects of the Nelson River on Thicket Portage

Jason Cook, *Community Researcher*

The Nelson River-Jenpeg Hydro Project has negatively impacted the land water systems used for traditional activities by the community of Thicket Portage. The environmental damage caused by hydro development has been a long-standing issue for the community. The community has raised concerns associated with burial sites, water and river systems, hunting wildlife and fishing. This research project will provide evidence on how traditional lands have been affected and be used to develop community projects to mitigate future impacts.

Theory of Change examined through the lens of Food Sovereignty research in northern Manitoba

Asfia Kamal and Kendelle Romero-Fawcett

Northern Manitoba Food Culture and Community Collaborative

This poster shows how the NMFCCC theory of change (TOC) can be utilized in research through examining two community-based Food Sovereignty research projects. We will explore ways that research can embrace the TOC values that were identified collaboratively with a northern advisory team and the philanthropic organization. The research projects examined food initiatives in five communities in northern Manitoba impacted by hydro development, O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation, Leaf Rapids, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation, Opaskwayak Cree Nation and Misipawistik Cree Nation.

Health Sovereignty and Indigenous wellbeing framework: A literature review

Asfia Kamal, Alex Wilson and Débora Borratto
University of Saskatchewan

This poster summarizes literature review for existing wellbeing frameworks at global levels that are relevant to First Nations and Metis communities in remote northern Manitoba, particularly in The Opaskwayak Cree Nation (OCN) and O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation (OPCN). Some key questions applied are: What are Indigenous understandings of health? How can policy and practice be better informed to maximize desired health and wellbeing outcomes? In the long term, this research aims to improve the quality of life for people in OCN and OPCN through change driven by policy and community action.

Wachusko weesti: The Muskrat Hut Sustainable Hub Project

Alex Wilson and Débora Borratto
University of Saskatchewan

The Wachusko weesti – The Muskrat Hut - project is a community-led collaboration between an interdisciplinary research team (including Indigenous and non-Indigenous academics, professionals and students, working in Education, Natural Resources, and Design-Build Architecture) and First Nation leadership and community members. The project addresses two critical issues that affect First Nation communities: inadequate access to safe water, and a shortage of adequate housing. Wachusko weesti will be invaluable throughout the construction of OCN's environmentally sustainable village.



IMPORTANT EVENTS & INFORMATION

Pipe Ceremony in Convocation Hall at 7am on Friday

Friday Night Mixer at the Plug In Gallery at 6pm on Friday

Saturday Night Dinner and Entertainment starts at 6pm on Saturday

Ongoing Art Build in Tony's Cafe, 2nd Floor of Leatherdale Hall, on Saturday and Sunday

Don't forget to check out Room 2M70 for Visual Art Displays and Research Posters

Join us for the march and rally on Sunday at 2:30pm to raise awareness on hydro issues

Elders Room is located at 3M56

**Support workers are onsite for the duration of the conference.
They are here for you and would love to talk.**



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In Deep Water

Canadian Consortium on Performance and Politics in the Americas, SSHRC Partnership Grant



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Riding the Rapids



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG
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WANISKA TAN
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