



PROGRAMMATIC STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING – TORONTO, DECEMBER 2017

# A SHARED Future

## Program Updates



IN THIS ISSUE

# December & January 2017/18

by Heather Castleden and Robert Stefanelli

Greetings Team! We have a number of activities to report on, and as we have rolled into 2018, we have decided to present our updates in a newsletter format. We have included more photos and highlight sections, and continue to encourage all team members to send in their activity updates, including photos and news items for our next update!

### December Activities:

### Connecting with Partners: Shared Value Solutions

Heather Castleden and Robert Stefanelli participated in a teleconference with Rachel Speiran (Senior Community Development Specialist) and Chantel Henderson (Energy Projects Intern) of Shared Value Solutions (Guelph, Ontario) regarding their commitments to A SHARED Future and potential collaboration opportunities. Chantel shared information about two programs that others involved in A SHARED Future might be interested in: [Student Energy](#), a global charity building the next generation of energy leaders who will accelerate our world's transition to a sustainable future, and [Energy Exchange](#), which as a division of Pollution Probe, is "dedicated to advancing energy literacy in Canada. It aspires to a future in which Canadians are united in their energy

prosperity, rather than divided by their energy options" (editor's note: not specific to renewable energy).

Shared Value Solutions is also working closely with many communities that have expressed interest in participating in NRCan's *Promoting Clean Energy for Remote Communities*, and there may be exciting new opportunities to connect our existing plan to conduct a critical program analysis in terms of its effectiveness from both a government and community perspective through one or more case studies involving Shared Value Solutions.

### Programmatic Steering Committee Meeting

The Programmatic Steering Committee, comprised of the Academic Co-Leads of the various research projects, gathered in Toronto over 2.5 days to reflect on our first year and continue to shape our collective vision for A SHARED Future as a program and group of interrelated projects. The meeting gave the Co-Leads of each research project within A SHARED Future an opportunity to present their research proposals for iterative peer review from the Committee.

## DECEMBER

- I. Connecting with Partners: Shared Value Solutions, and David Suzuki Foundation
- II. Programmatic Steering Committee Annual Meeting, Toronto
- III. Indigenous Women in the Renewable Energy Sector: Melissa Quesnelle, Blood Tribe

## JANUARY

- I. A SHARED Future Steering Committee Governance
- II. Sharing What We Are Learning: New Manuscript
- III. Natural Resources Canada Workshop Summary
- IV. *Ted Talk* – The Thrilling Potential for Off-Grid Solar Energy

## ADDITIONAL UPDATES

- I. Announcements – Students, Partners
- II. Opportunities and Upcoming Events
- III. Conference Calls for Abstracts

In addition to sharing proposals, Steering Committee members were introduced to the work that Jeff Masuda has been co-leading with Sarah Harney (Native Women's Association of Canada) on ways in which each project can include Sex and Gender Considerations, as well as Jeff Masuda's leadership on integrative Knowledge Translation, as these are consistent with the broader aims of A SHARED Future.

The Programmatic Steering Committee also developed a governance structure to allow for collaborative decision-making on A SHARED Future matters. Through the creation of an Executive Body for the Committee that is comprised of the Nominated Principal Investigator/Co-Director (Heather Castleden), a Co-Director (to be determined), and Partner and Student Representatives (also to be determined), A SHARED Future can be committed to a transparent decision-making and budgetary allocation process.

### Connecting with Partners: David Suzuki Foundation

Dr. Faisal Moola, who attended our inaugural team meeting at T'Sou-ke Nation last year on behalf of the David Suzuki Foundation has moved on, after 15 years with the organization, to the University of Guelph as an Associate Professor of Conservation Leadership and Policy. Congratulations and best wishes Faisal!

Sherry Yano and Harpreet Johal of the David Suzuki Foundation met with Heather Castleden and Rob Stefanelli to continue discussions around programmatic synergies and opportunities for collaboration. Harpreet shared an opportunity for researchers to apply for a David Suzuki Fellowship (which was circulated to the team by email last month).

In addition to this program, Sherry explained a new initiative called *Charged Up!* that the David Suzuki Foundation is about to launch; *Charged Up!* focuses on 'people power' and communities coming together to invest in a low-carbon future through renewable energy solutions. Sherry is currently working on the west coast to help get *Charged Up!* initiated.

### Indigenous Women in the Renewable Energy Sector: Melissa Quesnelle, Blood Tribe

Heather Castleden met Melissa Quesnelle in July 2017 at Lumos Energy's Indigenous Clean Energy Roundtable. Melissa was an invited participant to the Lumos Energy Catalyst 20/20 Program; they met again at



the *Renewables in Remote Communities* conference in Whitehorse, and have since had an exploratory conversation about hosting a Gathering for Indigenous Women in Renewable Energy through A SHARED Future as a programmatic activity that would align with our team's goal to consider gender-responsive approaches to creating healthful environments. Our plan is to continue the conversation with A SHARED Future partner, the Native Women's Association of Canada, and to possibly develop a research project with interested Indigenous women in this sector.

#### January Activities

### A SHARED Future Governance

To begin the year, Heather Castleden and Rob Stefanelli met with Jeff Masuda to follow up from the Toronto meeting. They discussed proposed changes to the governance plan for A SHARED Future to create a transparent and collective decision-making process about program and project activities. The Programmatic Steering Committee is reviewing a revised draft of their Terms of Reference and will be meeting in February by teleconference to discuss the protocols. Once finalized, the Terms of Reference will be posted on A SHARED Future's website.

### Manuscript Nearing Submission

*Renewable Energy and Energy Autonomy: How Indigenous Peoples in Canada are Shaping an Energy Future*, a systematic and realist review of existing energy literature on renewable energy and autonomy in Canada

is nearly complete! The manuscript, authored by members of the A SHARED Future Programmatic Steering Committee, is in the final stages of revisions this month, and will soon be submitted to the journal editors of *Environmental Reviews*.

### Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) Workshop Summary

NRCan has released a summary document of the workshop they co-hosted in Whitehorse, YK. The workshop sought to bring together various stakeholders to address challenges relating to diesel reliance in remote communities. More information and the full summary can be found [here](#).

### Ted Talk - The Thrilling Potential for Off-Grid Solar Energy

International Advisory Committee Chair for A SHARED Future, Simon Brascoupé, brought this video to the attention of the A SHARED Future team. [Here](#), Amar Inamdar, gives a *Ted Talk* on the potential for off-grid solar energy across rural Africa. There are some valuable lessons and insights from the talk that can be applied across many contexts.

### Announcements - Students

A SHARED Future is pleased to announce that Emily Beacock (MES Candidate) will be joining Debbie Martin (Dalhousie) on her project with the NunatuKavut Community Council, and Brianna Poirier (MSc) is joining Hannah Tait Neufeld (Guelph) on the T'Sou-ke research project. Welcome to both our new student team members!

## Announcements - Partners

- T'Sou-ke Nation is happy to share that they have received funding from *The Vancouver Foundation* and the *BC Real Estate Foundation* for a 3 year program to support their initiative: *T'Sou-ke Centre for Sustainability – Innovations in Housing*. Using a Two-Eyed Seeing methodology that implements intuitive sacred Indigenous knowledge with Western-based science, this initiative involves a partnership with Clean Tech Community Gateway in the research, design, construction, and evaluation of affordable, culturally appropriate, Net Zero homes on reserve. T'Sou-ke will also be mentoring and encouraging other First Nations communities to join the program, and will be designing the houses for a range of environmental conditions. By the end of the 3 years, T'Sou-ke hopes to have Net Zero homes that can be delivered in kit form to anywhere in North America.
- In the CEPI project, members are excited that Mary Beth Doucette will be joining their local team. Mary Beth works at Cape Breton University as the Executive Director of the Purdy Crawford Chair in Aboriginal Business, and she is a PhD student at Saint Mary's University. As a Mi'kmaw scholar from Membertou First Nation, Mary Beth brings tremendous experience in the realm of organizational development and is interested in exploring the intersection of two-eyed seeing and sustainable economic development for community well being. Her expertise is a great fit for the project! Initially Mary Beth will generate a retrospective timeline of CEPI's formation and trajectory, considering Mi'kmaw, Western, and two-eyed seeing ways of 'organizing.' She and Emily Root met with Dan Christmas in January, who provided them with an overview of key historic moments in CEPI, and thoughts on some of the current shifts within the initiative. They have also assembled a large number of primary documents (reports, proceedings, minutes, etc.) that will serve as data at this phase. Following this work, Mary Beth may be

interested in shaping her dissertation in relation to A SHARED Future. Welcome Mary Beth!

- Heather Castleden and Diana Lewis were notified on November 30, 2017, that Tanya Barnaby, Executive Director, Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Secretariat was unable to pursue a project under A Shared Future, due to time constraints she was facing as a result of consultation pressures within the Mi'gmawei Mawiomi territory.

Diana Lewis met with Tanna Pirie-Wilson, CEO of Band Operations, Tobique First Nation, on December 4, 2017. Diana and Tanna discussed the parameters of what a potential project with Tobique First Nation would look like as a Partnerships-in-the-Making. This approach was discussed with the Programmatic Steering Committee at the December 6-8, 2017 meeting in Toronto, where it was decided that Tobique First Nation would become an Indigenous-led Partnership, replacing the Mi'gmawei Mawiomi Secretariat (MMS): Using Wind to Power Governance project. Diana and Tanna were scheduled to meet on January 4, 2018 to further develop a proposal to bring to the Programmatic Steering Committee for review. Unfortunately, illness and weather have precluded a second meeting from happening, and it is hoped that a proposal will be forthcoming in the coming weeks.

## Opportunities and Upcoming Events

- Canada Research Chair in [Integrating Indigenous Knowledge and Sustainable Engineering](#) – University of Calgary. **Advertised until: Mar. 16 2018**
- Call for Applications for Sustainable Engineering in Remote Communities ([SERA](#)) Graduate and Undergraduate Awards. These awards are targeted to Aboriginal students with an interest in renewable energy systems or sustainable and energy efficient buildings. More information, and the

Call for Applications for Winter 2018, can be found [here](#). Ready to apply? [Click here](#) for application instructions.  
**Applications due: 4:30pm Mar 3, 2018**

- Teleconference for Programmatic Steering Committee. 1:00-3:00pm February 9, 2018
- Teleconference for International Advisory Committee. 5:00-7:00pm March 6, 2018
- Project co-leads will continue moving forward with their respective project designs.

## Conference Calls of Interest to ASF Readers

- Canadian Association of Geographers Annual General Meeting, August 6-10, 2018, held at Laval University in Quebec City. Call for submissions is now open and available, [here](#).
- World Conference on Health Promotion, April 7-11, 2019, Rotorua, New Zealand/Aotearoa. *Promoting Planetary Health and Sustainable Development for All*. More information, [here](#).
- The Native American & Indigenous Studies Association Conference, June 26-29, 2019. The conference will be hosted by The University of Waikato in Hamilton, New Zealand/Aotearoa. More information, [here](#).
- The International Medical Geography Symposium, June 30 – July 5, 2019, Queenstown, New Zealand/Aotearoa. More information, [here](#).

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Best wishes to Project Teams as they continue moving forward with their respective projects! If you have any news that you would like to share with the team for our next, please contact A SHARED Future's program coordinator: Rob Stefanelli ([robert.stefanelli@queensu.ca](mailto:robert.stefanelli@queensu.ca)).