



2nd NunatuKavut Summit on Renewable Energy

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A SHARED Future Bi Monthly Update

Spring has sprung, and we've got a fresh batch of ASF news and updates for you to accompany the sunshine, flowers in bloom, and the pouring rain of the new season!

If you have any news, conferences, or funding announcements you'd like to see in the bi-monthly update, send them to Emily Beacock at emily.beacock@dal.ca.

If you are interested in getting involved in any A SHARED Future activity or project, please contact Marc Calabretta at marc.calabretta@queensu.ca. We are always looking for extra hands on deck!

Highlights

Changes to the International Advisory Committee

We are excited to announce that Mi'kmaq Elder Albert Marshall is joining our International Advisory Committee!



Mi'kmaq Elder Albert Marshall

Albert is a preeminent voice on Mi'kmaq natural resources, environmental issues, and traditional knowledge in Unama'ki (Cape Breton). He is credited with bringing Etuaptmumk (Two Eyed Seeing) into Integrative Science (with Cheryl Bartlett), as a guiding principle to recognize the gift of multiple perspectives and learning to use all of these perspectives for the benefit of all. Thank you, Albert, for sharing your gifts and joining A SHARED Future's IAC.

Albert is replacing Cheryl Bartlett on the IAC, who, after 3 years of supporting the vision of A SHARED Future, is stepping down to take step closer to retirement. Thank you so much, Cheryl, for all of your contributions to developing the original application to CIHR, your engagement on the IAC, and for your continued support of ASF in advising on our Institutional Ethnography (along with IAC Chair Simon Brascoupé & Sarah Rotz).



Dr. Cheryl Bartlett, CM

Highlights

- Changes on the IAC
- 2nd NunatuKavut Summit on Renewable Energy
- Launching the NRCan Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative in Whitehorse February 23th, 2019

Project Updates

- Urban Youth Renewable Energy
- Indigenous Women in Renewable Energy
- Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI
- We Lived This Way Before
- Getting Off Diesel in NunatuKavut
- Advancing Culturally Relevant Gender-Based Analysis
- Working Towards Energy Security, Self-Determination, and Reconciliation
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- Clean Energy as a Contribution to Reconciliation Efforts?
- Exploring Relations, Experience and Ways of Knowing

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

In the News

2nd NunatuKavut Summit on Renewable Energy

The event, hosted by ASF co-leads Debbie Martin (Dalhousie University) and Amy Hudson (NunatuKavut Community Council) and organized by Emily Beacock (Master's Candidate, Dalhousie University)/Research Coordinator, A Shared Future, Co-Director Diana (Dee) Lewis (University of Western Ontario) and Nick Mercer (PhD Candidate, University of Waterloo) brought together NunatuKavut community members, ASF research team members, and organizations from across the Atlantic region on January 14th and 15th in Happy Valley – Goose Bay, Labrador.



Debbie Martin describes ASF's contributions to renewable energy research.

Representatives from two South Coast communities attended, who are collaborating on our ASF project, as well as staff from NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC) and their development arm, Nunacor. Emily and Nick were able to share and discuss preliminary results from last year's data collection with community members and NCC, to plan next steps for the ASF project, and to build new partnerships for renewable energy and sustainability development.

Some of NunatuKavut's energy and sustainability development organizations also attended, giving presentations on tidal energy (Joe Fitzharris from Luna Ocean Consulting Ltd.), and the potential for community firewood services in NunatuKavut (Jade Zavarella, Honours undergraduate student, University of Waterloo).



Amy Hudson, Abigail Poole and Nick Mercer discuss next steps for renewable energy in NunatuKavut.

During the Summit, the ASF team and NCC pulled together additional funding for Nick to continue data collection this spring, expanding his survey, which explores community perspectives on diesel, renewable energy and efficiency technologies to six additional NunatuKavut communities. In addition, shortly after the Summit, Conservation Corps of Newfoundland and Labrador (CCNL) agreed to fund 10 youth part-time positions to create the NunatuKavut Advisory Team on Using Renewable Energy (NATURE) Youth Council. Nick will spend March, April and May in Labrador working alongside the NATURE Youth Council to collect data and develop youth-led community energy projects.

In all, the event was a huge success! Debbie Martin and Amy Hudson and the entire ASF NunatuKavut team thank everyone for a fantastic two days and are thrilled to move forward on new possibilities and next steps that came out of the 2nd NunatuKavut Renewable Energy Summit.

Launching the NRCan Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative in Whitehorse February 23, 2019

Heather Castleden and Derek Kornelsen travelled to Whitehorse for the formal launch of Canada's Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative, which is the focus of their critical program analysis (details below). NRCan, the federal department leading this initiative, "aims to reduce diesel dependency in up to 15 Indigenous remote communities across the country, by building capacity for community-led renewable energy projects. This initiative will focus on working together to cut pollution, clean our air, and create local jobs in Indigenous communities."

While in Whitehorse, Derek and Heather connected with several leading figures in the remote renewables context to collect data for the NRCan project detailed below.



Dave Lovekin (Pembina Institute), Grant Sullivan (ICE 20/20 Catalysts Alumnus; Gwich'in Tribal Council), Blair Hogan (ICE 20/20 Catalysts Alumnus; Gúnta Business Consulting); Hon. Amarjeet Sohi (Minister of Natural Resources); Hon. Larry Bagnell (MP, Yukon) at the NRCan launch (PC: @Pembina)

Project Updates

Academic Co-Leads provide updates on their respective projects Here is what they have to report:

Indigenous Youth-Led Urban Renewable Energy Project

Co-Lead: Jeff Masuda and TBD

Project Assistant: Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta

Advisory Committee: TBD

Current Status: Under development.

Update: On March 13th and 14th, a research design event was held in Kingston, ON, with four young Indigenous leaders. All attendees brought their gifts, relations and experience to support this work: Kaitrina Harrison and James Schlonies shared their experience on youth organizing within M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre; Waasekom Niin (Edward George) contributed his expertise as a water defender and steward in the Great Lakes region; Cory Beaver (Stoney Nakoda First Nation) brought insights as Co-Chair of SevenGen 2019, a national Indigenous student energy summit (reported on the last bi-monthly update); Jeff Masuda described the A SHARED Future program and Carlos Sanchez-Pimienta organized and facilitated the research design event. Together, the group identified the core values and potential implementation

pathways for a project that strengthens the capacity of Indigenous youth (ages 15-18) to act as leaders of their local energy transitions in close partnership with urban Indigenous organizations.

The team has also reached out to the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC) to discuss project design. The OFIFC was unable to attend the research design event, so another meeting is planned for April 24th. A proposal is anticipated to come to the ASF PSC table by mid-summer, and a joint proposal to CIHR this fall. The team anticipates ASF funding to be Phase 1 of a larger project, with additional funding from CIHR to cover later years.

Indigenous Women in Renewable Energy (I-WIRE)

Co-Leads: Naatoi'lhkpiakii (Melissa Quesnelle) and Heather Castleden

Project Assistant: Melody Wise

Advisory Committee: Barbara Dumont-Hill, Tanna Pirie-Wilson, Eryn Stewart. We are seeking additional members to our advisory committee. Please contact us!

Current Status: Project underway.

Update: Phase 1 data has been collected, so Melissa and Heather are working to develop an approach to data analysis. Melody Wise, a 4th-year undergraduate student has been awarded a \$5000 Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship from Queen's University to work with Melissa and Heather in undertaking the preliminary coding and data analysis. Heather and Melissa hope to meet in May to develop the code book and then put Melody to work! Transcripts from the I-WIRE interviews, alongside a personal note of thanks from the team were mailed out. We were happy to see several of women from the I-Wire Gathering in Whitehorse for the Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative launch and in Calgary during the Indigenous Student Energy Summit. The team is excitedly awaiting a first draft of a film from the October 2018 Gathering by Mi'kmaw film maker Cathy Martin.

Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI

Co-Leads: Mary Beth Doucette, Lisa Young, and Stan Johnson

Project Assistant: Open

Advisory Committee: Elder Albert Marshall and Cheryl Bartlett

Current Status: Project underway.



Lisa Young, Mary Beth Doucette, and Stan Johnson: CEPI Co-Leads

Update: Things are busy for the team as Mary Beth assumes the role of Principal Investigator with ASF, while continuing to adjust to her new role as Assistant Faculty in the Organizational Management Department and the Purdy Crawford Chair in Aboriginal Business Studies (as of July 2018) and having recently completed her comprehensive exams (November 2018). Mary Beth attended the CEPI Steering Committee meeting at the end of January.

Since the last update, the team received REB approval from CBU. They are waiting to hear from Mi'kmaw Ethics Watch, and are continuing to build relationships and discuss the project as they await ethical approval to begin data collection. Stan, Mary Beth, Albert, Cheryl, and Heather were able to meet face-to-face on March 12th in Membertou to discuss next steps, which will include recruiting a Research Assistant to conduct interviews with past and current members of the CEPI over the summer.



Heather Castleden and Elder Albert Marshall share a meal and a laugh at their March 12th meeting. (PC: Mary Beth Doucette)

We Lived This Way Before - Tobique First Nation

Co-Leads: Diana (Dee) Lewis and Tanna Pirie-Wilson.

Project Assistant: Serena Mendizabal

Advisory Committee: TBD

Current Status: Project underway.

Update: The team is meeting this week to sign the research documents and agreements, and once signed, the final ethics application will be submitted to Western University.

Getting Off Diesel in NunatuKavut

Co-Leads: Debbie Martin and Amy Hudson

Project Assistant: Emily Beacock

Current Status: Project underway.

Update: The team is excited to announce two additions to our team: Connor Cepella and Victoria Sandre (Dalhousie University). Connor and Victoria are doing their Master's Degrees in Resource and Environmental Management degree and are joining the team as research assistants.

Since the Renewable Energy Summit in January, the team has been busy completing analysis of last year's data, while planning to go back to communities again this summer. Drawing on results from last year, Connor and Victoria are planning projects that support the NATURE Youth Council and energy education and training initiatives.

Emily is finishing up her Masters' thesis, aiming to defend in the summer, and then going on to do her PhD with Dee at Western University. Emily and Nick attended the Naalak Gathering: A regional dialogue on Indigenous research governance in NunatuKavut on March 20th – 21st, bringing together research ethics and governance experts from across the Atlantic region to discuss best practices in doing ethical research in collaboration with Indigenous communities.

Several members of the ASF research team will attend and present at the Labrador Research Forum, May 1st – 3rd in Happy Valley – Goose Bay.

Advancing Culturally-Relevant Gender Based Analysis in Indigenous Research on Renewable Energy and Health

Co-Leads: Jeff Masuda and TBD

Project Assistant: Magnus Nowell

Advisory Committee: Programmatic Steering Committee

Current Status: Project underway.

Update: Magnus began interviews with members of the Programmatic Steering Committee (PSC) in December and the process is ongoing, with more interviews still to come, and transcription and analysis underway. The team anticipates the interviews to be very useful, as they will draw insight from the PSC to further develop the CRGBA living compendium, with the aim of supporting implementation of CRGBA in all ASF projects going forward.

ASF wishes to thank Sarah Harney, who has been the CRGBA Co-Champion and Co-Lead on this project; she has been redeployed elsewhere within the Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) and we wish her well in her new position. We are excitedly awaiting a new Co-Champion to join the ASF team from NWAC.

Working Towards Energy Security, Self-Determination, and Reconciliation: A Collaborative Analysis of Natural Resources Canada's Off Diesel Initiative

Lead: Heather Castleden

Manager: Derek Kornelsen

Project Assistants: Priscilla Apronti and Rosy Tutton

Advisory Committee: Naatoi'Ihkpiakii (Melissa Quesnelle), Dee Lewis (Sipekne'katik First Nation), and Ken Paul (Maliseet Nation at Tobique). We will be seeking additional members to our advisory committee from those recruited to the Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative.

Current Status: Project underway.

Update: Data collection, in the form of semi-structured interviews, have begun involving personnel associated with launching this initiative. Over the past 18 months, the team has engaged in participant observation, with some interesting developments throughout the design element of the Initiative resulting. For example, the initiative began as a

'challenge' competition and it was open to all remote diesel-dependent off-grid communities, now it is targeting Indigenous-only communities and is not a challenge for design as much as a capacity building initiative. We are also learning about the delicate balance associated with participant observation in terms of determining when to step into the conversations that are happening internally within NRCAN and between NRCAN and its partners, Pembina Institute and the Indigenous Clean Energy Social Enterprise (ICE SE), and when to step back, study and observe.

Several other notable meetings took place throughout February and March, including a team meeting in Kingston with the project's Indigenous Advisory Committee and meetings in Ottawa with ICE SE and NRCAN to discuss the roll-out of the Off-Diesel Initiative and plans for our research and engagement in the months and years ahead. As the roll-out of the Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative will now be integrated into the ICE SE 20/20 Catalysts program, we are pleased to note that the research team has been welcomed to attend upcoming ICE SE events throughout the spring/summer/fall of 2019, which will facilitate further interviews with participating community members and will allow for regular check-ins and reporting back as we move forward with this research.

We wish to acknowledge the efforts by NRCAN, ICE SE, and the Pembina Institute to enable our team's involvement as participant observers in the process, as this is critical to our ability to conduct this research and to work toward reconciliation in clean energy contexts moving forward.

Perspectives Among Indigenous Youth on Energy and Food Sovereignty

Co-Leads: Hannah Tait Neufeld and Chief Gordon Planes.

Project Assistant: Brianna Poirier

Advisory Committee: TBD

Current Status: Project proposal pending approval by the PSC.

Update: Hannah and Brianna went to Victoria on March 11th, and met with project collaborators at VIDEA, T-Sou'ke and First Nations Health Authority to discuss next steps. Brianna is moving out to the island for extended time in April. Hannah will also be returning in early May.

The team is hoping to hear back soon about their pending project proposal and have submitted ethics as well; they aim to get the project going in the spring.

In February Hannah was invited to present to a Standing Committee in Ottawa on Indigenous agriculture.



Hannah Tait Neufeld (left) presents to the Standing Committee in Ottawa.

Trainee Project Updates

Clean Energy as a Contribution to Reconciliation Efforts? Exploring Developers and Canadian Electrical Utilities' Perspectives on Indigenous Partnerships in Renewable Energy in Canada

Lead: Chad Walker, Postdoctoral Fellow (Supervisor: Heather Castleden)

Advisory Committee: Seeking self-nominated interested candidates.

Current Status: Project proposal submitted to PSC for review.

Update: We have made some significant changes to our proposed research in recent weeks. A new project proposal is currently circulating for PSC review. We are now expanding the utilities research to include speaking with some Indigenous communities (i.e. leaders, staff) in Canada where renewable energy transitions are taking place. Because of the addition of Indigenous community leaders and staff as participants, a new letter of information and interview guide have been created.

We are recommending that this research 'take off' from the findings of our dataset from developers' interviews. To tell a fuller story of Indigenous renewable energy in Canada, we will look to speak to the same utilities and communities that we are learning about via developer interviews.

We hope to develop a diverse and rich dataset of interviews regarding the same projects/processes from multiple perspectives, i.e., Etuaptmumk (Two Eyed Seeing).

Finally, we are looking for an Indigenous Co-Lead and/or an Indigenous Advisory Committee. Names of possible candidates for these positions have been circulated during the PSC review; Heather and Chad are open to others self-nominating as well. Our advisory committee would play an important role in shaping our research questions and developing our interview guide. They would also help us in the analysis of all interviews (developers, utilities, and Indigenous leaders/staff).

Exploring Relations, Experience and Ways of Knowing in an Interdisciplinary Cross-Cultural Program of Research

Lead: Sara Rotz, Postdoctoral Fellow (Supervisor: Heather Castleden)

Advisory Committee: Simon Brascoupe and Cheryl Bartlett

Current Status: Project underway.

Update: Most of the transcriptions from the interviews conducted at the CIHR mid-term meeting are complete, and analysis of transcripts is underway. Now, Sarah is thinking about themes that are starting to come out of the research. For example, the role of gender as it is integrated into health research, concerns about relationships as tokenism, lack of expertise

to do Indigenous research, balance of settler and Indigenous ways of knowing. Sarah is also exploring the notion of friendship, as an antidote to tokenism, despite how challenging it is to build friendships within settler-colonial research structures.

Sarah has just had an initial meeting with her Advisory Committee, has been reading and speaking with people who have been conducting institutional ethnography over the years, particularly Indigenous scholar, Liz Brulé at Queen's University, and will be in touch with members of the PSC for interviews soon.

Sarah will be speaking about her research at the American Association of Geographers' conference next month.

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Journals

- The Canadian Journal of Public Health has put out a call for papers for their special issue entitled Moving on IPCC 1.5°C: Exploring Promising Public Health Research, Policy, and Practice Responses to Environmental Crisis in a Warming World. You can read more about the call [here](#). The PSC is exploring the potential for an ASF collaborative writing project to respond to this call.

Institutes & Training

- The Atlantic Indigenous Mentorship Network 2019 Summer Institute, titled *Our Resurgence: Indigenous Researchers Summer Institute*, will be in the Upper Lake Melville region of Labrador on August 19-23, hosted by Drs. Ashlee Cunsolo and Max Liboiron. The Summer Institute is designed to foster Indigenous values and practices within a broad array of approaches to academic and institutional research. Indigenous researchers can come from academia, NGOs, government agencies, and other contexts and can be any age. Visit [this link](#) for information.
- The Indigenous Mentorship Network – Ontario is holding its 2019 Summer Institute in Anishinaabe/Haudensaunee territory at the Queen's University Biological Station. The Summer Institute is an opportunity for students to engage in research and career building workshops, participate in cultural activities, and meet and/or reconnect with IMN-Ontario mentors and other students who are passionate about Indigenous health and well-being research. If you would like to attend, you can register [here](#) before April 30th, 4:00pm.

Conferences

- The 15th Smart Energy (April 16th – 17th, 2019) is focusing on Building Collaborative Communities. This event in Halifax NS, presented by Emera will bring together academics, utility companies, and future leaders in clean tech. Sponsorship opportunities are available for students. Find out more [here](#).
- The 3rd Biennial Gdo Akiiminaan Ganawendandaan (Taking Care of Our Land) Symposium is happening in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario from May 6th-9th, 2019. The symposium is open to established and emerging researchers. This year's theme is climate change and the four elements. You can find out more about the Symposium [here](#).

In the News

- The Province of Alberta announced its support for Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Mikisew Cree First Nation, and Métis Local 125 in owning and operating a new solar farm to reduce community reliance on diesel. You can read more about the announcement [here](#).
- Mary Beth Doucette shared a recent article with us on new research taking place at the University of Alberta on approaches to Indigenization and what people mean when they say 'Indigenization'. Read more about the work [here](#).
- David Suzuki shared an article highlighting the SevenGen: Powering Resilience Summit, hosted by Disa Crow Chief (Siksika Nation) and Cory Beaver (Stoney Nakoda Nation). You can read more about David's thoughts on the importance of the summit [here](#).
- The Pembina Institute highlights a turn towards clean economic growth in the 2019 Canadian federal budget. You can read their report [here](#).

Thank you to those who shared news articles with us. If you read an article or see a multimedia piece that you think fits the A SHARED Future research program, we would love to see it! Please send all content to emily.beacock@dal.ca.