A SHARED Future Issue 2019-03



# A SHARED Future Bi Monthly Update

Kia ora and Greetings to All! A SHARED Future's Co-Directors, Heather Castleden and Diana Lewis, along with Jeff Masuda (Gender Co-Champion and Programmatic Steering Committee member) and Marc Calabretta (Program Manager) have returned from their time in Aotearoa/New Zealand in April. Along with our project updates, this issue will highlight the fantastic connections we made with Māori and ally colleagues across the North Island and feature some of the amazing work from across our network.

If you have any news, recent publications, reports, upcoming conferences, or funding announcements you'd like to see in the bimonthly 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**

#### **Aotearoa**

Heather, Diana, and Jeff went to Aotearoa to attend the International Union for Health Promotion and Education Conference, held in Rotorua April 7 – 11 2019. They spoke about the A SHARED Future research program in the 'power of advocacy and legislation for climate change' session at the Conference.

To make the very most of this international opportunity, we reached out across our academic and professional networks to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones engaging in renewable

energy, sustainability, and self-determination across the country. We would like to thank everyone we met for their generosity, kindness, and willingness to share their work, stories, and experiences with us over meals, sharing circles, and time on the land. Below is a look back on our learning journey! All photos by Marc Calabretta, unless otherwise noted.



Bridal Veil Falls, Waikato, Aotearoa

Heather, Marc, and Heather's son (Dylan) arrived in Auckland first and had the opportunity to connect with internationally recognized Māori scholar, Dr. Brad Coombes (Department of Environment, Faculty of Science, University of Auckland). On a tour around Orakei, Hobson Bay, and the Orakei Basin, Brad gave Heather and Marc a brief history of the Ngāti Whātuā's whenua (lands), their displacement by colonial settlement, and the occupation at Takaparawha

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(Bastion Point) in 1977 that led to the return of some of Ngāti Whātuā's whenua at Takaparawha through the Treaty of Waitangi settlement process. Thank you to Brad for taking the time to share your knowledge with us and providing us with an introduction for what was yet to come.



Dr. Brad Coombs speaking with Heather and her son Dylan about the colonial settlement of Auckland and the Ngāti Whātua land occupations

That same evening, Heather, Marc, and Dylan had a chance to visit internationally renowned health geographer Dr. Robin Kearns (Department of Environment, Faculty of Science, University of Auckland) and Dr. Pat Neuwelt (Health Systems, Population Health, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, University of Auckland). Robin and Pat kindly hosted the group at their house for a meal and opportunity to share updates on our respective areas of work. Robin and Pat, it was a pleasure to spend the evening with you!

From there, the trio stayed at a remote off-grid home in Raglan, on the west side of the island, and spoke with the homeowner about the technology driving their home, as well as the financial and legal implications of going off-grid.



Off-Grid home in Raglan, Aotearoa

We headed back to Auckland to meet Diana and Jeff and participate in an organized pre-conference gathering, Ma uta ki tai: Indigenous knowledge-sharing around people in place. Dr. Helen Moewaka Barnes (Director, Whariki Research Group, SHORE & Whariki Research Centre, Massey University), Dr. Tim McCreanor (Senior Researcher, Whariki Research Group, SHORE & Whariki Research Centre, Massey University), and Dr. Margot Parkes (University of Northern British Columbia) organized this incredible international Gathering, beginning at the Waipapa Marae at the University of Auckland.



Waipapa Marae, University of Auckland, Aotearoa

The Gathering brought together a critical mass of people engaging in Indigenous environment and health research from around the globe. The group spent time connecting while sharing their respective areas of research and experiences with one another. Attendees had an opportunity to visit the Ngāti Whātuā o Orakei at Takaparawha to learn about the history of Ngāti Whātuā, their whenua, and the regenerative practices of mana whenua that are being undertaken. While on the Marae, the team was introduced to some of the customs and protocols of the Marae and Wharenui. The teachings shared during this time began our process of understanding as a team, which continued to grow as we connected with other Māori communities across Aotearoa.



Learning on the land in Orakei, Ngāti Whātua whenua, Auckland as part of the Ma uta ki tai

Before the conference began in Rotorua, we were invited to spend the day with Eugene Berryman-Kamp (Tumu Whakarae, Te Arawa River Iwi Trust) in the Whenua (Lands) of the Ngāti Kea Ngāti Tuara, Ngāti Tahu-Ngāti Whaoa, and Tuhourangi-Ngāti Wahiao. The group had the chance to learn about the work he and his team are doing to restore and protect the Te Arawa River and Waikato tributaries (Mana Taio), alongside efforts to enable iwi (communities) of the area to engage and connect with the river. Eugene provided the team with a walking tour and explanation of the history of geothermal activity in the Rotorua area, while also sharing with us some of the history of the iwi Indigenous to the area. As we walked along the shores of Lake Rotorua, Eugene explained the us the importance of the Lake, its inhabitants, and the surrounding environment, in particular the importance of canoeing to local iwi. Getting lwi back on the water, particularly youth, is one of the many ways the Te Arawa River Iwi Trust is working to uphold tikanga (values and practices), preserving wahi tupuna (sacred sites), and enhancing matauranga (knowledge) of Te Arawa River Iwi.



The Tauihu (figurehead) of the Te Arawa, the Waka Taua (war canoe) of the Te Arawa iwis

After hearing about this work, Eugene took us to his Marae on Ngāti Kea Ngāti Tuara whenua, where he showed us a micro hydro unit the community built to power the Kearoa Marae, the community schoolhouse, as well as some neighboring houses, all while feeding energy back into the electrical grid during the summer months. Eugene spoke of the potential

renewable geothermal, hydro, and solar energy has in his community to support economic development, jobs, and sustainable community development. Thank you to Eugene for taking us to your Marae and sharing your community's work with us!



Heather discussing the A SHARED Future Research Program with Eugene Berryman-Kamp at Te Arawa Iwi River Trust



Eugene Berryman-Kamp showing Heather, Dee, Jeff, and Dylan the microhydro unit that powers the Kearoa Marae, Horohoro, Aotearoa



A closer look at the microhydro unit

We must acknowledge that our visit with Eugene was made possible by the kind offer of Dr. Maria Bargh (Head of School, Te Kawa a Māui – School of Maori Studies, Victoria University) to connect us with him, as they are both iwi to the same marae. And so, after the conference in

Rotorua, the team made their way down to Wellington to connect with her to discuss research synergies around energy sovereignty, Indigenous-led resource management, and self-determination through renewable energy. We look forward to future conversations and possibilities for collaboration with Maria and her colleagues!



Heather, Dr. Maria Bargh, and Dee in Wellington, Aotearoa.

The remainder of our time in Aotearoa was spent in Tokaanu on the southwest shores of Lake Taupo, where Lisa Te Heuheu (Environmental Consultant, member of our International Advisory Committee), her husband Gerrard, Aunt Lynn, and Uncle Doug took the time to generously share their knowledge with us during a medicine walk around Lake Rotopounamu. Lynn and Lisa taught us about the local flora and their various medicinal, culinary, and spiritual properties, as well as the sacred history of Lake Rotopounamu.



Left: Heather and Dylan listening to Doug on their medicine walk around Lake Rotopounamu Right: Dee harvesting karaka berries to eat on the walk



Lisa Te Heuheu, Doug, Lynn, and Dee at Lake Rotopounamu

We also had the opportunity to visit Te Kapua Whakapipi, an lwi development organization that focuses on the economic development, education, land rights, and community health of the three iwis that inhabit the Tokaanu region.



Heather and Jeff learning about the work done by Sir Tumu Te Heuheu Tukino VIII, Lisa Te Heuheu, and colleagues at Te Kapua Whakapipi

While the team spent the day with Lisa at Ta Kapua Whakapipi, Gerrard Te Heuheu, Lisa's husband and trained aircraft pilot, took Heather's son, Dylan, sky-diving at 18,000 ft over Lake Taupo. While Heather was nervous to let her son go, Dylan knew this was an experience he wanted to have—and he loved it! Dylan has also been invited to stay with Lisa and Gerrard during his gap year between completing high school and starting college or university. Heather has made it clear that if Dylan doesn't go, she'll go in his place!



Heather embraces her son Dylan after skydiving at 18,000 ft.

Again, the team would like to thank everyone for their kindness and generosity on their journey—it was an experience that will not be forgotten! The team invites anyone from our international network to connect with us if they intend to visit Canada—we would be more than happy to welcome you into our homes.



From left: Lisa Te Heuheu, Gerrard Te Heuheu, Dee, Heather, Dylan, Jeff, and Marc saying goodbye in Tokaanu, Lake Taupo

# Siobhan Slade chosen as an Off-Diesel Initiative Community Energy Champion

Siobhan, a NunatuKavummiuk from St. Lewis (Fox Harbour), Labrador, a community collaborator with ASF through our project "Towards Energy Security in NunatuKavut", and participant at our Summer Institute in 2018, is "beyond excited" to be involved in this initiative. To jump start her role as an Off-Diesel Initiative Community Energy Champion, Siobhan attended the first Catalyst 20/20 training session in Salt Spring Island, BC from May 5-10<sup>th</sup>. She heads to Yellowknife in June and then Toronto in July, with lots of opportunities for learning from mentors and coaches during the three-month training.



Siobhan attending the first training session at Salt Spring Island, BC (Photo: Siobhan Slade)

Siobhan is a single mother to a beautiful little boy, and a heavy-duty equipment technician by trade, but she is currently working on energy research in partnership with ASF, Dalhousie University, the University of Waterloo, NunatuKavut Community Council, and the Conservation Corps of Newfoundland. Through these partnerships, Siobhan has been integral to the development of renewable energy plans for three off-grid communities on the coast of Labrador and is currently working on plans for six more off-grid communities, along with a food sustainability project for her home community. If that isn't enough on her plate, Siobhan is also the coordinator for NATURE Youth Council, a group of youth from NunatuKavut focused on renewable energy and community sustainability issues.

### **Project Updates**

Academic Co-Leads provided updates on their respective projects at the February Programmatic Steering Committee meeting. Here is what Project Leads had to say:

# Urban Youth-Led Renewable Energy

**Co-Lead**: Jeff Masuda and TBD **Project Assistant:** Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta

Advisory Committee: TBD

Current Status: Project proposal under

development.

**Update:** Carlos and Jeff continued to have conversations with Indigenous leaders and organizations to receive guidance on project development and to build the partnerships needed for moving this project forward.

In April, the team visited the Research Team of the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC). This was a great opportunity for us to learn from the OFIFC's expertise in facilitating community-driven research in urban contexts. Next steps include following up with OFIFC about whether and how a collaboration on the urban project could happen.

The M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre is hosting a movie screening and reflection circle on climate change action. Carlos will attend this event to learn about community priorities and to explore M'Wikwedong's interest in taking a greater role in the urban project.

The team also had a meeting with the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), a crown corporation that operates the electricity market in Ontario. Sheena Li, Senior Analyst, told us about their funding programs. IESO can support Indigenous organizations in Ontario to fund all stages of energy project development, including hiring staff, capacity building, research, and partnership development. From this meeting, we think there may be interesting ways to tie our work to something concrete for communities interested in accessing such funding.

# 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, and Open

**Current Status**: Project proceeding as planned.

Update: Heather, Melissa, and Melody (Undergraduate Summer Student Research Fellow) came together in Kingston to meet, introduce Melody to the project, and connect over a long weekend as they engaged in a first round of data analysis from the I-WIRE interviews. After reading transcripts together but independently, Melissa, Heather and Melody began to conceptualize some key ideas from the data, and then grouped them into different categories.



Heather, Melissa and Melody conceptualized key ideas from the data (Photo: Heather Castleden)

On the third day they started to move beyond the interviews to draw on their lived experience, what the literature was saying on gender and renewable energy, and the research they did in our initial proposal writing. They also turned to the theoretical literature on settler colonialism, racism, heteropatriarchy, Indigenous feminist literatures on political economy, considering how those might also help us understand the data. After three full days of intense scrutiny of the data, they had created a first draft of our code book. Melody, who has now started the first round of coding, and shared some powerful words: "I think the process of relationship building between myself, Heather, and Melissa has been critical to our initial data analysis - not only in understanding our lived experiences and where we were coming from but also in coming to a shared and consistent understanding of the women's stories."



Melissa, Heather and Melody bonding over a weekend of intense data analysis (Photo: Heather Castleden)

The team is looking forward to working with Melody and the I-WIRE Advisory Committee to validate our initial analysis and get something ready for publication over the next few months!

### Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI

planned.

Co-Leads: Mary Beth Doucette, Lisa Young, and Stan Johnson Project Assistant: Open Advisory Committee: Elder Albert Marshall and Cheryl Bartlett Current Status: Project proceeding as

Update: The Bras d'Or CEPI project team is happy to report that they have received Research Ethics Approval from Cape Breton University and Mi'kmaw Ethics Watch Approval and can now begin preparing to do primary research. Mary Beth will be looking to hire a part time research coordinator on an 18-month contract to support coordination of Phase 1 of the CEPI Research, the posting will be out in the next few weeks. Also, Tanaysha Sack will be working with the team again this summer as a part-time graduate student trainee; she is currently working on her Master's thesis in Sociology.

# We Lived This Way Before - Tobique First Nation

Co-Leads: Diana Lewis, Tanna Pirie-Wilson.

Project Assistant: Serena Mendizabal Advisory Committee: Elder Ramona Nicholas, Laura Turnbull (Sex and Gender Project Co-Champion), Asha Bear (Youth) Current Status: Project proceeding as planned.

**Update:** Dee and the team are working through the ethics process with Western University. A Project Advisory Committee meeting was held May 22<sup>nd</sup> in Tobique.



The TFN Team meets using Join.Me to deal with winter challenges of travelling (from left: Jennifer Sappier, Dee Lewis (on screen), Asha Bear, Tanna Pirie-Wilson, Ramona Nicholas) (Photo: Chad Walker)

Chad is having conversations with Maliseet leaders and Elders to help develop a draft Wolastoqiyik Cultural Framework that will help guide We Lived This Way Before. He is also writing a knowledge translation and mobilization strategy. This will help the study maximize its reach and impact in academic, industry, and public policy circles. A point of emphasis here will be on

effective engagement with both traditional and social media platforms. Many of these strategies are modelled after the work of Nick Mercer (PhD Candidate (Waterloo) and his research partnership with NunatuKavut Community Council. Chad is also preparing to conduct an analysis of the New Brunswick LORESS program and a review energy commissions — with an eye to the possibility of Tobique First nation developing their own.

# Towards Energy Security in NunatuKavut

Co-Leads: Debbie Martin, Amy Hudson.
Project Assistant: Emily Beacock
Current Status: Project proceeding as planned.

**Update:** Emily and Debbie joined Nick Mercer (University of Waterloo) and NunatuKavut scholar Abigail Poole (St. Lewis/Fox Harbour and Memorial University, Grenfell) in Goose Bay for the Labrador Research Forum (May 1 - 3, 2019). The team had a fantastic time, representing our strong, positive, and diverse collaboration with NunatuKavut Community Council and partner communities. Nick presented on community energy planning, Emily on community perspectives on wholistic sustainability, and Debbie on Indigenous health research and two-eyed seeing, while Abigail participated in a panel on youth perspectives in research. The conference was a tremendous opportunity to share our experiences, learn new things and make new friends, and left us all excited to continue our work to support resurgence and empowerment of the NunatuKavut communities we work with!

Connor and Victoria joined Emily and Nick in NunatuKavut shortly after for a day-long meeting with NATURE Youth Council and NCC staff to identify youth goals and perspectives on research, energy autonomy and community sustainability. During this meeting the team identified next steps for Connor and Victoria this summer, and for the greater project into the future.



NATURE Youth Council and the research team at the May 11th planning meeting. (Photo: Amy Hudson)

Phase two of Nick's community energy planning research is nearing completion with over 200 energy planning interview respondents. Community peer review events have been carried out throughout the fieldwork period, and Nick is now working hard to finish transcription, analysis and writing his results.

Emily is finishing up a draft report of preliminary results for participants and their communities and is in the final stages of thesis writing. She is excited to defend this summer and is looking forward to moving back to southwestern Ontario and starting a PhD with Diana Lewis at Western University in September.

# **Advancing Culturally Relevant Gender Based Analysis in** Indigenous Research on Renewable Energy Futures and

Co-Leads: Jeff Masuda, TBD **Project Assistant: Magnus Nowell Advisory Committee:** Programmatic Steering Committee

**Current Status**: Project proceeding as planned.

**Update:** Recruitment and final interviews of members of the Programmatic Steering Committee (PSC) are continuing. Interviews will inform a report to the PSC and will assist our team in updating the "Living Compendium Guide and Toolkit" of sex and gender related resources intended to help support ASF's projects in

thinking and working through gender in their research. For a copy of the current iteration of the Compendium, please contact magnus.nowell@cehe.ca. We are hoping to be able to produce, update, and refine these resources in collaboration with Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) and the PSC once a new Gender Co-Champion has joined our team. A meeting is tentatively scheduled with Chaneesa Ryan at NWAC for the end of June to re-engage on this issue.

### **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 Advisory Committee: Naatoi'lhkpiakii (Melissa Quesnelle), Ken Paul, Diana Lewis. We will be seeking additional members to our advisory committee from the Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative. Current Status: Proceeding as planned. Update:

The critical program analysis of NRCan's Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative (ODI) has moved into the next phase as members of the research team have begun to connect with recipients of ODI funds. On May 8th and 9<sup>th</sup>, Heather Castleden, Derek Kornelsen, Melissa Quesnelle, and Priscilla Apronti traveled to Salt Spring Island and Victoria to meet with 10 ODI recipients at Week 1 of the Indigenous Clean Energy Social Enterprise 20/20 Catalysts training session.

On May 26-28, Melissa Quesnelle and Derek Kornelsen met with an additional 5 ODI recipients at the 20/20 Catalysts Refresher Course training session and the Clean Energy Ministerial conference. This provided an excellent opportunity to conduct a focus group with the ODI recipients and to spend time building relationships with each other. The next meeting with ODI participants is planned for Week 2 of the Catalysts 20/20 training program in Yellowknife, NT in June of this year.

### **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 attended a Seafood Gathering at T'Sou-ke on May 7<sup>th</sup>.



Seafood gathering at T'Sou-ke First Nation (Photo: Hannah Tait Neufeld)

The event was organized and hosted by Christine George and Shirley Alphonse, with participation from Island Health. It was a wonderful welcome for Brianna, who moved to Victoria in late April to engage with the community on further developing a research proposal on energy and food sovereignty.



Sea urchins (Photo: Hannah Tait Neufeld)

## **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** 

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

Steering Committee

**Current Status:** Project proposal submitted to PSC for review. Confusing -

these two projects?

Update: Chad is continuing to analyze the set of 'developer' (+ utility + partner) interviews (n=10) he has conducted over the past year, with an eye to presenting this work at the Canadian Association of Geographers Annual Meeting on May 28th in Winnipeg. He will also present this work as part of his Speed Talk at the International Sustainability Transitions Conference on June 24th in Ottawa. Chad

sees important findings coming from this dataset and is excited to send out both presentations out for review to the PSC before these meetings. Chad's proposed research involving interviews with Canadian utilities and Indigenous community economic leadership is awaiting final PSC approval.

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 Brascoupé and Cheryl Bartlett

**Current Status:** Project proceeding as planned.

**Update:** Sarah has completed all of the PSC Interviews and is beginning the transcription and analysis process. She will also be reaching out to the International Advisory committee and the folks who were unable to stay on ASF for an interview, where possible. From here, Sarah will draw up themes and analyze the data, which she plans to present at the next ASF Annual Meeting in the fall/winter.

### **Upcoming Opportunities:**

#### **Call for Papers with Academic 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. Deadline for submission is August 1, 2019. You can read more about the call <a href="here">here</a>. The PSC is exploring the potential for an ASF collaborative writing project to respond to this call.

### **Institutes & Training:**

Indigenous Mentorship Network Program (Ontario) – Summer Institute; June 16 – 20, 2019; Visit this link for more information.

Ombaashi - the National/International Indigenous Mentorship Network is hosting their annual summer school, Healing from the Land, July 29-August 2nd. E-mail ombaashi@tru.ca for more information or visit this link.

#### **Conferences:**

The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Energy Fair on Clean Energy and Sustainable Living; June 21-23 2019; Custer, WI.

Decarbonize Newfoundland and Labrador; July 11 & 12 2019, St. John's NFLD.

14<sup>th</sup> Green Building Festival; October 8<sup>th</sup> 2019; Toronto, ON.

Behaviour, Energy & Climate Change 2019: Scaling Up; Nov 17-20, 2019; Sacramento, CA.

# In the News:

Heather Castleden, in collaboration with Derek Kornelsen, and their Advisory Team published a piece about their Research Project in *The Conversation*, focused on the role clean energy could play in truth and transparency, healing relations, and reconciliation. You can read the full piece <a href="here">here</a>.

Pembina Institute is running a multi-part blog series on renewables in remote communities; the entire collection, along with other resources, can be found <u>here</u>.

Opiikapawiin Services LP ("OSLP"), in partnership with Natural Resources Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines, and Wataynikaneyap Power, announced a youth capacity building initiative to train 30 participants from the 24 First Nations that own Wataynikaneyap Power. Read more about the initiative here.