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# A SHARED Future

## *Update for August-September 2017*

Greetings Team!

We have a number of activities to report on and as we continue along our path for A SHARED Future, we foresee the updates becoming slightly longer and more 'newsletter-esque'. With that in mind, we are adding in some photos, announcements, and other highlights – please send us yours so that we can adequately showcase the important work each of you are doing in your respective areas!

### **August Activities:**

- Heather Castleden and Rob Stefanelli (Queen's University) travelled to Winnipeg to meet with Partners and Project Co-Leads for A SHARED Future. These visits included:
  - **Research Project – Natural Resources Canada** (Derek Kornelsen, University of Manitoba). At this meeting, Heather, Derek, and Rob further discussed the details of our proposed research project with NRCan. One of the topics of discussion that emerged here was the incongruencies between policies at the Federal, Provincial, and Municipal levels, and how the legal nature of these issues challenge the capacities of rural, remote, and Indigenous communities.
  - **Governance and Legal Obstacles** (Merrell-Ann Phare, Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources, and Derek Kornelsen). Our discussion here focused largely on the importance of power purchase agreements between utilities commissions, governments, and municipalities in Northern Canada. The shift towards renewable energy in the North also led to discussions about the need for a plan of action for such a drastic change. One option discussed was *Transformative Change Planning* in which all parties meet to discuss the outcomes of each logical and potential course of action moving forward and in doing so come to consensus. The potential for a Project on Power Purchase Agreements was tabled for further discussion.
  - **Research Project – Experimental Lakes Area** (Matt McCandless and Pauline Gerrard, International Institute of Sustainable Development – Experimental Lakes Area). The meeting with IISD-ELA began with an overview of A SHARED Future, followed by a discussion of the work ongoing at the ELA. We then discussed efforts to engage with First Nations around the ELA, including developing an experiential learning course for youth, guided tours of sacred sites with Elders, and knowledge exchange opportunities with the community. We decided that our first step would be to secure a trainee who could work with IISD-ELA to illuminate, through research, the organization's 'readiness' to engage in reconciliation actions and activities.
  - **Closing Dinner** (Wanda Wuttunee - University of Manitoba, Derek, Merrell-Ann, Heather, Rob; Matt, and Shaun Loney – Aki Energy sent their regrets). To conclude the Winnipeg visit, Heather hosted a dinner for the program team members that also served as a de-briefing and opportunity to discuss next steps for A SHARED Future.
- Principal Investigator Diana Lewis (Dalhousie University) and Ken Paul (Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nation Chiefs) met with Tanna Pirie-Wilson (CEO Band Operations), Susan Blair and Ramona Nicholas (University of New Brunswick), Jennifer Sapier (Executive Assistant to the CEO) at Tobique First Nation in New Brunswick. The meeting centred on a discussion of the many energy projects that Tobique is involved with (hydro, solar, and wind) in their efforts to become a Net Zero Community.

- Principal Investigator Hannah Tait Neufeld (University of Guelph) returned to T'Sou-ke Nation (British Columbia) to meet with Andrew Moore and further brainstorm details for the initial stages of their research project within A SHARED Future. While there, Hannah also spent time with community Elders Shirley Alphonse and Linda Bristol, met Chief Gordon Planes, and toured the Ladybug Garden and Greenhouses.
- Two new trainees have been added to the A SHARED Future team at Queen's University. Dr. Chad Walker has joined Heather Castleden's Lab as a Postdoctoral Fellow and will be working with Heather on programmatic activities under A SHARED Future and will be offering support to Project Teams as they move forward; his research record is in wind energy policy and environmental justice. Miss. Elissa Bozhkov has joined Heather's Lab as a fourth-year Undergraduate Honors Thesis Trainee; as a Bachelor of Science student, she will be working on the IISD-ELA Project (see further details below).

**September Activities:**



On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Heather Castleden welcomed one of A SHARED Future's International Advisory Committee members to Queen's University. Lisa te Heuheu who is of Māori descent. She has tribal connections to Ngapuhi, Ngati Raukawa and Ngati Maniapoto tribes in New Zealand. Lisa is Co-Chair of the Global Steering Committee of Indigenous People's Forum on Climate Change, which is about enhancing participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change). During her stay, Lisa met with many of the Queen's-based A SHARED Future team members and delivered a public lecture on "Decolonizing the way we see the world: Enhancing participation of Indigenous peoples in local and international issues". Her talk was very well attended. We extend our sincerest thanks to Lisa for joining us at Queen's university. The full poster of Lisa's talk is available [here](#).

- Heather Castleden and undergraduate trainee Elissa Bozhkov travelled to the IISD-Experimental Lakes Area with Derek Kornelsen where they again met with Matt McCandless, and Pauline Gerrard. This trip was an opportunity for the Project Team to develop the research plan. In addition to these discussions, the Project Team met with members of Eagle Lake First Nation and Whitefish Bay First Nation, and participated in a conversation and feast with Elders and community members from the two Nations as well as Treaty 3 Tribal Council. The HEC Lab and the entire A SHARED Future team would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to our gracious hosts for welcoming our team and sharing with us. Elissa Bozhkov detailed her experience at the IISD-ELA in a blog post for the HEC Lab website. The post is available [here](#).



- Theresa McClenaghan (CELA) recently participated in a Canada-wide Energy Leaders Panel for Nanos Research that brought together "university experts and key decision-makers from industry, government, Indigenous communities, local communities and environmental organizations to determine how energy resources can be developed in a way that garners acceptance and benefits society at large." This research suggests that "energy and environmental thought leaders believe that misinformation, lack of knowledge and environmental concerns are the top challenges for energy projects, while greenhouse emissions and fossil fuel related pollution are the top challenges for environmental stewardship. Furthermore, engagement and equal participation are the top challenges in terms of Indigenous communities and the energy sector." The full report is available [here](#).




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- Nanos Research is also conducting research about how to balance local and Indigenous governments' interests with broader regional, provincial, and federal interests in Canadian energy policy, regulation and projects. If you would like to participate in this research, please complete the survey, [here](#). The survey should only take approximately 5 minutes to complete.
- Principal Investigator, Gregory Lowan-Trudeau (University of Calgary) has a new original piece of research published in the journal, *Educational Studies*. The article, titled "**Indigenous Environmental Education: The Case of Renewable Energy Projects**" is available online [here](#).
- Rob Stefanelli has been working with Heather Castleden and Chad Walker to complete a manuscript for a systematic realist review looking at reconciliation in renewable energy projects. The manuscript is nearly complete, and we are excited to share this work with the A SHARED Future team and network soon.

### Upcoming Events:

- October – Dr. Emily Root (Cape Breton University) will be hosting an Advisory Committee meeting for the Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI Project
- October 10<sup>th</sup> – Teleconference for the International Advisory Committee
- October 23<sup>rd</sup> – Pembina Institute (Dave Lovekin) is hosting the Renewables in Remote Communities 2017 Conference in Whitehorse, YK. Heather Castleden and other members of A SHARED Future's Team who will be attending (confirmed are: Ken Paul, George Russell Jr, Jamie Baxter) have been invited to deliver a Keynote Address on October 24<sup>th</sup>. We will give a short presentation, screen our short film, and have time for Q&A. <http://www.pembina.org/event/renewables-remote-communities>
- October 24<sup>th</sup> – Heather Castleden's undergraduate trainee Alyssa Aiello will be delivering a poster presentation to Queen's University Principal Daniel Wolfe and other Senior Administrators for her research on Indigenous leadership as portrayed in the media, titled: "Partners, Participants, and Protesters: An Analysis of Canadian News Media on the Portrayal of Indigenous Leadership in Renewable Energy Projects"
- November 13<sup>th</sup> – Heather Castleden was invited to present about A SHARED Future at the International Conference of the Public Health Foundation of India and the Pacific Basin Consortium in New Delhi, India. While Heather was unable to attend, Derek Kornelsen has graciously agreed to deliver a talk on our team's behalf.
- December 6-8<sup>th</sup> – Meeting of the academic Principal Investigators co-leading Projects at the ALT Hotel in Toronto, Ontario to bring updates and project proposals into programmatic alignment with A SHARED Future's objectives.

Best wishes to Project Teams as they begin moving forward with their respective projects! We apologize for any errors or omissions that may have been overlooked in this update. If you do have any news that you would like to share with the team for our next bi-monthly update, please contact A SHARED Future's program coordinator: Rob Stefanelli ([robert.stefanelli@queensu.ca](mailto:robert.stefanelli@queensu.ca)).

Respectfully yours,

Heather Castleden