



Santiago River Defenders in Guadalajara, Mexico, 2010  
(Photo courtesy of Carlos Sánchez)

## A SHARED Future Bi Monthly Update

Hello A SHARED Future affiliates and friends! We hope all is well in your corners of the world as we look toward the holiday season.

If you have any big news, a conference or funding announcements you'd like to share, or if are interested in getting involved in A SHARED Future, you can contact Marc Calabretta at [marc.calabretta@queensu.ca](mailto:marc.calabretta@queensu.ca). We are always looking for extra hands on deck!

### Highlights

#### **ASF Connect: Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta**

While the A SHARED Future team stays connected through bi-monthly meetings and email updates, with projects unfolding coast-to-coast, we don't get to meet face-to-face very often. As a way of showcasing A SHARED Future team members, their projects, and the great work folks are doing, we have started a new segment called ASF Connect so we can all get to know each other a little better.

This month, we spoke with Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta, Project Assistant with *Gikinoo'amaagewin Wiigwaam (Teaching Lodge): Supporting M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre's Leadership on Land Stewardship and Urban Climate Transition in Owen Sound/Saugeen Ojibway Territory*.

If you, or someone from your project would like to be interviewed, we would be happy to chat and feature you in our next update! You can send an email to Marc at [marc.calabretta@queensu.ca](mailto:marc.calabretta@queensu.ca)

#### **Hi Carlos! Let's start off with some introductions. Can you start off by telling us a little bit about yourself?**

My name is Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta. I was born and raised in central-western Mexico in a big city called Guadalajara. Like most contemporary Mexicans, I am a *mestizo*, which means that my family's ancestry is both Indigenous and Spanish but our identities are non-Indigenous. There is still a lot of racism in my home country, and unfortunately, *mestizo* people are often the perpetrators of such racist acts.



Carlos hiking in Saugeen Ojibway Nation territory  
(Photo courtesy of Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta)

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## Are you a student? If so, what are you studying?

Not anymore! I finished my masters last year and I moved on to work as a Research Associate with Dr. Jeff Masuda at the Centre for Environmental Health Equity in the School of Kinesiology and Health Studies at Queen's University. My background is in Psychology (BA) and Health Promotion (MSc). Back in Mexico, I was involved in grassroots environmental activism in defence of the Santiago River and in student organizing. I had the opportunity to meet and learn from activists and social movements from all over Mexico, including Indigenous organizations.

## What ASF project are you a part of? What do you do as a part of that project?

I am the Project Coordinator for the project *Gikinoo'amaagewin Wiigwaam (Teaching Lodge): Supporting M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre's Leadership on Land Stewardship and Urban Climate Transition in Owen Sound/Saugeen Ojibway Territory*. My role is to coordinate the relationships between the members of our research team, which is comprised of individuals from M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre, Western University and my research laboratory. As the Project Coordinator, I have worked closely with M'Wikwedong to ensure that our research proposal is in line with the priorities of this organization. Our proposal is now in review, but as our project hits the ground, I will continue to make sure that all activities are planned and carried on in a good way with the guidance of the rest of our Research Team and Advisory Committee.

## Can you describe how you got involved in the project?

I developed a relationship with M'Wikwedong since 2017, when this organization kindly accepted to host and advise my master's thesis project. I lived in Owen Sound, ON and volunteered at M'Wikwedong for 16 months. As I finished my master's, my relationship with M'Wikwedong continued, as I am the developmental evaluator of one of their projects called 'Giiwe.' As the opportunity to create an urban project within A SHARED Future appeared, I approached M'Wikwedong to see if there was interest

in partnering again. And that's how our new partnership got established.



The 2018 Giiwe Retreat, organized by M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre  
(Photo courtesy of Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta)

## What's next for the project?

We are waiting for the review process of our research proposal and ethics application. I continue meeting with our Research Team to prepare the first research activities of our project. We'll also have our first conference presentation about *Gikinoo'amaagewin Wiigwaam* scheduled for February 2020 at the Canadian Indigenous / Native Studies Association Conference.

## Is there anything else you'd like to share with us?

I follow Latin American independent media. I am concerned about the number of environmental activists and Indigenous land defenders that are being killed. The context of renewable energy development in countries like Mexico is very different from here. It is very frequent to hear about Indigenous communities who are actively resisting the development of large-scale renewable energy projects in their home communities to protect themselves from further land dispossession.

## Finally, what is your favourite thing about being a part of A SHARED Future?

My favourite thing about being a part of A SHARED Future is having the experiential opportunities to learn about and try to take to practice reconciliation acts between Indigenous and Western ways of knowing, as well as between humans and the land. As a Latin American, I hope that in the future I can also be part of reconciliation efforts between the Global

North and South, since those are also colonial relationships that need to be redressed as we walk our shared energy transition journey.

## Project Updates

Here is what Project Leads have to say this month:

### Gikinoo'amaagewin Wiigwaam (Teaching Lodge): Supporting M'Wikwedong Indigenous Friendship Centre's Leadership on Land Stewardship and Urban Climate Transition in Owen Sound/Saugeen Ojibway Territory

**Co-Leads:** Paul Nadjiwan, Karen Houle, and Jeff Masuda

**Project Assistants:** Diane Giroux, Renee Abram, Diana (Dee) Lewis, Carlos Sánchez, Anna Anbalagan, and Julia Moreau

**Advisory Committee:** Theresa O'Connor, Susan Staves Schank, Hillary Trudeau, Ron Root, Shane Chegahno, Nick Saunders, Shari Huber, Anne Marie Shaw, Victoria Serda and Helen Doyle

**Current Status:** Project proposal and ethics applications under review.



The research team (by reading order)  
(Photo courtesy of Carlos Sánchez-Pimienta)

**Update:** There are many updates from the last two months, including a final name for our project, changes in our team, and proposal submissions. Let's start with the name of our project.

"*Gikinoo'amaagewin Wiigwaam*" is the short name of our project. These are the Anishinaabemowin words for 'teaching' and 'lodge.' This name was suggested by Paul Nadjiwan for both the overall

research project and for an outdoor gazebo that M'Wikwedong hopes to construct in its new facilities for lighting sacred fires. This will be a sacred space to convey language, culture, ceremonies and teachings to all in attendance; but also, a first concrete step that situates healing and connection to the land within a longer-term action-research process on climate action and land stewardship. Carlos supported M'Wikwedong in writing a Grow Grant application to leverage funds for this component of our project. The application will be submitted by the end of November and results are expected in April 2020.

We are also excited to tell you about two changes in our team. Firstly, Karen Houle moved from the Advisory Committee to the Research Team. Karen will support our team in building a process that is safe, holistic and meaningful for two-spirit and gender diverse participants. Secondly, we welcome Helen Doyle to our Advisory Committee. Helen is the Chair of the Environmental Health Workgroup of the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) and already invited us to the OPHA's Fall Forum in November, which focused on Health and Climate Change – a great opportunity for networking and having informal conversations with other delegates about *Gikinoo'amaagewin Wiigwaam*.



Helen Doyle, newest member of the Advisory Committee.  
(Photo courtesy of Carlos Sánchez)

Finally, we have been busy submitting project-related proposals. ASF's PSC received our full proposal and proposed budget in October. Moreover, the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC) received our ethics protocol submission on the first day of November. Although OFIFC's review is not mandatory, framing our project guided by the OFIFC's Utility, Self-Voicing, Access

and Inter-relationship (USAI) framework was a great opportunity to strengthen the community-driven character of our project and its related ethical considerations. We expect a formal response from OFIFC on December 13th. Finally, we submitted our ethics application to the Queen's ethics review board on November 19th. We are excited to be so close to being ready to take our project to the ground!

## Indigenous Women in Renewable Energy (I-WIRE)

**Co-Leads:** Naatoi'Ihkpiakii (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:** We are pleased to report that we have a rough draft of the documentary film from the I-WIRE event; it is still a work in progress but we are aiming to do a review in December, share it with participants in the new year and go live by early spring. We also plan to engage in another round of data analysis during the same time frame

## Bras d'Or Lakes CEPI

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

**Update:** Over the last two months, Mary Beth and Carolyn have met with Stan and Lisa as well as the CEPI Management Committee for review and approval of the interview guide and process.

Mary Beth and Carolyn began Phase 1 individual interviews on November 18. They are excited to have met this milestone in the project and are on track to meet the target of completing 30 interviews with key informants, CEPI Steering Committee members and various other knowledge holders by March 2020. Interview transcription and thematic analysis will be well underway by then as well. The search for a student(s) to assist with these two tasks is currently underway. All members of the CEPI will be

invited to participate in a sharing circle/focus group in April/May.

Beyond the Phase 1 interview process, Mary Beth and Carolyn are embarking on a literature review of Indigenous-led watershed collaboration. They are looking at how discourses employed within watershed collaborations support or hinder the efforts of the organizations.

## We Lived This Way Before - Tobique First Nation

**Co-Leads:** Diana Lewis, Tanna Pirie-Wilson.  
**Research Assistant:** Serena Mendizabal  
**Project Coordinator:** Jennifer Sappier  
**Advisory Committee:** Elder Ramona Nicholas, Laura Turnbull (Sex and Gender Project Co-Champion), Asha Bear (Youth)  
**Current Status:** Project proceeding as planned.

**Update:** We continue to work with Tobique First Nation on educational programming for students. As you read this, the team will be planning their next meeting in the community to discuss ideas that Serena has developed for the team for 2020/21 school year. Our next step is to start the discussion on how we will monitor the health of TFN, as renewable energy development is implemented.

## 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:** Proceeding as planned

**Update:** Brianna and Hannah travelled out to T'Sou-ke at the very end of October. We spent some time in the greenhouse helping get it ready for the cold weather and were able to share some of Brianna's preliminary results with community members who participated in a sharing circle in August. They also met with Chief Gordon, took part in a community dinner and met guests from nearby communities who were there presenting on a new marine sovereignty project. Brianna is in the process of writing up her thesis and preparing to defend in December.



A snapshot from East Sooke Regional Park  
(Photo courtesy of Hannah Tait Neufeld)

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

**Co-Leads:** Jeff Masuda

**Project Assistant:** Angelo Kruger, Carlos Sánchez

**Advisory Committee:** Programmatic Steering Committee and Hollie Sabourin

**Current Status:** Project proceeding as planned

**Update:** Since our last update, Magnus Nowell – former project assistant – has moved on from this project. Angela Kruger and Carlos Sanchez from the Centre for Environmental Health Equity will assist with the work to come. There were changes in our advisory committee as well. We are excited to have Hollie Sabourin from the Native Women's Association of Canada providing feedback into this project.

At this point, we are working to polish the draft report of the interviews we conducted with members of the Programmatic Steering Committee about the gendered dimensions of ASF research through a Culturally Relevant Gender-based Analysis. The report will be ready in advance of our ASF in-person meeting in early December. We hope to conduct additional follow-up interviews at this event, so stay tuned! We look forward to hearing from you and your projects very soon!

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

**Project Lead:** Heather Castleden

**Manager:** Derek Kornelsen

**Advisory Committee:** Naatoi'Ihkpiakii (Melissa Quesnelle), Ken Paul, Diana Lewis, Siobhan Slade, Vince Robinson

**Current Status:** Proceeding as planned

**Update:** Over the past 2 months we have been working to finalize the initial phase of data collection and move forward with the critical program analysis of NRCan's Indigenous Off-Diesel Initiative (IODI) funding program for remote Indigenous communities in Canada. On October 8-9, members of the research team (Heather Castleden, Derek Kornelsen, Marc Calabretta, Isaac White), the Advisory Committee (Diana Lewis, Ken Paul, Naatoi'Ihkpiakii (Melissa Quesnelle), Siobhan Slade), and Elder Barbara Dumont-Hill met in Ottawa to conduct workshops for the initial qualitative data analysis regarding 2 sets of interviews: those conducted with Indigenous community members who have secured IODI funding; and those conducted with members of government and NGOs who are responsible for the development and roll-out of the IODI.



Data analysis with the NRCan Research Team and Advisory Committee  
(Photo courtesy of Marc Calabretta)

These preliminary findings were then discussed with IODI community members and government/NGO members respectively on October 31, in Ottawa where we convened two separate workshops and sharing circles with each group of participants. Many thanks to those who took the time to attend and share their thoughts. Many thanks also to Elder Barbara Dumont-Hill for attending and guiding our work and discussions. These meetings have played a significant role as we work to unpack the many perspectives regarding how to decolonize funding regimes like the IODI. They have also done much to inform how we proceed

as we are currently in the process of planning next steps and engagements with participating community members and federal governments and NGOs.

As the IODI recipients work to implement their projects, we are also looking ahead to engaging with provincial and territorial governments and utilities to examine how their policies and practices can best reflect commitments to reconciliation and the implementation of Indigenous rights.



Team Elder Barbra Dumont Hill and Marc Calabretta sharing a meal  
(Photo courtesy of Heather Castleden)

## Towards Energy Security in NunatuKavut

**Co-Leads:** Debbie Martin, Amy Hudson.

**Project Assistant:** Emily Beacock

**Current Status:** Project proceeding as planned

**Update:** The A SHARED Future Team at Dalhousie is thrilled to introduce Nicole Blinn as a new research assistant. Nicole is a BScH student in Health Promotion and counts population health, Indigenous wellness, healthy environments, and health equity as her research interests. Nicole has been helping to facilitate an evaluation of the NATURE [NunatuKavut Action Team on Understanding Renewable Energy] Youth Council – a team of nine Inuit youth whom where hired from across NunatuKavut to build capacity and steer energy transitions in their own communities. Ethical approval was recently received from NCC's Research Advisory Committee and Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board, and participant recruitment is underway.

Victoria Sandre continues to work towards addressing the immediate community priority of 'heat security' in NunatuKavut. In collaboration with Program Assistant, Nick Mercer, and NCC Staff, Victoria is preparing an application for

NRCAN's Indigenous Forestry Initiative. The goal of the Initiative is to encourage Indigenous participation in Newfoundland and Labrador's forestry industry and to build enduring capacity in the sector. Victoria has been doing the groundwork to help plan a Community Firewood Social Enterprise which will employ and train community-members to harvest, haul, split, and deliver firewood to Elders, seniors, single parents, those with mobility challenges, and others in need in NunatuKavut communities.

Nick Mercer was invited to speak at St. FX University's 'Climate and Democracy' Week on November 15th. Nick spoke to energy planning research undertaken in NunatuKavut, and spoke to the participatory model of community planning which is grounded in community autonomy, values, and local decision making. Working with Debbie Martin, Amy Hudson, and Paul Parker – Nick's first manuscript as a result of his doctoral work, entitled 'Off-grid energy sustainability in NunatuKavut, Labrador: Centering Inuit

voices on heat insecurity in diesel-powered communities' was recently accepted at Energy Research and Social Science.

## Trainee Project Updates

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

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

**Project Assistant:** Johnathan Rose

**Advisory Committee:** Simon Brascoupe and Cheryl Bartlett

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

**Update:** Sarah is continuing data analysis of the interviews she has conducted with the Programmatic Steering Committee and is looking to organize interviews with members of the International Advisory Committee. The team has welcomed Johnathan Rose (Queen's University) to

assist Sarah with data analysis. Welcome to the team John, we look forward to working with you!



*Johnathan Rose (JR), Exploring Relations Project Assistant*

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## Upcoming Events & Opportunities:

### **Conferences:**

#### All-In: Co-Creating Knowledge for Justice

Ron Glass (UC Santa Cruz, International Advisory Committee member) is organizing this conference at UC Santa Cruz, to be held April 22-24. This conference aims to bring teams of people that do community based collaborative research, particularly teams of folks working with undergraduates in deep, engaged, and ethically committed ways for research for justice. [Visit their website for more information!](#)

#### Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA)

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (NAISA) will take place May 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in Tkaronto/Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Registration will open Spring 2020. [Click here](#) for more info.

#### National Gathering of Graduate Students (NGGS)

The National Gathering of Graduate Students will take place May 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at Western University in London, Ontario. The Gathering is open to Indigenous graduate students undertaking Indigenous health and well-being research. Applications to open soon. Learn more about NGGS [here](#).

#### Community Engaged Summer Institute

Ron Glass is also organizing the annual Community-Engaged Summer Institute, which will run June 22-26 at UC Santa Cruz. The Institute aims to introduce graduate students, early career scholars, and community members to the foundations of community-collaborative research. [You can find out more about the Institute here](#).

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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 [marc.calabretta@gmail.com](mailto:marc.calabretta@gmail.com)