A SHARED Future: Achieving Strength, Health and Autonomy through Renewable Energy Development for the Future

Attendees: Simon Brascoupe, Heather Castleden, Cheryl Bartlett, Ron Glass, Catherine Graham, Sarah Harney, Richie Howitt, Jay Johnson, Jeff Masuda, Kim Matheson, Michele-Lee Moore, Renee Pualani Louis, Robert Stefanelli

Regrets: Chris Henderson, Margo Greenwood, Chief Gordon Planes, Naomi Simmonds, Peter Sly, Lisa te Heuheu

Invited Observers (Academic Principal Investigators): Derek Kornelsen, Diana Lewis, Gregory Lowan-Trudeau, Debbie Martin, Chantelle Richmond, Emily Root, Hannah Tait Neufeld

Minutes:

1. The meeting began with greetings from Heather Castleden (Nominated Principal Investigator) and Simon Brascoupé (IAC Chair) and an opening prayer from Simon.
2. IAC members and Principal Investigators introduced ourselves to each other.
3. Simon provided an overview of the Agenda.
4. Heather provided a slideshow overview of A SHARED Future, noting programmatic objectives, research projects, anticipated outputs, the general governance structure – including the IAC's terms of reference, and the potential for additional sub-committees to provide guidance on Ethical Research, Knowledge Translation, and Sex/Gender Based Analyses. Cheryl Bartlett provided a brief overview of Two-Eyed Seeing as a guiding principle of A SHARED Future.
5. Jeff Masuda and Sarah Harney provided an introduction to the SGBA work they were doing.
6. Jeff provided an introduction to the need to create a Knowledge Translation sub-committee.
7. Simon proposed the idea of doing Round Tables to learn from each other, the importance of learning from and about the multiple perspectives on the IAC.
8. The IAC held a Round Table on their impressions of: how things were going for A SHARED Future, what we might do differently, what strategies we might consider, who we should share with (and how, and when), and what they were taking away from the meeting. These are summarized below.
ACTION: Round Table topic for next meeting on 'Two-Eyed Seeing'
ACTION: Feedback from IAC Members about frequency of meetings: Quarterly or Bi-Annually
ACTION: IAC Members to communicate their interests in being involved in any Sub-Committees
ACTION: IAC Members to share ideas for interactive engagement during IAC Meetings
ACTION: IAC Members to share ideas for collaboration amongst the membership
9. Heather commented on next steps: Developing the terms of reference for A SHARED Future's programmatic steering committee.
10. Simon adjourned our meeting with a prayer and closing remarks.

Reflections on A SHARED Future's first IAC Meeting from IAC members:

1. On knowledge translation - Next step for me is trying to find the right way to share what we are doing in this meeting with the people I am working with elsewhere. Appropriate vernacular. How to share what we are doing here and applying the ideas and concepts to share elsewhere with other communities. How, as an advisory committee, can we make what we do more accessible and shared widely?

2. On project autonomy - Appreciation for these continued opportunities to learn about the program and project through these teleconferences. Learning across the whole program will be challenging because of the autonomy of each project – but something to consider going forward.

3. On knowledge mobilization – A SHARED Future is a huge program and things will shift as we learn, but being able to convey these changes will be a challenge for the team that we should consider. So far, the systematic thinking outlined in the proposal is clean (including objectives and assessment), but will be more difficult to be as clean in the outputs.

4. On the USA context - In the USA, there is no appreciation for gender diversity, commitment to renewable energy, and no commitment from Trump administration about how they will interact with Tribes. This makes the work we are doing here inspiring, but unsure how to proceed in an American context at this time.

5. On process oversight - we have a Post-doc conducting an analysis in real time, and a critical program progress oversight is huge. Knowing in real-time what the leadership group was failing to do in real time was a real strength in our previous research endeavors. Additionally, I appreciate the 15-50 year timeline for looking back and looking forward. We need to really consider making change and building audiences going forward that are critical to ensure uptake going forward, by examining what we are doing now and have done in the past that facilitates or constrains these future efforts.

6. On removing barriers to accessibility – This is a longer-term goal, but in some communities there are barriers preventing them from engaging in these types of conversations at all, let alone trying to access a lot of the information we will be putting out through academic channels.

7. On project and community autonomy - As a challenge, we need to respect the autonomy of projects and don't get too prescriptive. It is still up to communities to identify how they want to consider and include things like KT and gender in their own projects, so we must be careful not to be too prescriptive. Tracking the processes and spending time on the methodologies that were used and how we can support research based on what we have learned. Need a 'leave-behind' in these projects as a measurable benefit.

8. On projects, committees, and sub-committees - At the intersections of the different projects, and the different committees, we may receive challenge on the ethical relations at those intersections. There are a lot of people and moving parts and having everyone feel informed and kept informed and respected, it will be a challenge.

9. On projects within the program - To what extent can there be learning environments designed where projects can intentionally learn from each other and from experiences in different places. How can we structure the learning intentionally among the projects to fit the program goals and to not learn the same lesson more than once.

10. On community benefits - To whom is all of this work responsible/accountable? There should be effort given on getting clarity on to whom we are responsible, and what form does that responsibility play out? Knowledge justice can be opportunity for community to re-understand and transform themselves in a manner that allows them to guide their own futures.