

Trusting Partnerships for Climate Resilience & Adaptation in Remote & Indigenous Communities

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Building Climate Resilience & Adaptation in the Kainai First Nation, Alberta Canada

Partnership Goals

- 1. Build capacity to address climate change for short, medium and long term
- 2. Increase overall knowledge about climate change
- 3. Help Tribe to address risks and plan for an uncertain and changing future.

Sharing Knowledge Locally & Globally

- Within the Blackfoot Confederacy in Canada and the United States
- Proposed comparison research project with Nama Tribe in South Africa





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Building a Culture of Trust in Context

- In context of Canada's history with indigenous peoples
- Consideration of what sharing traditional knowledge means (sacred and private / public good / global climate change cooperation



Canada's Boreal Forest. Ecologist, Cynthia Lane



Building Climate Resilience & Adaptation in the Kainai First Nation, Alberta Canada

Contributes to Canada's commitment under the Paris Agreement

Key Points

Article 6 (8)

- importance of integrated, holistic and balanced non-market approaches available to assist in the implementation of nationally determined contributions,
- in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication,
- in a coordinated and effective manner, including mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology transfer and capacity building...

Article 7 (5)

- should be based on and guided by the best available science and,
- traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems,
- with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant socioeconomic and environmental policies and actions



The Kainai First Nation, Alberta Canada

Key Points

- Confederation of Canada is 150 years old affects of colonization still being felt
- Agreements called Treaties still working through different understanding / rights
- Many indigenous people in Canada live on reserves
- Building trust within the community and with non-indigenous partners is important for climate resilient futures
- Traditional ways of knowing and interacting with the natural environment can help the world



The Kainai First Nation, Alberta Canada

Key Points

- Blackfoot Confederacy oldest residents of western prairie region of North America
- Traditional territory on the Northern Plains of what is now North America, (Rocky Mountains)
- Already witnessing increased occurrence & severity of extreme weather events: flooding, drought and severe storms, invasive species, and change in wildlife movement
- Energy vulnerabilities, but also opportunities



The Kainai First Nation & Climate Change

Key Points

- Changes to our lands, plants and animals affect the balance of Kainai cultural, economical, social and environmental way of life, *Niipaitapiiyssinni*
- Blackfoot culture based on a reciprocal relationship that requires responsible and sustainable decisions to maintain a healthy relationship between Kainai people and the land
- Dialogue between knowledge holders of all backgrounds is necessary to build bridges between differing perspectives and create effective solutions for adapting to climate change



Culture is a mutual relationship with the land. If changes occur to the land due to climate change then the culture is affected...Our cultural reference points are disappearing because of climate change." Dr. Leroy Little Bear, Blood Tribe Elder

Renewable Energy in Indigenous, Northern & Remote Communities

Key Points

- New renewable energy will be on or across Indigenous traditional lands and waters
- Northern communities face energy access and energy security challenges
- Renewable energy unprecedented opportunities for indigenous peoples to build partnerships that will have enormous benefits for whole society
- Fulbright Arctic Initiative Report, Developing Renewable Energy in Arctic and Sub-Arctic Regions and Communities,





Pan-arctic Circumpolar Off-grid Settlements



This map tells the story of the nearly two million peop living in northern communities that are not connected to each other or to more populous areas in the south it transmission lines, pipelines, or – in most cases – no The vast majority of these communities rely on import fuel oil for power generation and space heating. The cost of energy in these locations often exceeds three times the national average, though subsidies designe to reduce the price to consumers are a common pract Surprising to many, there are dozens of examples of innovative renewable energy projects that have been developed in remote areas of the Arctic, we hope to include these in future iterations of this map.

This work is not yet complete. To date, the map and the database from which the information it represents is drawn, are approximately 90% complete. Data poi for some communities still need to be collected and curated into the database, and we are not certain that all of the regional power grid boundaries are represen correctly, or have all been identified.

This map is based on extensive research performed by many individuals fram around the circumpolar north including the United States (Alaska), Canada, Russia and Sweden, Primary funding, as well as the majority

- of the effort put into this project thus far, has come fro
- the University of Alaska Fairbanks and the University of Saskatchewan.



Key Points

- Addressing Barriers
- Building Local Capacity
- Access to Capital
- Investment in Research, Development and Export
- <u>http://www.usask.ca/icngd/FulbrightArcRenewableEnergy.pdf</u>





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