

INDIGENOUS CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK



May 2024

Network Updates

A busy spring with reports, welcoming our new Network Lead and bringing people together as much as possible has brought us into the early summer. Time flies when there's important work to be done!



Most of the Network was able to spend some time together in May for the Generate BC conference (photo below from ICAN-hosted dinner). The camaraderie and support that our wonderful CACs share is such a gift – we are very grateful for the time we get to spend together uplifting, learning and growing with everyone.

On the horizon, we are looking forward to the upcoming ICAN retreat in August happening on Haíłzaqv (Heiltsuk) territory! We are incredibly grateful to our CAC Leona Humchitt for offering to host us and for partners in community for helping us to plan out a meaningful and rewarding stay in Haíłzaqv.



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Funding Deadlines Coming Soon

- [CEDR – Renewable Energy Generation stream](#)
 - Deadline for applications: July 15, 2024
- [UBCM's Community to Community program](#)
 - Next deadline for applications: September 6, 2024
- [UBCM's FireSmart Community Funding and Supports](#)
 - Deadline for applications: September 30, 2024

Funding Opportunities for Indigenous Communities

The [BC Community Climate Funding Guide](#) and the [Funding Finder Tool](#) are online resources for those searching for project funding with grants and programs (from under \$100,000 to over \$1,000,000).

CEDR Funding: 3 Streams

What? New Relationship Trust has announced the 3rd intake is open for the following [3 funding streams for their Community Energy Diesel Reduction \(CEDR\) program](#):

- *Renewable Energy Generation (REG)* provides major project development support for renewable electricity generation capital projects;
- *Community Energy Planning (CEP)* supports remote communities in the development, maintenance and management of a Community Energy Plan;
- *Demand Side Management (DSM)* provides support to remote communities to undertake capital improvements and retrofits that upgrade premises such as residential and community buildings that results in improved energy efficiency and load management.

When? REG applications are due **July 15, 2024** and CEP + DSM applications are due **November 29, 2024** or when funding is exhausted.



Energy Innovation Program – Renewable Energy Demonstration: Stream 2

What? The federal government's Office of Energy Research and Development will fund [demonstration projects](#) that will help advance innovative renewable heat or power generation and/or integration through novel applications that provide local benefits. Renewable resources are

limited to solar, wind, geothermal and marine energy for this fund. Stream 2 funds up to 100% of total project cost for projects by Indigenous applicants that request between \$500,000 and \$4,000,000 over a period of up to a maximum of five years. Indigenous applicants are encouraged to contact the Program to be connected with a project officer (eiprenewables-pierenouvelables@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca) who will provide support through the application process, including verifying eligibility.

When? Indigenous applicants have until **September 26, 2024** to submit an Expression of Interest application with projects being selected in summer 2025.

Indigenous Leadership Fund

What? The Low Carbon Economy Fund has developed a [program](#) to support projects that are Indigenous-owned and led; advance Indigenous climate leadership; and support the self-determined climate, social, and economic priorities of Indigenous peoples. Projects must be ready for deployment or construction and meet the following criteria: incorporate or make use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, or low-carbon heating technologies and practices; offer broader environmental, social, and economic benefits; and use proven technologies and practices (proven technologies usually correspond with a level 8 or above on the [Technology Readiness Level Scale](#)). In the First Nations funding stream the Fund can cover up to \$6 million per project.

When? If interested, applicants can email LeadershipAutochtoneFEFEC-IndigenousLeadershipLCEF@ec.gc.ca to receive Eligibility Criteria and the Expression of Interest form. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis until funding is allocated.

Events and Training

Learning Lab: Community Engagement Workshop

What? Fraser Basin Council's **FNHES** is hosting a *Learning Lab on Community Engagement for Energy Efficiency Projects* with speakers from Community Energy Association who will share tips from their experiences with effective community engagement.

When and how? Happening **June 18, 1-2pm** (virtual), register [here](#).

First Nations Clean Energy Project Development + Partnerships Webinars

What? Indigenous Clean Energy and Tumuxw Communications created [this webinar series](#) aiming to build capacity around clean power information and project readiness within BC, tailored to the specific needs and interests of participating First Nations. The following sessions are remaining plus an additional option Q&A session (date to be confirmed):

- Session 2: Project Partnering and Negotiations
- Session 3: Community Benefit Realization (Equity & Non-Equity Options)

When and how? Session 2 is on **June 18, 10-11:30am** and session 3 is on **July 3, 10-11:30am**, register [here](#).

Climate Resilience, Disaster Preparedness + Tourism Stakeholders Workshop

What? The phase four of BC Tourism's Climate Resiliency Initiative includes [hosting workshops](#) to learn and build capacity with partners and local businesses on climate emergency preparedness and response. The June workshop explores how to respond and work with tourism

stakeholders through climate change related disasters.

When and how? Happening **June 19 at 10am** (virtual), register [here](#).

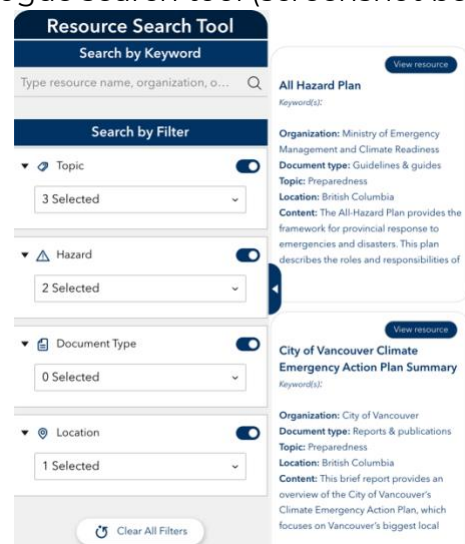
Indigenous Climate Monitoring Toolkit

What? The **First Peoples Group** created an [Indigenous Climate Monitoring Toolkit](#) that has three main components:

- step-by-step guidance for planning, designing and implementing community-based monitoring projects;
- examples and stories from Indigenous communities and organizations who have implemented community-based climate monitoring projects;
- key resources related to climate monitoring and adaptation

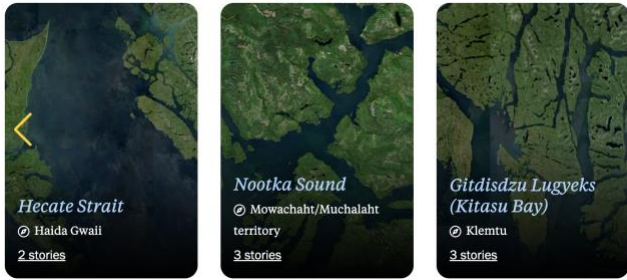
Climate Ready BC

What? [ClimateReadyBC](#) is an online platform to be used as a disaster and climate risk reduction tool for public and community use. It will continue to evolve through engagement with First Nations, local governments, and other partners. Currently there are mapping tools, data and information available by hazard (floods, wildfires, etc.) as well as a resource catalogue search tool (screenshot below).



News and Media

Indigenous-led Marine Protected and Conserved Areas



Settler-introduced commercial fishing, shipping and industrialization have come to endanger aquatic ecosystems that are critical to our survival. Indigenous-led conservation areas are being established across the country to combat the impact colonization has had on oceans, lakes and rivers, and return these critical habitats to their original caretakers.

The Tyee [put together a collection of stories](#) from various news outlets, organized by water bodies. By clicking on the area you'd like to explore, you'll be taken to the stories that detail the Indigenous-led conservation work being done to protect waters in that region.

Source/photo source: [The Tyee](#), Pippa Norman



LISTEN: Down to You Podcast, Episode – Persist to Find Your Power

Fraser Basin Council's Youth Program hosts a podcast that uncovers stories of bold youth who are offering inspiring solutions for a net-zero future. On episode 3 ["Persist to Find Your Power"](#) Elijah Mecham (former CAC!) from Nuxalk Nation lays out his unplanned but ultimately rewarding path to becoming involved in clean energy projects for his Nation.

WATCH: Indigenous films/filmmakers

[Knowledge Network](#) is highlighting and streaming a selection of films by Indigenous filmmakers for National Indigenous History Month (June).



"SGaawaay K'uuna" is set in 19th-century Haida Gwaii and "tells the classic Haida story of a struggling and stranded man transformed into Gaagixiid, the Wildman."



A documentary film directed by Banchi Hanuse from Nuxalk Nation, Aitamaako'tamisskapi Natosi: Before the Sun, shows a "thrilling portrait of a young Siksika woman Logan Red Crow and the deep bonds between her father and family in the golden plains of Blackfoot Territory as she prepares for one of the most dangerous horse races in the world... the Indian Relay."

Photo sources: Created image on Canva; Movie still from SGaawaay K'uuna (2018); Movie still from Aitamaako'tamisskapi Natosi: Before the Sun (2023).

Times Spent Together

February: Six CACs and the Network Facilitator attended the 3-day Globe Forum: The Future is Regenerative in Vancouver and hosted a group dinner. Leona Humchitt, CAC from Haíłzaqv Nation, was one of the speakers on the panel for “Healthy Energy Homes: Going Beyond Sustainability.”



April: The Network was invited to VIU to learn from the student showcase on projects designed to help the Haíłzaqv Nation regain food security and sovereignty through aquaponics and aeroponic tower gardens.



May: In conjunction with attending the Generate BC conference, Network staff and CACs gathered in Vancouver to connect with their peer network face-to-face for our monthly meeting as well as host a Network and Supporting Partners dinner.

