

# INDIGENOUS CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK



September 2024

## Network Updates

August for the Network was a wonderfully busy time with ICAN and the Resilience Climate Adaptation Network (RCAN) coming together for a 5-day packed agenda in Haítzaqv. The Networks would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Leona and the rest of the Haítzaqv Climate Action team, as well as Hereditary Chief Frank Brown, Elder Contessa Brown and Elizabeth Wilson for welcoming us to your home and making this such a memorable visit!

**Wálas ġiáxsiġa** (big thank you)



As we say goodbye to the summer season, the Network is looking forward to upcoming fall training and learning opportunities.

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### Funding Deadlines Coming Soon

- [NRCan's Energy Innovation Program – Renewable Energy Demonstrations Call](#)
  - Next deadline for EOI applications: September 26, 2024
- [UBCM's FireSmart Community Funding and Supports](#)
  - Deadline for applications: September 30, 2024
- [The Youth Harbour's Action Grants for 35 years and younger](#)
  - Deadline for applications: November 1, 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).

## Community Climate Action Events

**What?** The [Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions](#) is accepting applications to fund (range of \$2,500 to \$5,000) community events that:

- Advance or contribute to tangible climate action;
- Include clear plans to magnify and build on event outcomes through post-event actions, communication, and/or planned next steps;
- And are rooted in the principles of climate justice and reconciliation.

**When?** Applications for community events happening October 2024 to mid-March 2025 are due **September 27, 2024**.



Training session at the August retreat, 2024.

## Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Adaptation

**What?** The [Union of BC Municipalities](#) is offering funding streams to support the reduction of future disasters due to climate-related risks through the development and implementation of effective strategies to prepare for and adapt to the identified hazards and risks. Funding ranges from \$150,000 to 5 million for assessment/planning projects to construction of new or upgrades to existing buildings (including natural infrastructure).

**When?** Next intake deadline is **October 4, 2024**.

## Indigenous Communities Fund

**What?** [TELUS](#) is offering \$5,000 to \$25,000 grants for projects focused on, but not limited to:

- Health, mental health and well-being
- Access to education and resources
- Preservation of the land and water
- Community building and enhancement
- Intergenerational language and cultural revitalization

**When?** Deadline is **October 11, 2024** or when the first 200 applications are received.

## CEDR Funding: CEP + DSM Streams

**What?** The 3rd intake for the [New Relationship Trust's CEDR](#) funding opened earlier this summer and the Community Energy Planning and Demand Side Management applications are still open:

- *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?** Applications are due **November 29, 2024** or when funding is exhausted.

## Emergency Management FireSmart program

**What?** The [Emergency Management Assistance Program](#) provides funding to build resiliency for wildland fire non-structural mitigation and preparedness through the FireSmart funding stream.

**When?** Applications will be reviewed on an **ongoing basis** until funding is allocated (or by March 31, 2025).

# Events and Training

## Built Environment Webinar Recordings & Retrofit Journey Live Webinar Series



**What and when?** Community Energy Association offers recordings of [previous webinars](#) on issues such as heat pumps. They are also hosting a 5-part webinar series over the next 3 months on the following retrofit topics (with dates):

- DIY Air Sealing (**Oct 2**)
- Prioritizing your Upgrades (**Oct 23**)
- Understanding Electrical Load (**Nov 13**)
- Heat Pumps (**Dec 4**)

**How?** Register for any of the above webinars [here](#).

## First Nations Home EnergySave Workshop: Retrofit Pathways

**What?** The First Nations Home EnergySave Program (through Fraser Basin Council) and West Moberly First Nation are hosting an in-person workshop on regional energy efficiency with presentations, panels, interactive sessions, peer networking and opportunities to connect with funders.

**When and how?** Happening **November 19** at the Pomeroy Hotel & Conference Centre in **Fort St. John**, register [here](#)!

## Indigenous Clean Energy – The Gathering (Hybrid)

**What?** The Globe and Mail, in partnership with Indigenous Clean Energy, is hosting a 3-day event to discuss the development of clean energy, net-zero progress and economic reconciliation. The [agenda](#) includes an evening opening reception on Day 1, panel discussions and interviews on Day 2 and interactive breakout sessions on Day 3.

**When and how?** Happening **November 27- November 29** online and in Toronto. Request the free registration [here](#).

## Webinar Recordings

**What?** Fraser Basin Council has recordings of the following webinars they hosted earlier this year on:

- [Proposal Writing](#) for Energy Efficient Projects in Indigenous Communities: Speakers from provincial funding organizations share resources and tips for effective proposals.
- [Retrofit Success Stories](#) in BC First Nation Communities: Learn from case studies Osoyoos Indian Band and Akisq̓nuk First Nation case studies.

## BEAHR Indigenous Training Courses

**What?** [ECO Canada](#) offers customized training programs, ranging from 1 to 16 weeks, that blends western science and  Traditional Knowledge, including Elders and Knowledge holder participation. The [topics](#) that they can bring to communities range from environmental monitoring, land use planning to energy management, with these possible [funding opportunities](#) to cover the BEAHR training.

## Climate Data Tool

**What?** [ClimateData.ca](#) has a [Learning Zone](#) that has tutorials and articles on topics like how to use the mapping/modelling tools (e.g. [how to find variables of interest](#)) and how using [climate scenarios](#) can help with planning. They also released [new fire weather projections](#) this summer to help with fire preparedness and management.

# News and Media

## Featuring strong advocates for Indigenous rights: Phyllis Webstad and Murray Sinclair

In honour of *National Day for Truth and Reconciliation* and *Orange Shirt Day* – both observed on September 30 – we are highlighting just a couple of the prominent figures who have dedicated themselves to the pursuit of healing the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and sharing the experiences by Indigenous peoples in “Canada.”



Sources/photo sources: [CBC Radio](#), Brandie Weikle and Rosanna Deerchild; [Government of Canada](#), [Queens University](#), [CBC Books](#)

Phyllis Webstad, a Northern Secwepemc woman from Stswecem'c Xgat'tem First Nation, [first shared her story](#) of being forced to go to Saint Joseph Mission Residential School near Williams Lake at six years old, at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 2013. At the first day of school, the new orange shirt that her grandmother had bought for her was taken and never returned, as they made the children wear uniforms. Phyllis has since written 5 picture books and one collection of stories on her and other loved one's experiences of Residential School. These books assert that “Every Child Matters,” especially as she had been made to feel that she didn't matter while suffering at that school, and ultimately have helped herself and others heal.

Murray Sinclair, an Anishinaabe man raised on the former St. Peter's Indian Reserve north of Winnipeg, was a Canadian senator, the first Indigenous judge in Manitoba and the second Indigenous judge in Canadian

history. He was also the Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The Commission ran from 2008 to 2015, visiting hundreds of communities and hearing from more than [6,500 people](#) impacted by the Residential School system and resulted in the release of its findings and the [94 “Calls to Action.”](#) About [his time as Chair](#), Sinclair has said “I realized that getting to the truth was hard but getting to the reconciliation is going to be harder...We are not only calling for people to understand this truth and to accept it, recognize that, there came with it, benefits and privileges that now are bestowed upon the settler population, that were bestowed at great cost to Indigenous people.” Sinclair's memoir *Who We Are*, set to release later this month, takes a look at his life, Indigenous identity and the need to understand the past to move onto the future.



### **LISTEN: Telling our Twisted Histories Podcast**

Podcast host Kaniehti:io Horn, from Kahnawake (Kaniien'kehá:ka), traveled to 15 Indigenous communities from 11 different homelands to ask people what the term [“reconciliation”](#) means to them.

### **WATCH: Richard + Friends Video Series**

The Network was grateful to have Richard Hall from Nuxalk Nation share his insights and wisdom with us on making energy efficient homes for the we(s)t coast late July. Richard has partnered with BCIT ZEB Learning Centre to offer [6 videos](#) on the following home building topics: building science, plumbing, ventilation, wood burning appliances and rainscreens.



# Times Spent Together

## Summer Retreat in Hałtzaqv

ICAN and the Resilience Climate Adaptation Network (RCAN) were honoured to be hosted in Hałtzaqv (Heiltsuk) territory for our summer retreat at the beginning of August. Climate Action Coordinators (CACs) from 7 nations, 1 Resilience Coordinator and staff from both networks spent a full week in community. The week was filled with experiences connecting us with the land and with each other, through activities such as a cedar weaving workshop, a river bathing ceremony, attending the opening hours of a traditional potlatch, and even witnessing a group of humpback whales while travelling by boat. The retreat concluded with a Climate Action Information Session hosted at the Wawiskas Community Hall in Bella Bella, which showcased the work of the Climate Action Network to Hałtzaqv members, leaders, and Elders. The event featured presentations by 3 CACs: Leona Humchitt (Hałtzaqv), Jamie Pond (Kwkwwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis) and Lori Saunders (Xeni Gwet'in).



ICAN + RCAN  
Retreat 2024

