

OHNEGANOS OHNEGAHDĚ:GYO
INDIGENOUS ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE, TRAINING
& CO-CREATION OF MIXED METHOD TOOLS



HAUDENOSAUNEE CREATION STORY



Teaches us that *Water Is Life*





GUIDING PRINCIPLES: ENVIRONMENTAL & POLITICAL PHILOSOPHIES

OHENTON KARIWATEHKWEN

The Thanksgiving Address, the words we say before all else, contains our environmental philosophy. We acknowledge all parts of Creation and offer our respect and gratitude to them for upholding their responsibilities. The opening address brings us to one mind as it reminds us of our relationship to all and that we are so loved that all we need is provided for us. In return we are to be thankful to our life sustainers and uphold our part in maintaining the wellness of our Mother for the future generations.



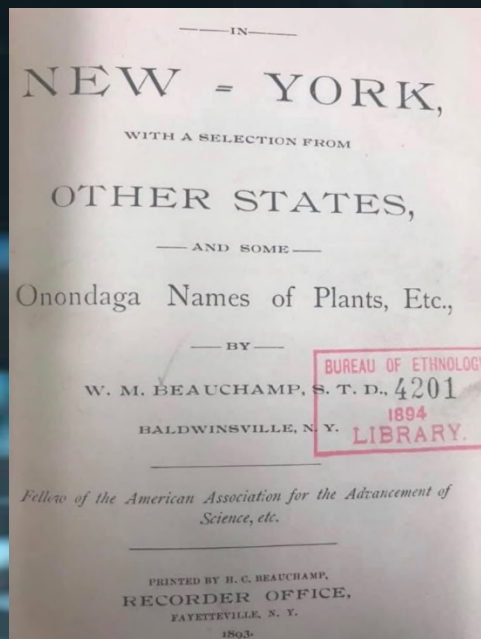
PROJECT PROGRESS



INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE



Digital Mapping

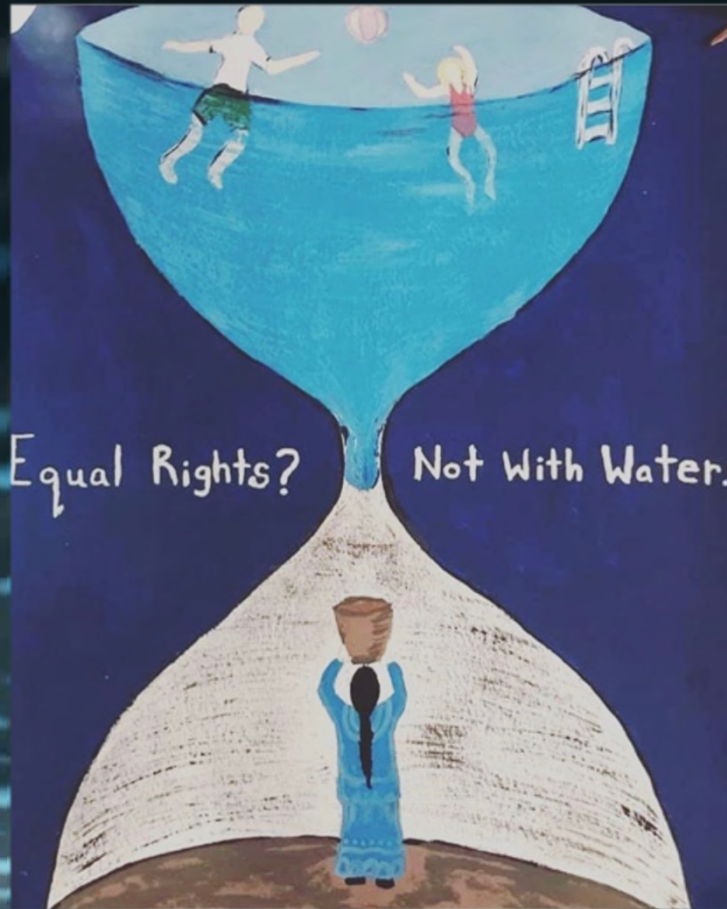


Warrior Camp
Lubicon Cree Youth

COMMUNITY IDENTIFIED

PROBLEMS/NEEDS:

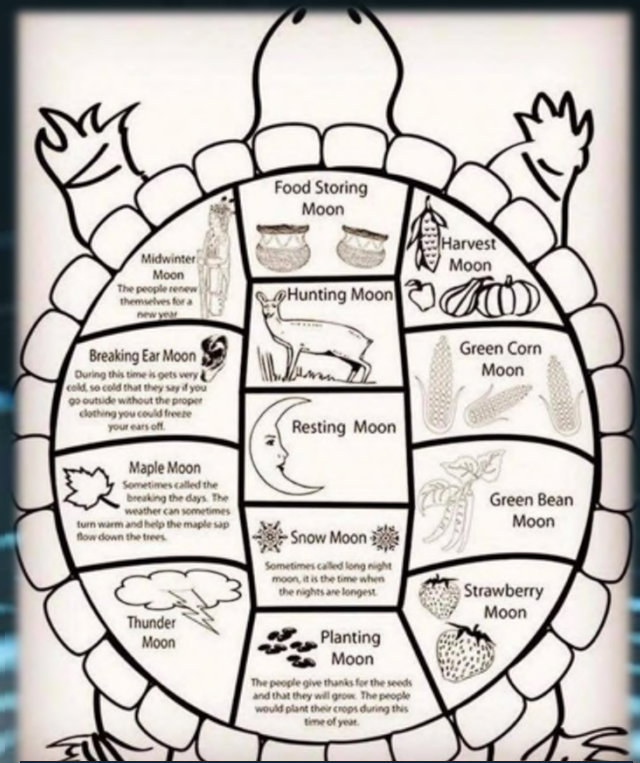
- ❖ Indigenous populations in Canada are particularly vulnerable to climate change and water security issues.
- ❖ Inadequate infrastructure increases the health burden in these communities.
- ❖ Water crisis is widely experienced in Indigenous communities due to the “...ongoing struggle to have Indigenous voices heard in the decision-making processes that affect their lives, lands, and waters” (McGregor, 2012).
- ❖ Research, capacity building and support are needed for a range of water-related topics of governance, health and capacity development, including development of Indigenous sustainability.



INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE



Kawenni:yo/Gaweni:yo Students
Receiving Certificates



Turtle Tagging

PROJECT OVERVIEW



PROJECT DESCRIPTION



A community-driven project (Six Nations & Lubicon Cree) in collaboration with McMaster University to address water security, water sovereignty, and environmental health solutions on First Nations communities.

The overarching aim of this project is to develop an enduring legacy of Indigenous knowledge/traditional ecological knowledge harmonization with western science through co-creation of sustainable water management pathways for community and holistic assessments of environmental and human wellness.



THE PLAN:

Following extensive engagement and discussions, our partner communities in Ontario and Alberta have identified three primary areas of interest:

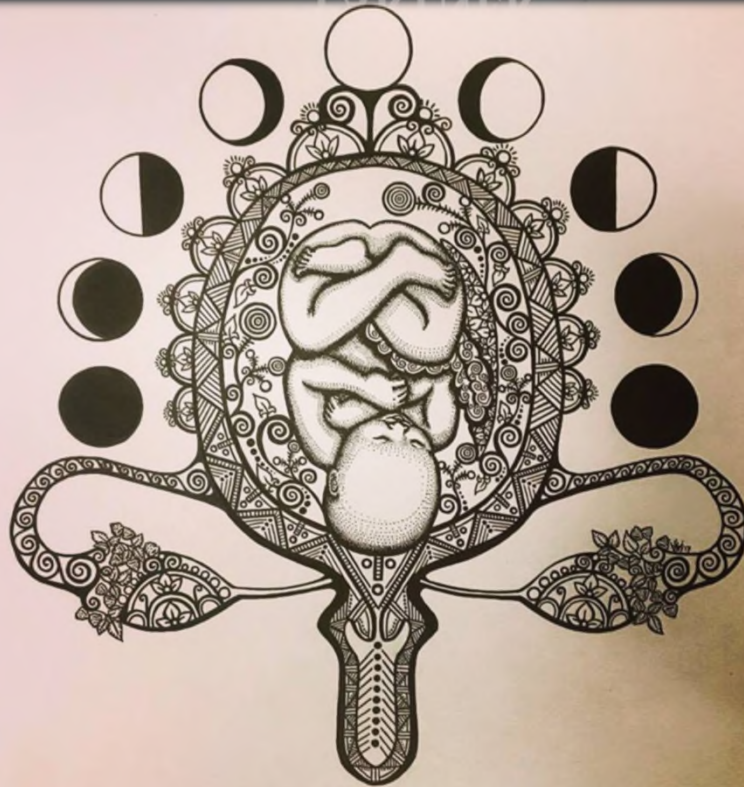
1. Bridging traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) and western science (WS) in the area of accredited water management training and bilingual texts/resources to build communities' capacity to manage future environmental challenges [training],
2. Building youth mental health resilience related to water security [wellness], and
3. Training youth/assisting community in water governance, rights, responsibilities, responses inclusive of Indigenous laws [governance]. Our project is set to address these needs, via a co-creation team consisting of leading experts in TEK and WS in all of the three components. The three teams (TEK research/training, wellness, and governance) focus on the issues of addressing stewardship over time; crafting bilingual, relevant resources; and fostering resilience.

ANÓWARAKOWA KAWEN – THE GREAT TURTLE ISLAND

- ❖ digital stories demonstrating how water quality shapes and informs emotional-mental wellbeing; we will assist FN communities in developing water governance framework and developing pathways to empower and manage control over their water as a primary indicator of wellbeing and facilitate mechanisms to achieve self-determination; and, we will provide youth training in UNDRIP and water governance in order submissions to participate in the 2018/2019 UNPFII.



INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE ~ BIRTHING CENTRE OF SN A NEW PARTNER



LEGACIES

- ❖ The mixed methods TEK will create a legacy of learning material for Canadian schools by synthesizing the new knowledge collected throughout all existing related GWF IK co-creation mixed method research projects;
- ❖ The establishment of a sustainable ecological mixed method water-centric TEK diploma and courses offered by multiple sites;
- ❖ The mental wellness app will be available to community for continued support and promotion of water as a fundamental facet of youth mental health;
- ❖ We hope to establish sustainable NGO status for IEYC as a permanent avenue for ongoing participation of Indigenous Youth at the UN and related institutions.



OUTCOMES

To meet our primary goal of this project we commit to facilitating targeted dialogue between Western trained scientists and Indigenous experts in all three fields – governance, mental health and TEK through environmental scans, workshops, meetings, archival and ethnographic data collection. Outcomes will include:

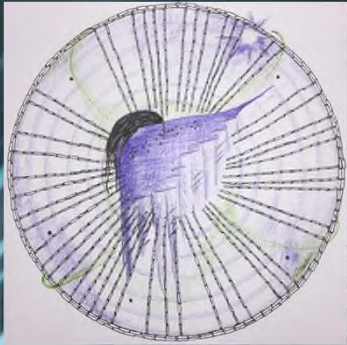
- ❖ Archival mapping of waterways; Indigenous place names of water ways; turtle tagging and monitoring; developing environmental educational material harmonizing IK and WS delivered bilingually;



KATSI COOK: “WOMAN AS THE FIRST ENVIRONMENT”



POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY: KAIANEREKOWA – THE GREAT LAW OF PEACE



From time immemorial, we have held the view that the “law of the land” is not man-made law, but a greater natural law, the Great Law of Peace. The root words for “rain” in Mohawk means expensive, or precious or holy. Culturally, we would not abuse this resource (Cornell Journal;King;2007).

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY:
KAHSWENHTHA ~ TWO ROW



From the perspective of the Haudenosaunee, we speak in terms of responsibilities with respect to water, not in terms of water rights.

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY: ONE DISH/ONE SPOON

An expression of our ongoing responsibilities to conserve what sustains us. The four directives that reinforce this tenet:

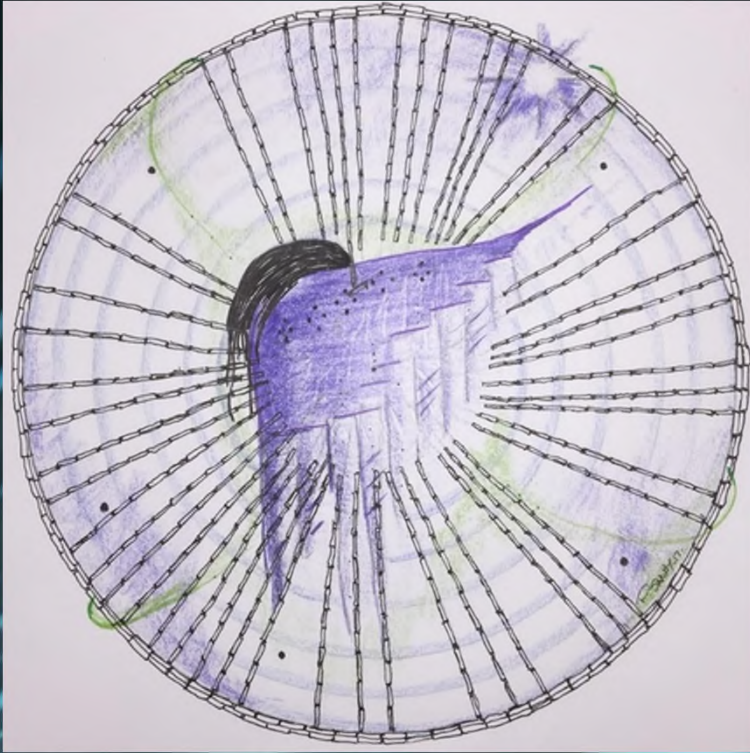
- ❖ Offer thanks;
- ❖ Don't take the first "catch" you encounter;
- ❖ Take only what you need in life to sustain yourself and your family;
- ❖ Leave some of the "catch" for the future, ensuring the future of seven generations for your family and the species survival.
(King: 2007)



KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION

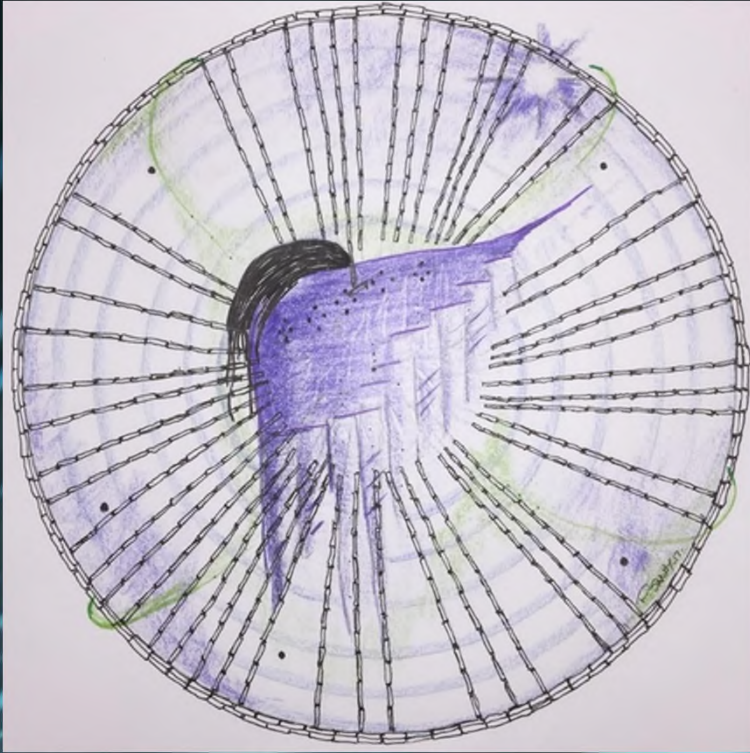
Furthermore, we intend to expand our KM strategy to include bilingual materials available in print and online, digital stories and social media outreach, as well as pursue international outreach through the UN Forum. Our Indigenous partners will be provided with oral and written reports for their specific community, and a concise executive summary and resource sheets with key findings will be delivered to each community by the end of the project.

A published bilingual text in the Mohawk/Cayuga languages will be co-created with Woodland Cultural Centre, Kawenni:io/Gaweni:yo School, Haudenosaunee Resource Centre and the Grandmothers Council.



GOVERNANCE

When the people adhere to their laws, traditions, languages, ceremonies, songs, dances, medicines, and follow them the way that their ancestors have always done, then this maintains the healthiness of the peoples. So, it is all one and the same: abiding by Haudenosaunee legal traditions equates to a wholistic relationship with Mother Earth and wholistic healthiness of the people.



GOVERNANCE

- 2 Indigenous youth accepted to 18th Session of UNPFII
- 12 Youth Received Travel Awards Through the Gender Health Institute to Attend the Idea Fair

CREATING A WATER WELLNESS TOOL TO FOSTER YOUTH RESILIENCE

“Water insecurity” and “ecological grief” are major stressors for Indigenous youth. How can a research- and Western science-based mobile app be bridged with Traditional Knowledge to create a mental wellness app that is relevant for these youth? Ideas to date include:

- Incorporating youth digital stories on water
- A knowledge centre with information about ceremony (longhouse), loss and grieving tools (wampums) and Traditional teachings (including those on two-spirit and water)
- Culturally relevant emojis (e.g., Lacrosse stick, longhouse, turtle rattle)
- Day planning suggestions (e.g., land-based activities, beading)
- Arts (poetry, song, dance, and artwork)
- Inputting safe, social supports for these youth into the Circle of Trust (e.g., Elders, Aunties, Clanmothers)

JOYPOP

Journal entry for May 5, 2018

Name a compassionate way you've supported a friend recently. Then write down how you can do the same for yourself.

Title

Write your thoughts...

Save

JOYPOP

How happy are you today?



Save

THE JOYPOP APP

Created from research and youth feedback to foster resilience through:

- (1) Improving Emotion Regulation (ER) strategies
- (2) Enhancing Cognitive Organization (Executive Functioning)

Key features include:

- Mood Ratings
- Journaling
- Breathing Exercises
- Drawing
- Shapeshifter game
- Circle of Trust

JOYPOP

Diaphragmatic Breathing cues us to think about our rib cage going up during our in-breath and down during our out-breath.

PREPARE YOUR BODY FOR RELAXATION

Assume your most noble posture

Relax your forehead

Release any tension in your neck

Let go of any gripping feelings

Loosen your jaw

Drop your shoulders and lift your chest

Unclench your glutes



Next

Add New Contact:

Contact Name

Phone Number

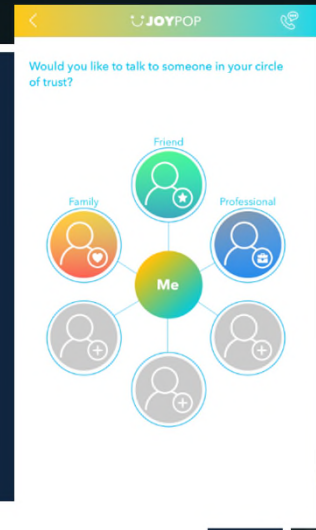
Select a contact type:

Friend

Family

Professional

Save





MEET THE TEAM

Principal Investigator:

Dr. Dawn Martin- Hill (Indigenous knowledge)

Indigenous Community Co-Leads:

Dr. Beverly Jacobs – Assistant Professor at
University of Windsor

Lori Davis Hill – Director of Six Nations Health
Services

Academic Leads:

Dr. Christine Wekerle – Mental Health Team
Leader, Associate Professor at McMaster
University



CIHR
IRSC

Canadian Institutes of
Health Research
Instituts de recherche
en santé du Canada



GLOBAL WATER FUTURES
SOLUTIONS TO WATER THREATS
IN AN ERA OF GLOBAL CHANGE



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY



MANY NYA:WEH'S TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS & SPONSORS

Kawenni:io/Gaweni:yo,
Indigenous Elders & Youth
Council,
Mary Sandy & Norma Jacobs
(Grandmothers Council),
Renee Thomas Hill (Elder in
Residence, ISP McMaster
U),
Joshua Dockstator (ISS
McMaster U),
Johanne McCarthy,
Lorraine Vanderzwet-Servos,
Kamala Kruse (Mohawk
College),
Lubicon Band Council
(Elders & Youth Water
Council)

Leroy Hill (Haudenosaunee
Resource Centre),
John Williams (Hamilton
Ticats, Director of the
McMaster June Jones
Youth Movement
Program),
James Knibb (Lamouche-
Indigenous Elders & Youth
Council),
Amos Keye (Woodland
Cultural Centre) and,
Cam Hill (Traditional
Medicine Clinic at Six
Nations)



McMaster
University

