

Bringing Together Indigenous and other Knowledges for Climate Resilience

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Principles & Concepts



Free, Prior and Informed Consent United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

Respect develop and nurture mutual respect, empathy, and trust where multiple ways of knowing are explored together

Ethical and Safe Places

Inherent rights of animate and inanimate

Not just local information – knowledge system and values

Role of intuition and spirituality as valid methods in knowledge creation and sharing

Actively Weaving Principles & Concepts

The Notion of Time reflect, respond

Future Generations decision making that considers future generations

Values centering the journey around values

Holistic interconnected, breaking down barriers & silos

Gratitude

Beginning and Ending Opening meetings and other gatherings in a good way (blessing, song)

Framing projects and research around values (7th generation principle, Two-Eyed Seeing, and others)



Other Considerations

What does reconciliation mean to you?
What does active reconciliation look like? What about in eyes the Indigenous partners that you're collaborating with?

Can you build in Indigenous values into the research design from the beginning? Two-Eyed Seeing is one example, but what are other unexplored metaphors or values that can be woven into research design?

If your work is transdisciplinary, how are you making room for Indigenous ways of knowing to inform the process, delivery, and ultimately creation of new knowledge?



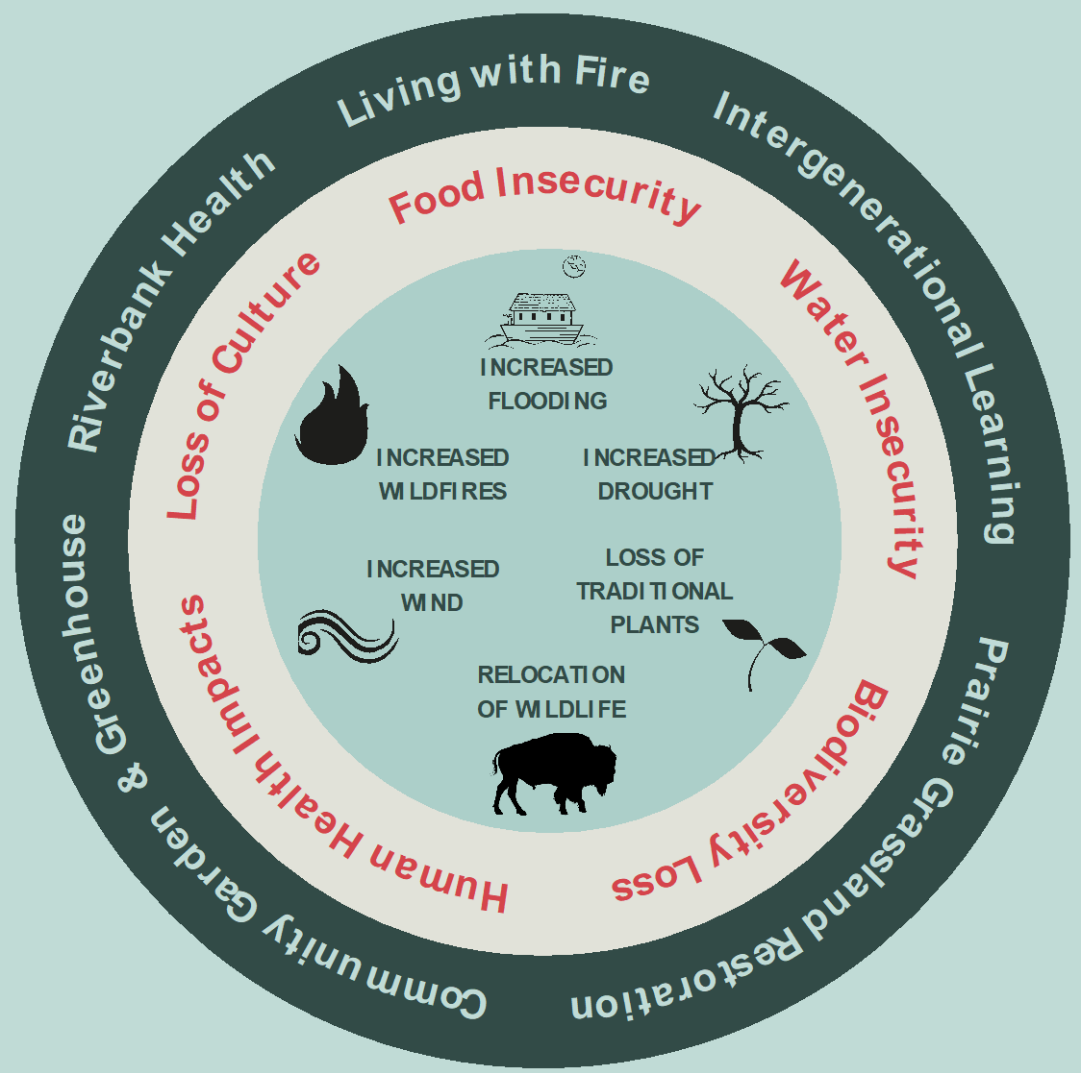
Words Matter

Good vrs Best

- “Best practice” is rooted in business management discourse (Vesely, 2011).
- Can be deceptive because it implies that other practices may be bad (Boven & Morohashi, 2002),
- Movement towards using the terms “good,” “emerging good,” or “wise”

Weaving vrs Integrating/Incorporating

- “Integrating” and “incorporating” increasingly recognized as problematic.
- Imply something goes into another thing. Eg. Indigenous ways of knowing go *into* dominant Western-based, scientific ways of knowing (Nadasdy, 1999; Nalau, 2018; Reid et al., 2020; Tengö et al., 2017).
- Bringing together, bridging, weaving, and braiding seemed to be used interchangeably with similar intent to **imply equality with other knowledge systems** (Atalay, 2020; Dreise & Mazurski, 2018, Kimmerer, 2002, Latulippe & Klenk, 2020)



Locally Relevant creating a strong foundation for planning to implementation of strategies to address climate change

Example: Multi-year Partnership with the Piikani Nation

- Started with an invitation and conversation
- Co-identify priorities and **HOW** to engage
- Youth-led Local Early Action Plan (LEAP)
- Informed a longer-term plan to address
 - Food security
 - Drought / flood - prairie grasslands restoration, and engagement of bison on the land
 - Understanding and the strategic use of traditional plants to sequester carbon and contribute to biodiversity
 - Whole community climate risk assessment and adaptation planning followed by adaptation implementation

Climate Change Impacts	Vulnerability	Adaptation Actions
The inner circle outlines climate change impacts that are currently affecting the Piikani Nation and are likely going to have a more severe effect in the future.	The middle circle outlines how the inner circle climate change impacts could effect life in the Piikani Nation.	The outer circle outlines actions that the Piikani Nation could adopt to reduce the current and future impacts of climate change, and reduce effects in the middle circle.

Elevating the Voices *of those less heard in climate and disaster risk reduction*

Often viewed and referred to as vulnerable people – but other than potential victims, what can they teach us about resilience? About adapting?

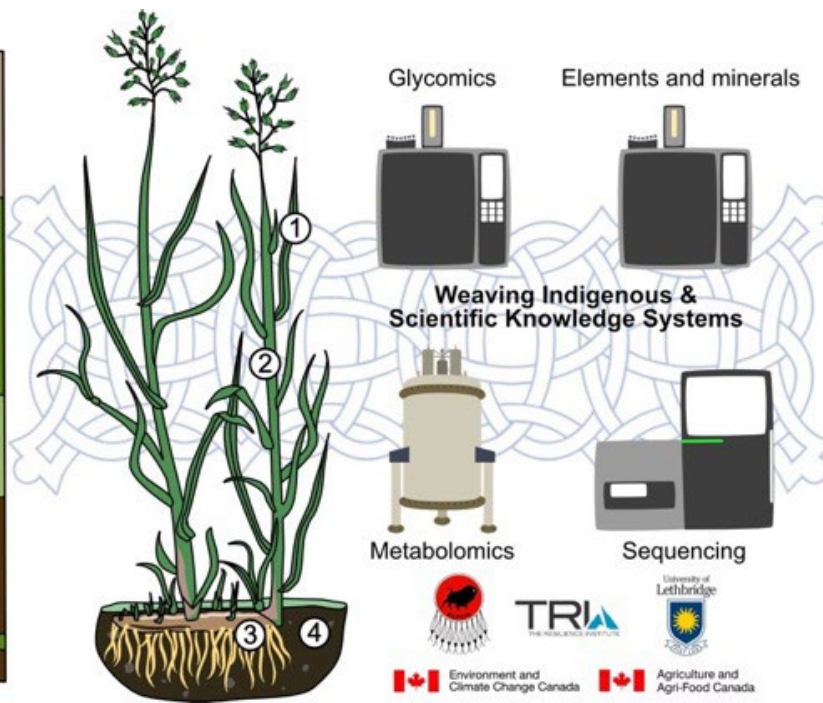
Kaiani Youth Artists – The Art of Climate Change



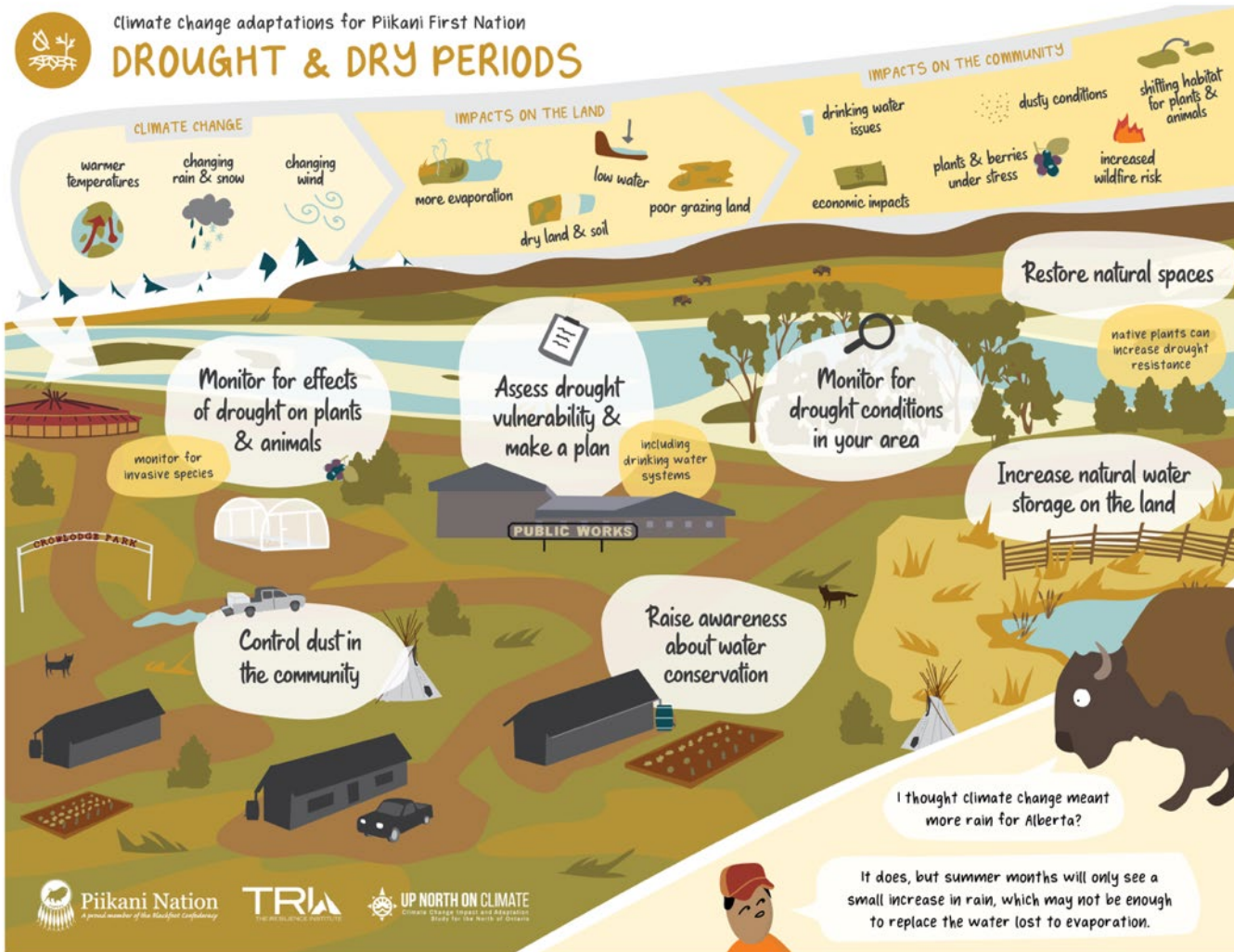
Partnering with practitioners from NGOs, academia and government

Seeding the Future - Adaptation to Climate Impacts through Healthy Ecosystems & Traditional Plants in the Piikani First Nation

Exploring the potential of traditional plants to sequester carbon, strengthen biodiversity, food security, cultural revitalization; strengthening climate knowledge on reserve through locally relevant info guides, strategic integration of bison onto the landscape as ecological and cultural keystone species



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EJ4 Climate fund



Approach to risk & vulnerability planning that weaves Indigenous knowledges and values with external expertise

3 Indigenous communities: Piikani Nation; Willow Lake Métis Nation; and Fort McKay First Nation in the North, 2 mountain communities: Jasper Hinton

Regional adaptation planning that brings together municipalities with neighbouring Indigenous communities

Series of Info Sheets in collaboration with Up North on Climate



Building momentum through programs like *Piikani Stories of Resilience*

This program engages community members in a creative journey to explore what it means to be resilience from different perspectives – personal, cultural, community.

Helps strengthen knowledge and desire to participate in adaptation strategies.

**Tsaa niit"kwii o"kiitsii
aiskittō't-tsinō'waa-ya
o"k't'."kō'so'opiks kii
iiyksii paataapiisin
niit-taiss-skoonataapsoop?**



Iiyiksii paituppii'piiw"sin kō't-tükii maa iyiiitsiss-siaatoom
oo'paituppiisin niit-tok"koiiyiyaa.

~ Dominic Crowshoe

**What Makes Us
Resilient in
Times of Change?**



"Resilience is a spirit that affects anyone willing to
endure hardships the world has presented us. And to
overcome the challenges we face."

~ Dominic Crowshoe

Spirit Spiritualité Nāt'ōyiittāpii

Mary Ruth McDougal

"I truly believe healing and spirituality go hand in hand to give us the courage and strength to overcome any difficulties."

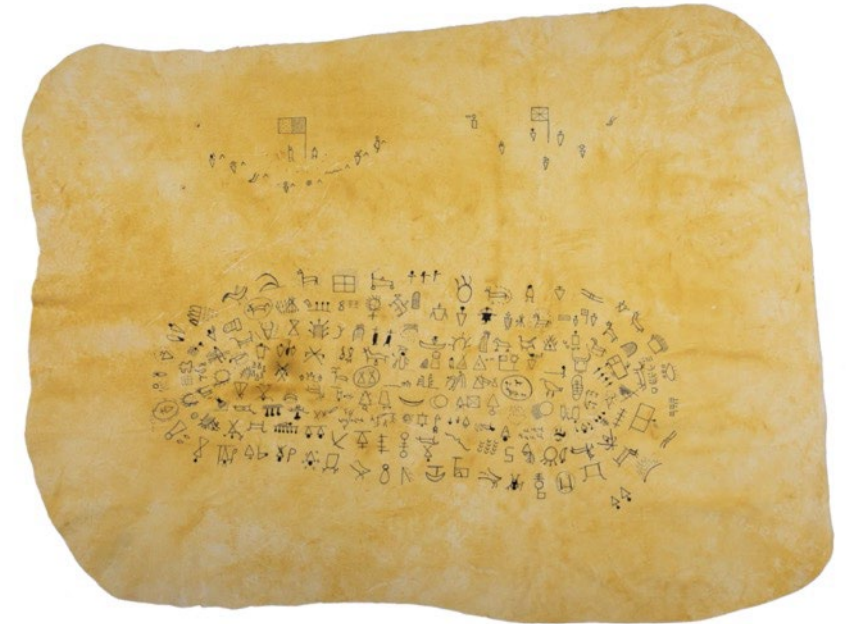
« Je crois fermement que la guérison et la spiritualité agissent ensemble pour nous donner le courage et la force de surmonter toutes les difficultés. »

Naanist-īo'maituk'pii
niitaiso'kinnukyoop
kii naatoowaapii
niitskoonaataapsoop
maa"tsii kaamootō'p.

Piikani Maanist
Īiyikītaapīyaa
Īitsinniikūtoo'p

Piikani
Stories of
Resilience

Récits de
résilience
des Piikani



Piikani Winter Count

On exhibition at the Cave and Basin National Historic Site in Banff National Park. In Blackfoot, English and French.

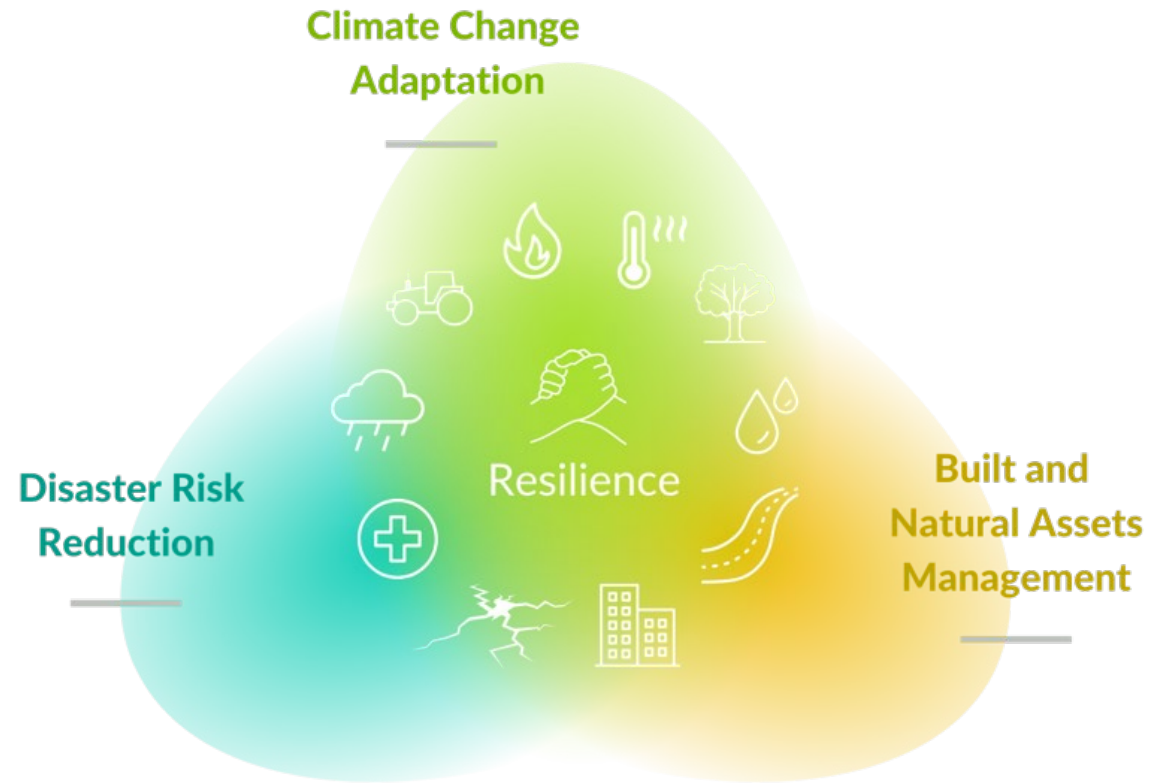
Inspiring an Ecosystem of Change

There is still too much time delay, and too many obstacles to get from planning to the implementation of adaptation strategies.

We need to move quicker from planning to the actual implementation.

Remove barriers by systems that no longer serve us well

eg. National program with between TRI and Canadian Red Cross at the convergence of Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction





Charitable organization based in Canada Mission – climate resilient futures and reduce risk to disasters

Education and research to advance knowledge on **climate change** and **sustainability**

Transdisciplinary – we develop partnerships with local and Indigenous communities, academia, government and other charities on initiatives

Inspire transformative change at systems level by encouraging Indigenous values to be woven into projects, policy and research

Build local capacity for climate adaptation by creating in-community - jobs and skills

Merci, Gracias, Thank you

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