

Site C Summit Working Group Reports

The following compilation records comments and action ideas from each of the working groups which met on the second day of the summit. Since Summit working groups were 1.5- 2 hours in length, many ideas were brainstormed without enough time to implement action plans yet. It is our hope that the productive discussions will build and generate further momentum for Peace solidarity throughout the province. The first 4 groups were repeated a second time; the two sessions are amalgamated in the reports.

Working Group #1 – Solidarity with First Nations' Legal Actions

What are the key legal challenges related to Site C? The history, what's happening now, the longer-term view? The downstream impact of the dam. Significance of the Blueberry First Nation case regarding cumulative impact. How can we best support legal challenges? How can we influence the way governments respond to FN legal challenges?

Resource People

- Rob Botterell, Lawyer, Peace Valley Landowner Association
- Caleb Behn, Eh-Cho Dene and Dunne-Za, lawyer, activist and star of the documentary *Fractured Land*.

Facilitators: Galen Armstrong: Campaigner Sierra Club BC and Maxine Matilpi: Kwakiutl/Ma'amtigila. Project lead for Revitalizing Indigenous Law for Land, Air and Water, West Coast Environmental Law; Ayendri Riddell: Sri Lankan born community activist, educator and facilitator committed to challenging roots causes of inequality and environmental crisis. Amnesty International Regional Activism Coordinator.

Working Group Outcomes

Goals

- Support West Moberly & Prophet River FNs cases
- Pressure provincial and federal governments to avoid extreme legal arguments
- Raise donations

Legal Case framework

- We are all Treaty People
- Focus on UNDRIP & treaties as overarching focus
 - Stop putting out fires
- Treaty interpretation: court vs. people?
- Work to establish Legal rights of rivers – same as a person has
 - NZ, elsewhere
- Supporting Rights practice/ expression (fish camps, hunting) increases legal arguments power

Injunction case

- Court watch
- Pack the courthouse! + live-tweeting (be careful – Ayendri)

- Injunction case – outside office
- PLEASE EMAIL GROUP COURT DATES
- Expand parallel advocacy strategies (coordinate with legal teams)
 - (ads/ billboards)
 - (arts/ performances/ concerts)

Fundraising

- Graphics go viral – Fundraiser
- Challenge video
- Yellow Stakes Campaign
- Yellow stakes at MLA offices, home, government offices, schools, youth
- Coffeehouse for earth day (fundraiser)
- Fundraising! Traditional foods for/from your culture. Sell tix.
- My donation going to NDP is now going to legal challenges
 - Phone tree > send your receipt
- Memes to contribute to fundraisers (yellow stakes etc.)
- Art-builds (water is life)
 - Earth day, earth hour, light out for site c, don't buy gas Thursday, ice bucket challenge
- Music fundraisers

Possible Actions and Outreach

- Province wide day of action (Luke Wallace)
- Kickstart an action – viral movement
- Climate and renewable summit
- Preserve livestream so we can have potlucks, share, talk
- Gabriola: Organizing small community group – fundraising, bingo, Christmas site c bingo
- Caravan to Peace River – car share – the bus – paddle for the peace
- Coffee house on Quadra Island March 24th
- Involve kids in arts (satirical songs, installations, hunger strikes) – wear your buttons!
- Direct action; Occupy the land
- Direct Actions: what is the goal?
- Community outreach/ education
 - Go to the non-white communities
 - Mosques, temples, ashrams, meet community leaders
- Raise awareness: art, photo, video
- Combat false news
- Door to door – appeal to love nature
- Townhall meeting
- Educate neighbours via yellow stakes
- Summit website provides MLA list
- Create small-scale renewables – financed – community meetings
- Resist! Challenge structures
- Captured govt – what are legal options. Citizen intervention?

- Withhold taxes?
- Change legislation: labour laws protect women
- Get lawyers to create “ask” list

Direct Pressure on NDP

- Push on due diligence – force NDP to prove they’ve done it
- Keep digging for underlying reasons for decision within government
- “We have been advised” –David Eby: Who? When? What?
- Critics for portfolios (7 each) – help with info/ briefings
- See MLA – find political remedy
- Get NDP MLAs opposed to Site C to leave caucus
- Provide new info – allows face-saving: geotechnical, bad financial advice, new electrical cost info
- Support Greens in estimates post-budget. Get ministers on the record – Hansard- no time limits

Messaging and Media

- Energy is not needed now, perhaps ever, need for strong messaging/ comms, including on renewables
- How much energy do we really need, and for what? Need to get clear, including on transport and infrastructure
- Not “just about northeast”
- UNDRIP
- Reconciliation reaching a new audience – reconciliACTION
- Presentations linking abuses of Site C etc. to res. Schools
- “fair and just transition”
- Message: link to reconciliation
- Speak to the heart, short and precise; retain values
- Messaging: “Peace River” & “Dam”
- Health connections – site c – LGN – fracking = health
 - Studies in last 5 years
- Alternative media
- Flood the digital media
- Billboards, advertising, paid or donated
- Films and podcasts – arts
- Image + text = posters, easily downloadable logos (phil Vernon’ Advertising spots (highlighting “this is our standing rock”))
- Support Focus Magazine

What’s Next?

- Many issues: KM/ TMX
- Recall Carole James?
- Big push on PR: change the system
 - Fair Vote, Terry DB
 - Help out!
- NDP Provincial council – budget, PR
 - Contact delegates and educate!

- Still regurgitating – Tyee/ Desmog stories
- Fed NDP – split w. BC NDP?
- New party in BC?
- How to reach younger people?
- Narrative that big dams are clean energy – need to challenge this

Issues/ Questions:

- Courts = systematically racist: how to change?
- Union law, securities law: other areas of law/ legal action that may be useful?
- Symbolic cases vs tactical cases (injunction)
- Operate as if injunction is won...
- Indigenous law
- International law (soft law i.e. UNESCO)
- How to support current cases: \$\$\$ for legal team, experts, advocacy
- Allies on the “Inside” (quiet alliances)
- “Rights” based discourse at law can be problematic. “Responsibility” based legislation?

Working Group #2 -- Decolonizing: Respecting the Rights of Indigenous People

The NDP government’s Site C decision flies in the face of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the calls to action of the TRC, existing treaties, the Tsilhqot’in decision and indigenous law. How do we work to make such violations unacceptable? How can we ensure that decision-making and processes for projects like Site C respect the full range of rights of indigenous peoples? What can we do to ensure the BC government recognizes the impact of mega projects on First Nations women and takes measure to address gender exploitation and violence in relation to Site C. What about water governance and other upstream and downstream impacts?

Resource People:

- Craig Benjamin: Amnesty International campaigner for the Human Rights of First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples in Canada.
- Connie Greyeyes-Dick, Treaty 8 First Nations, Bigstone Cree Nation. She works tirelessly to bring attention to the systemic violence and recurring loss of Indigenous women in the Peace region. She played a crucial role in Amnesty International's 2016 report "Out of Sight, Out of Mind": Gender, Indigenous Rights and Energy Development in Northeast BC.

Also, as resource people, but as participants:

- Brenda Dragon, Fort Smith FN: Slave River Coalition.

Working Group Outcomes:

Themes

- connection between resource extraction and increased violence against Indigenous women and children

- connections between resource extraction and missing and murdered Indigenous women
- difficulty organizing in a small community where jobs are seen at stake
- ongoing racism at personal, community and institutional levels
- lack of implementation and understanding of UNDRIP- has legal weight
- having the human element – the social impact in assessing these projects – need to bring this to the forefront

Possible Actions

- Push on Bill 262 (Bill C-262, An Act to ensure that the laws of Canada are in harmony with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)) which has just passed second reading on Feb 7. It still goes to committee for amendments and the Senate and there is lots of opposition, so it needs to be followed up with every MP in the province.
- When writing ministers make a concrete request – they ignore emails, letters are better- ask for a when and how so they have to answer (from a former MLA in our group)
- Specific requests to MPs on Site C – letters
- Men have to stand with women against violence against Indigenous women (and all women).
- Communicate about Site C and UNDRIP with every relationship we have, including professional associations, family, every organization you are part of- stress Calls to Action of the TRC as an opening.
- Build alliances through education, schools and churches
- Use ILO convention #69 as used effectively in some places in Latin America before a project is started
- Call people on racist comments in person and on-line
- Challenge the apathy and acceptance of violations of Indigenous rights
- Eliminate phrases like “you people”
- Make contact – personal relationships are important
- Proceed with kindness – listen first (remember the audience)
- Attend First Nations events such as Pow Wows which are open and Potlatches (if you're invited)
- Settlers need to decolonize themselves
- Back off
- Personal stories
- Stand up – use your voice as allies
- Realize that UNDRIP already has legal weight – use that to motivate recognition of pre-existing inherent indigenous authority that has never gone away.
- Raise the calls to action in professional associations
- Repeal the Indian Act
- End the myth of “Building the Province”
- Research the Blueberry Legal case
- Youth camps on the land to build confidence – especially for young women
- Truth and Reconciliation exercises for settlers e.g. Kairos blanket exercise.
- Understand treaty rights and responsibilities.
- HEU family circle exercise
- Connect with MeToo Movement (go to CBC Indigenous)
- Inclusive women led actions
- We're all responsible for Treaty 8 - Can we launch a Settler law suit re: Treaty 8 violations in

solidarity with indigenous cases/UNDRIP

Resource List for Further Education

- ✓ Between Law and Action: Indigenous Law, UNDRIP, and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent:
- ✓ wcel.org
- ✓ Women's Declaration Against Man Camps:
- ✓ <https://www.secwepemculecw.org/no-man-camps>
- ✓ Nakazi/Firelight Group. Indigenous Communities and industrial camps:
- ✓ http://www.thefirelightgroup.com/thoushallnotpass/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Firelight-work-camps-Feb-8-2017_FINAL.pdf
- ✓ Community-Based Human Rights Impact Assessment Initiative:
- ✓ <https://policy-practice.oxfamamerica.org/work/private-sector-engagement/community-based-human-rights-impact-assessment-initiative/>
- ✓ Quebec Native Women's Association: Report on Plan Nord
- ✓ <http://www.faq-qnw.org/en/>
- ✓ UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People:
- ✓ http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf
- ✓ Coalition for Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples:
- ✓ <http://www.chrip.ca/>
- ✓ Seven Fallen Feathers: Racism, death and hard truths in a northern city by Tanya Talaga:
- ✓ <https://houseofanansi.com/products/seven-fallen-feathers>
- ✓ Cindy Blackstock and FNFCs:
 - <https://fncaringsociety.com/i-am-witness>
- ✓ Other links:
 - www.twintotemples.com
 - www.turtleislandwater.com

Working Group #3 -- What the hell just happened? Accountability and Democracy

What have we learned about the role of visible and hidden political, corporate and institutional forces which led to the Site C dam decision? NDP fear of business, rating agencies and mainstream media? Impact of Liberal appointed senior bureaucrats? Lobbyists? Party political calculations – both NDP and Greens? If this isn't the kind of decision-making process and government decisions that we want, how do we organize for greater democracy and transparency? What kind of action inside and outside of the political parties can keep Site C, Indigenous rights, and other justice issues front and centre.

Resource people:

- Bob Chamberlain, Vice-president BC Union of Indian Chiefs (morning only):
- Harold Steeves (afternoon only): a one-term NDP MLA and a founder of the Agricultural Land Reserve.

- Louise Gilfoy: Mother, professional, someone who speaks loudly when something is unjust. Former BCNDP activist, prior to The Site C announcement.
- Adrienne Peacock: Involved with Site C since 1981; hired by Peace Valley Environmental Association to coordinate experts for participation in first BCUC hearings.
- George Smith: Former national conservation director for CPAWA, 10 years strategic support to Stop Site C campaign. Also a long time NDP activist.

These notes reflect only some of the thoughts and suggestions brought forward by both resource people and the participants. It includes the brainstorm of possibilities from morning and afternoon sessions as well as ideas posted on flip charts after the sessions.

However, the central ideas can be summarized as:

- Support proportional representation every way you can
- Holding elected people's feet to the fire, working within and without
- Ally with First Nations
- Build a broader movement, an intergenerational movement, that looks at system change

The more complete list follows, in no particular order. Apologies to those whose thoughtfulness has been reduced to a few words or misrepresented. There was open discussion, but no time to move towards agreement on any particular point.

1. Challenge the Site C decision – “Power BC without Site C”

- Continue to hold ministers accountable for the Site C decision
- Plant yellow stakes outside MLA offices
- Challenges/change has to come in upcoming legislative sessions
- Auditor Catherine Bellringer is narrowing the focus of her look at Site C in coming weeks. Have input into this. Implications for Treaty 8 case and infringement of rights?
- Consider point of no return has not been reached. Mothball the project.
- If you have ripped up your NDP membership, consider what actions the government would need to take to bring you back and communicate that to government
- Challenge Site C decision at upcoming NDP council meeting in New Westminster
- Clarify scope and reach of auditor-general (Catherine Bellringer) investigation of Site C; direction still being decided on. Encourage NDP MLA's to express disagreement and go independent
- Challenge Site C decision as 'clean and green' for example, methane release, decreased food security, impact on caribou and other animals
- Speak out (within and outside) the Green Party re: Weaver giving NDP a green light to go ahead with Site C
- Seek new information:
 - Overturning decision would require major new information

Research and investigate geotechnical issues

- Support and publicize the 'Power BC' program, alternatives to Site C
- Option to mothball the dam (as opposed to cancelling or building)
- Publicize facts about the low level costs of Site C restoration (\$700/hectare)
- Continue to push on the jobs issue: data on jobs in renewable and sustainable jobs
- Get involved with Kelowna West byelection
- Recall was mentioned several times. A note added on flipchart: Please be careful with recall as this was a very close decision for Site C. Consider that some of the people you want to get rid of voted and spoke against Site C in cabinet.
- Change your vote
- Be inspired by other wins: Ontario NDP with Stephen Lewis minority government stopped Spadina Expressway in Toronto
- Have a music fund-raiser

Possible ways forward include exploring geo-technical problems and supporting First Nations in court.

2. Transform political parties/ work from within and without

- Revise Clean Energy Act that restricts Burrard Thermal and Columbia River Treaty
- Remember history – ie takeover of NDP by 'brown' unions/ IWA – and work for change within political parties (Green and NDP) if that calls you
- Identify and expose non-elected core influencers and lobbyists (including former NDP MLAs) related to Site C and in general. Publicize who they lobby for. Eliminate funding for lobbyists
- Consider saying 'plutocrats' rather than 'bureaucrats'
- Challenge limitations on democracy (too much decision making power to staffers and influencers)
- Encourage whistleblowers and fight to improve whistleblower protection
- Follow the money
- Build a new political movement/ party (after pro rep passes)
- Work for proportional representation (this took up considerable time in the afternoon session); don't bring down the government without pro rep.
- There was brief discussion about pros and cons of lowering voting age
- Challenge and transform the system: confront capitalism.
- Operate from love and compassion

3. Support FN legal actions

- Chief Robert Chamberlain spoke to strategies of delay, deny and distrust, need for consent to replace consultation and to the inherent right of First Nations as authority in territory, underlined aboriginal title.
- Educate about UNDRIP – free and informed prior consent
- Post on Site C website the dates and places of FN court appearance, so that people can show up.

- Fund-raising for FN legal challenges, including injunction
4. **Youth raised the issue of increasing youth involvement.** Suggestions from youth included:
 - going to where youth were with petitions and talking to them (effective for one youth)
 - Using language youth identify with (IE Save Site C rather than Stop Site C)
 - Dogwood Initiative and Force of Nature as examples of including youth.
 5. **Subscribe and contribute to independent journalism/ media**
 6. **Continue to build on the positive energy from the summit**
 7. **Be hopeful!**

A few other comments:

- NDP donations now going to FN legal challenges
- Moving over to the Green Party
- ‘Slugged my guts out for the Green Party, ” won’t vote Green again.
- Social democratic parties are not reliable, betrayed us, use us just to get elected
- Exposing lies essential to moving forward
- Combat false news; actions/art that support awareness
- Reach people going door to door, fundraisers, concerts, townhalls, etc.

Working Group #4 -- Right to Protest

Explore the rights of dissent. We will consider the range of viable protest actions available for defending the Peace: Local actions, province – wide actions, education, direct action, etc. This group may want to divide in the afternoon between those focusing on direct action and those wanting to consider other local and provincial activities that are not direct action.

Facilitators and Resource People: Rita Wong lives, works and strives for water justice on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil Waututh First Nations. AJ Klein, Organizer, Council of Canadians

Working Group Outcomes

The Right to Protest Workshop in the morning resulted in smaller working groups forming around the following topics: distributed actions (around the province), creative activism, messaging, exit strategy, youth engagement and possibly a legal support group (to be confirmed in terms of configuration). We discussed the importance of messaging, the need for a clear single story that is simple and strong (visual, with a character), as well as the need for an exit strategy for cabinet (“wise or nimble choice based on new information” vs. “flip flop”).

We clarified that although the right to protest is not explicitly protected in the constitution, it is an inherent right that is related to and helps to safeguard other rights such as freedom of speech, freedom of assembly. We also shared the following resources: “The Law of Protest” a booklet prepared for the Site C Summit by lawyer Leo McGrady, and the book, The Right to Dissent by Lawyers’ Rights Watch Canada.

More details:

Factors to consider:

- solidarity in action and decision-making
- security and personal risk levels
- protest = sometimes uncomfortable
- process of escalation
- diversity of tactics
- shared struggle
- legal prep (know how, planning, jail support)

Tactics we considered:

- amplify the court cases
- keep our end of the bargain, i.e. honour treaties, Indigenous solidarity
- fund-raising
- song
- disruption (could look like shutting down legislature, or shutting down something else, like MLA offices etc.)
- humour
- revive public consciousness that this is not a done deal
- viral video
- emphasize cost of Hydro bill
- consistent strategic message
- one strong narrative
- diversify demographic involved actively
- have something permanent that doesn’t disappear (website)
- accessible, tweetable
- fun things, symbolic
- comparable dammed spaces that are accessible locally
- media support for grassroots actions
- skills re tech savvy and surveillance
- debunk mythical point of no return, hammer on fiscal incompetence

In the afternoon, we drafted a list of **best practices for actions:**

- leave enough time to organize well (minimum of 3 months for larger actions)
- decision making structure
- try to establish fundamental values early on
- define roles, honour them, adjust as needed
- have dedicated media people
- art builds - events of their own

- strange bedfellows
- accessible meeting times/spaces
- tangible messaging
- literature/handouts at events

And then applied this to a hypothetical centralized mass action at the legislature which would need a core decision making group (goals, date, format), supported by people dedicated to the following: messaging/media, funds/accessibility, Indigenous solidarity, outreach to organizations, promotion, logistics (miss, marshals etc.), transport.

Working Group # 5 -- Messaging and Media Experience. Lessons for the Future.

The mainstream media has been extraordinarily weak in holding the BC government and Hydro accountable in relation to Site C. The polling after the decision shows that we were not able to win a majority to oppose Site C, although opposition is significant. What worked in our messaging, our narrative? How important was new/alternative media? What did we learn from social media strategies. What media strategies can we take into the future that continue to defend the Peace, convince voters of the grave mistake that the NDP has made and strengthen democracy?

Resource People:

- Emma Gilchrist, Desmog BC editor/journalist
- Sarah Cox, author of forthcoming book on Site C, journalist

Facilitator: Alan Dolan

Working Group Outcomes

Exercise (introductory go-round)

What would you say to media about the Site C decision if you had 10 seconds:

- We are destroying an irreplaceable resource forever for no reason
- What experts did NDP use?
- What does a treaty mean?
- Investment decisions are facile
- It could still be cancelled
- Must respect indigenous rights
- Site C decision is not sustainable — democracy, indigenous rights, environmental rights, etc.
- Decision is manufactured consent
- Makes a mockery of reconciliation and indigenous rights
- Completely unjust
- Embarrassing what Canada is doing
- He lied — it's not OK
- Not a fact-based decision

- Cancel dam to save values
- No scientific, economic or moral justification
- Momentous opportunity to change our pattern to one of living, local communities and living, local economies
- Dam(n) builders: please stop
- Cumulative impacts
- United Nations condemned process
- No justification
- Destruction of food security
- Alternatives and their costs
- Insane
- Part of war machine
- Cultural genocide — personalization of Treaty 8 people
- Opportunity costs of supporting society and indigenous people
- Treaty 8 alone is enough; I resent it' it's immoral
- Bridge to nowhere; don't need the energy; costs too much; destroys agricultural land; denies indigenous rights
- Choose people over politics
- It's colonialism

Key Themes

1. Deliver clear and targeted messages

- Know your audience
 - Millennials are now of voting age — what are primary issues for millennials
 - What are main issues for different audiences
 - Children and youth
- Getting rid of the conventional, corporate media “ear worms”
- Many of the messages (stories, photos, maps) reported came directly from BC Hydro
- Stream the message
- Bulleted points on each issue
- Need for key, simple messages
 - Site C will saddle future generations with debt
 - Your Hydro bills are going to go up
 - Say “Site C Dam” not “Site C” (some people don't even know what it is)
 - Often useful to stick to one message and repeat it

2. Embrace independent media

- Holy alliance between independent media and activists
- E.g., The Tyee, Desmog, National Observer,
- Watchdogs
- Work for the public interest
- Stories often picked up by corporate media — e.g., New York Times article on Site C and the wild west of BC came from Desmog (Emma G)
- Useful book: No News is Bad News – The media is us; New media is way of the future

- No is not enough – Naomi Klein
- Join and support them financially if you can

3. Organize and ramp-up social media

- Understanding role of Facebook
- Way to get out news daily
- Plan and schedule approach
- Social media amplifiers
- New algorithms on Facebook making it challenging for media

4. Learn how to work with changing corporate media

- Very different media environment
 - Concentrated
 - No beat reporters
 - No time to work on articles, investigative work
 - Likely no print media by 2025
 - Don't call them mainstream; call them corporate
- Communications 101
 - Finding allied reporters
 - Recognizing constraints — deadlines, no beat reporters, lack of time, short staffed
 - Media relations – contact media directly
 - Giving them what they want/need – format, facts, potential interviews
 - Utilize existing facts (e.g., BCUC report)
 - Importance of visual images (photos)
 - Monitor media to know what they are saying
- Letters to the editor
- Opinion pieces
- Epoch Times — very hungry for stories (Asian audience)
- Spin versus facts

Working Group #6 -- A New Vision for BC Hydro

Among Site C opponents there is anger and frustration about the direction of BC Hydro and its lack of transparency. The BC government announced that a complete review of BC Hydro would be undertaken after the Site C decision was made. That raises questions: Where does BC Hydro go from here? What's the vision for a crown-owned electric utility in a time of rapid change within the electricity industry? BC Hydro needs to better serve the public interest and that of Indigenous communities. How does it get there? What about transparency and accountability?

Resource People

- Gwen Johansson. Longtime resident of Hudson's Hope. Past member BC Hydro Board.

Facilitator: Johanna Scholton: Create U - Coaching and Facilitation Services; decolonized settler ally and concerned grandmother

Working Group Outcomes

Three Broad Themes Emerged:

1. Transformation of BC Hydro. This included:

- Establish a BC Energy Authority with a broader mandate, such as establishing a BC Energy Authority with a new name such “Energy BC”
- A different Governance Model that includes:
 - A Required Terms of Reference Review
 - An elected board with diverse representation that includes community; Indigenous peoples and women.

2. Promote Alternative Green Technology Sustainability

- Promote the efficient use of technology and offer sustainable energy incentives such as subsidizing home owners to purchase solar panels
- Build on the best practices (local and global) such as Lulu Island, T’Sou-ke First Nation

3. Policy and Law Reform

- Repeal the Clean Energy Act
- Policy to be established on Core Values that include:
 - Democracy, Fairness & Equity
 - Leverages research and innovation
 - Provides education on reduction and efficient use of energy consumption
 - Is multi-sectored; i.e. down stream
 - Practices of strong rigor and due diligence
 - Grounding in the Principles of Reconciliation, the United Nations Declaration of Indigenous Peoples; and effective environmental Climate change practices

Other Issues and Themes that Emerged

- Decentralize Energy Production and community-based energy
- Have Government conduct an inventory of current BC Hydro Assets and request a Forensic Audit
- Investigate the identified geotech issues on the banks of Site C (some felt that was enough to cancel the building of the dam if the truth came out)
- Integrate storage with local generation
- One participant offered to design a bumper sticker and would provide seed money to produce the bumper sticker, that then can be sold as a fundraiser!” (Contact person Alleson Kase; alleson_k@yahoo.ca ; 250-995-2324 ; 778-995-2324 :

BC Energy
More than Hydro!

Working Group #7 – Eco-Spiritual Leadership

General principles

- Social and life-habitat sustainability are inherently connected. Both are essential
- Holding the big picture and engaged in concrete action are both essential
- Looking to the future and creating present conditions wherein the government can reverse its decision re: The Site C Dam, are both important now.
- Reigniting passion for the planet will integrate place-based spirituality, Indigenous wisdom, spiritual resilience and intergenerational empowerment.

Proposed Actions

1. **Change the Story.** Re-frame the big picture. Moral, ethical and spiritual foundations can be restored to the heart of the public conversation. Sustainability is care for ecosystems and bioregional health. Fundamental to the survivability of complex life on the planet, including humans.
 - We are all one, interconnected
 - The ‘golden rule’ – treating Earth and one another as we wish to be treated
 - We stand together with Indigenous peoples, respecting their inherent rights and authorities, and honouring traditional ecological knowledge
 - We care for the children, honouring intergenerational justice for seven generations
 - We seek to speak truth without doing harm
 - We support wisdom, courage and resilience with presence-based practices of awareness
2. **Implement concrete actions to express the above commitments:**
 - March against the ‘man camps’
 - Share information and resources through salons on “Site C 101”
 - Lock arms around the Legislature
 - Reignite passion for the planet through session that enable us to ‘wake up’, lament, feel our rage, re-experience ecstasy, transformation and ‘sending out’.
 - Chant our continuing hope.
3. **Link the Site C Dam, Kinder Morgan, open net fish farm struggles to focus a public sustainability “movement”:**
 - Expand mechanisms for inter-organizational collaboration
 - Work closely with supportive interspiritual leaders, Indigenous elders and youth, academic scientists and other teachers, artists, musicians and cultural influencers and media
 - Build intercultural and intergenerational bridges and networks
 - Focus on bioregions and cross boundary collaboration.