



Summit on Climate Change and the Economy; in a Time of Reconciliation

Location: Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
Dates: November/December 2019

Hosts: Bimaadzwin and,
To Be Confirmed: *It is initially anticipated to hold this summit in Sault Ste. Marie Ontario, subject to establishing partners who are prepared to assist and pending the establishment of the Anishinabek and the Sault as hosts. Potential partners include: NORDIK Institute/Algoma University, City of Sault Ste. Marie, Batchewana First Nation, Garden River First Nation, Missanabie Cree First Nation, Métis Nation.*



Concept: Northern, Indigenous and rural communities are today faced with a tremendous challenge – the reality that the over-use and abuse of the world’s abundant resources can no longer be sustained, and the social and economic fabric of our current lifestyle has a limited lifespan. We no longer have the luxury of choosing between Jobs and the Economy – we must address both in a sustainable manner.

While the challenge is great, we are also living at an opportune time – a time when Indigenous peoples and western experts are beginning to learn from each other, developing capacity to solve some of the most urgent problems confronting us. The Summit on Climate Change and the Economy is intended to bring together solutions-driven advocates on the ground and in our communities who are prepared to meet the challenge of climate change head-on, with tact and commitment, to listen, to learn, to network, and to develop strategies for action.



This summit will include community leaders, action-oriented community citizens, experts, students, business leaders and policy makers and decision-makers from various jurisdictions. Participants in the Summit will benefit from the sharing of both technical and traditional knowledge keepers on the potential for economic development that respects the need to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and our carbon footprint, while embracing the opportunities for greening economic development initiatives. Small group discussions and strategy sessions will engage participants in strategic solution development drawn from their community and on the ground experience.

Why Here? Why Now?

Sault Ste. Marie, with its new emphasis on creating a resilient community, and its commitment to becoming a leader in the North in green energy and a knowledge-based economy, together with its historical site as a gathering place, is ideally suited to a gathering that emphasizes the strengths of both Indigenous and western knowledges. Bimaadzwin's CEO, Isadore Day and NORDIK Institute's Research Associate Dr. Gayle Broad are both long-time advocates for community decision-making and planning; and have teamed up to create the space for this important discussion that is vital for the future collaboration of Indigenous and settler peoples in the co-development of Northern, Indigenous and rural regions.

Climate Change and the Economy – Toward Solutions

Our overarching goal for this important gathering is to create a sound platform for cultivating a response to sustainability challenges in the community-based setting; from indigenous and settler leaders, elders and youth, educators, industry, policy makers and overall, those in the public and private sector who have a vested interest in climate *change* and the economy. Ideas and mandates will surface in this summit with the help of skilled facilitators, sharing sessions and policy planning experts.

The work at this summit will be reflected in a report that reviews current information and documented research on climate change and the economy, in northern Ontario, nationally and around the planet, as well as the insights generated by participants at the gathering.

The report will be guided by a steering committee made up of the organizers, indigenous knowledge keepers, relevant academics and policy experts who hold mandates to address the issue of climate change, economies and sustainable development.

Our team will ensure that this effort creates an agenda and plan for increased action and dialogue on this crucial topic.

For Further information contact us at Contact@Bimaadzwin.ca or call 705-849-8796