

INDIGENOUS CLIMATE ACTION

**SUPPORTING A MOVEMENT OF THRIVING AND
STRONG INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES CREATING
CLIMATE SOLUTIONS**



Photo Credit: Jessica Bolduc

Indigenous Climate Action (ICA) is a diverse and growing network of active and engaged Indigenous knowledge keepers, water protectors and land defenders. We inspire action by centering Indigenous nationhood, sovereignty, and self-determination and resourcing Indigenous-led solutions for climate justice.

WHY UPHOLD INDIGENOUS RIGHTS & KNOWLEDGE?

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- Indigenous people represent 5% of the global population (est. 400 mil ppl) holding internationally recognized rights (UNDRIP).
 - Over 80% of the world's biodiversity is within our lands and territories.
 - We are the original inhabitants in over 90 countries around the world, representing over 5,000 languages and distinct cultures. Over 200 in North America alone.
 - Our knowledges, languages and cultures are interwoven with the natural world and reflect biocultural diversity, and sustainable values.
 - Indigenous ways of knowing embody generative economies and lifeways that are sustainable and provide a roadmap for a better future for all.



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WHAT ARE INDIGENOUS RIGHTS?



While Indigenous peoples have the same human rights as everyone, we were not included in the development of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UNHR, 1946) because in many regions our personhood wasn't recognized yet.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP, 2007) was created to address our unique individual and collective rights, as well as our rights to culture, identity, language, employment, health, education, protection of traditional lands, and our decision-making processes. UNDRIP provides a minimum standard for upholding our unique rights.

Our unique rights and strategies offer alternative lifeways and solutions that challenge current systems and structures that have contributed to the degradation of the planet.

"Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity." - UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Article 2



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WHAT IS CLIMATE JUSTICE?

Climate Justice relates the effects of climate change to concepts of environmental justice and social justice by examining issues such as discrimination, human rights, collective rights, and the historical responsibilities for climate change.

Indigenous peoples have been the most impacted by colonization and the drivers of climate change - like massive fossil fuel extraction. For generations, we have been at the forefront of resistance as our people fought to maintain cultures and lifestyles that model low carbon, sustainable ways of being.

Climate justice is making right on these wrongs for people, the planet, and all our relations.



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CENTERING INDIGENOUS RIGHTS WITHIN CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Indigenous peoples are diverse and our knowledge systems and ways of life reflect and respect the biodiversity of this planet. We are caretakers of Mother Earth. Our cultures, rights, and lifeways are critical for developing pathways to climate stability.

Recognizing that we are our own experts, ICA provides tools and opportunities created by, with, and for our communities to inform and inspire climate leaders to build land-based solutions centered around our inherent rights and rich cultures.

Valuing Indigenous peoples' rights and knowledge systems is critical to developing solutions to the climate crisis and achieving climate justice for all of us who call planet earth home.



WHAT WE DO

ICA has four main pathways:

- **Gatherings** - Bringing people together to grow a land-based climate movement, build relationships and focus on supporting effective climate solutions.
- **Amplify Voices** - Centering Indigenous peoples, rights and knowledge in the climate discourse.
- **Producing resources and trainings** - Uplifting our expertise and knowledge as drivers of solutions to climate change.
- **Support Indigenous sovereignty** and uphold our inherent right and authority to make decisions about our nations' well-being.

Our work inspires, connects and supports Indigenous communities. Reinforcing our place as leaders in climate change discourse and driving the solutions for today and tomorrow.

CURRENT INITIATIVES



Indigenous Climate Change Toolkit

Resources co-created with community to learn, share, and discuss climate knowledge and leadership with an Indigenous worldview.

Train the Trainer Program

Training for community leaders based on the toolkit to skill-up local leaders and support the conditions for community-led action.

Indigenous-led Climate Change Media

Community and place-based podcasts, mini-docs, and webinars, that explores the intersection of climate justice and indigenous rights for and by Indigenous peoples.

Indigenous Just Transition & Energy Sovereignty

Working with Sacred Earth Solar to support front-line land defenders to install and own small-scale renewable energy projects.

Indigenous Youth Programs

Mentoring and training emerging Indigenous climate leaders and ensuring youth voices are recognized and valued.

Special Events

Hosting, partnering and participating in local, national, and international events to build strategic relationships, foster bottom-up capacity, and promote Indigenous values within strategies for climate solutions.



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Our heartwork is in the success and health of Indigenous communities and uplifting the knowledge we hold for climate justice

5 ways to support Indigenous-led climate action and solutions:

- Follow ICA & share our work | Volunteer with the network
- Support Indigenous communities taking climate action
- Donate | Become a Monthly Sustainer



To learn more about Indigenous Climate Action, connect with us at:

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Unceded territories of the Algonquin, Haudenosaunee,
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