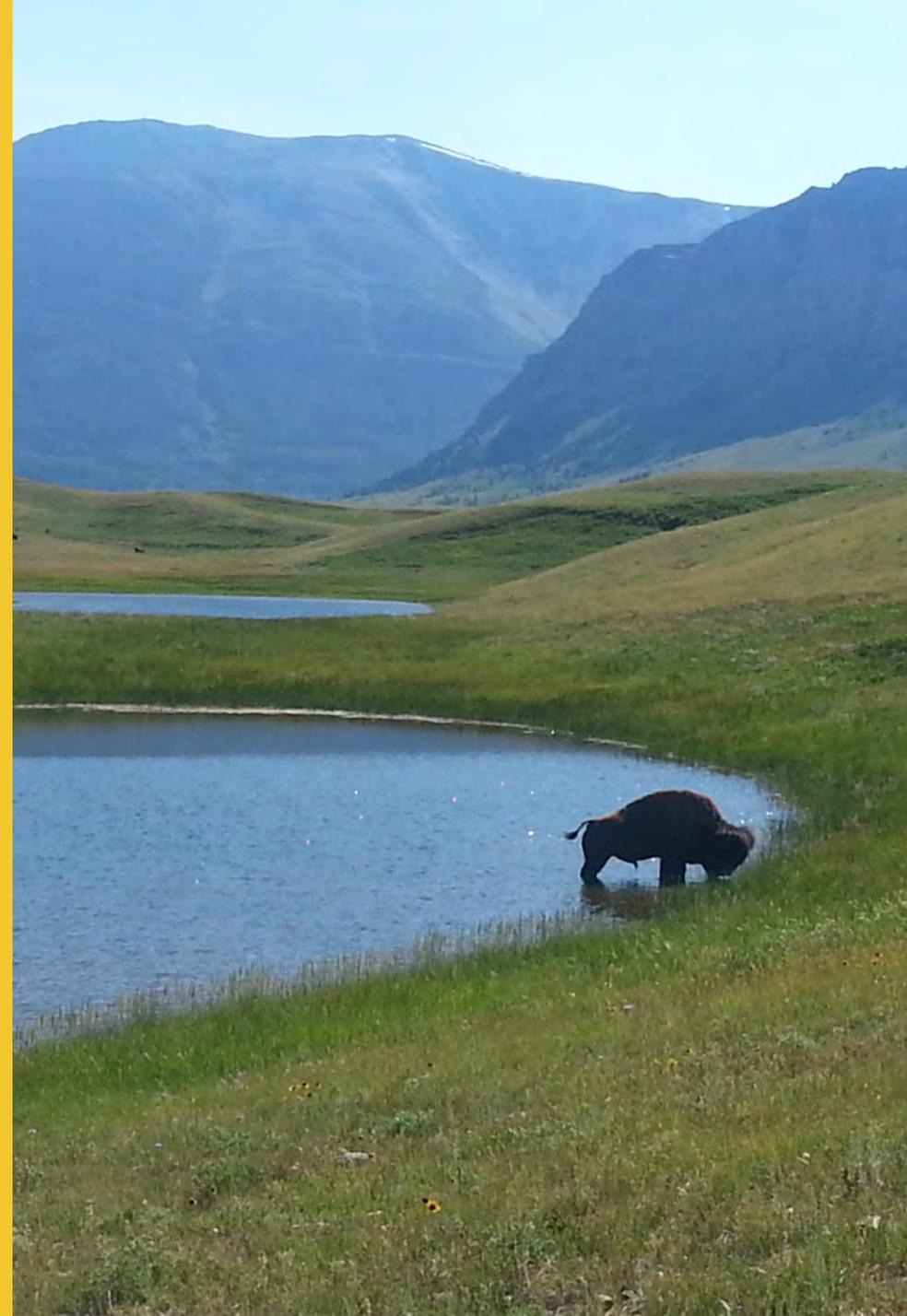


BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION IN THE KAINAI FIRST NATION

Presenter: Diandra Bruised Head
Climate Change Coordinator
Blood Tribe Land Management



Outline

- Introduction to Kainai and Climate Project
- The Rockies Institute
- Phase One
- Climate Change Coordinator
- Education Engagement Sessions
- Adaptation Plan
- Art of Climate Change
- Traditional Plants
- IPCC
- ICCON PV Pilot Project
- What's Next



Population: Over
12,000 registered
members

Size: Just under 500 ha

Four recognized
Communities: Standoff,
Levern, Moses Lake,
and Old Agency

Largest Reserve in
Canada

Blackfoot Confederacy;
others include Siksika
(Canada), Piikani
(Canada), and Amskapi
Piikani (US-Montana).

Treaty 7 of 1877

Major industries:
Agriculture, Oil&Gas,
Cattle Ranching.

Kainai Reserve

Kainai and Climate Change



The effects of climate change are already apparent in the Kainai First Nation and in Southern Alberta



Observable changes in temperature, precipitation, and extreme weather events.



Average annual temperature since early 1900's has increased by about +0.9°C (SE Alberta) to +2.8°C (NW Alberta), with winter months seeing greater warming than summer months.



Many community members live below the poverty line.



Kainai has similar struggles to many other First Nation communities in Canada.



Kainai also has a proud heritage and rich history, we still celebrate many traditional ceremonies.



Learning how to meld Indigenous Knowledge with western science to build climate change adaptation and capacity.



Beginnings

- Blood Tribe Land Management and Kainai Ecosystem Protection Association (KEPA), Blood Tribe Chief and Council, and in partnership with The Rockies Institute
- Dialogue between knowledge holders of all backgrounds is necessary to build bridges between differing perspectives and create effective solutions for adapting to climate change

About our Partner - The Rockies Institute

- *Charitable organization with multi-disciplinary team of climate experts*
- *Creates community relevant courses and workshops*
- *Helps communities to develop plans to address climate challenges*
- *Designs creative opportunities to inspire learning, dialogue and action*
- *Led the application process to receive funding from the Alberta Climate Change Office, which began with a modest amount of funding from the Alberta EcoTrust, The Calgary US Consulate, and the Calgary Foundation.*



Phase 1: Capacity Building

- Project Goals:
 - *Build Capacity to address risks and plan for an uncertain future through a vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan*
 - *Increase overall knowledge about climate change through education*
 - *Create in-Tribe Climate Change Coordinator position*
 - *Create climate related engagement opportunities for youth and elders through Knowledge Sharing Journeys such as Traditional Plant Use and The Art of Climate Change project.*
 - *Enable the Tribe to share its journey with others - ie. with others in Blackfoot Confederacy, with Nama Tribe in South Africa, and at local and global conferences.*

Support and advocate for building climate resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change impacts to Blood Tribe community, health, and ecological resources.

Utilizes variety of traditional and ecological skills to assist the Land Management department with the completion and on-going climate change program on the Blood Reserve.

Climate
Change
Coordinator

ELDERS',
COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT
SESSIONS



Education Engagement Sessions

- Provided handouts of presentation slides, notebooks, and pencils
- Different types of presentations offered: half-day presentation, and full-day workshop
 - *Workshops worked more in-depth with breaking group into smaller groups and discussing tribe vulnerabilities and strengths.*
- TRI led the presentations with some help from Blood Tribe Lands
- Many issues brought up around agriculture, oil & gas, and fire.
- Input gained from sessions put towards adaptation plan workshop.

Building Climate Resilience & Adaptation for the Kainai First Nation People

Blood Tribe Land Management and Kainai Ecosystem Protection Association (KEPA) in partnership with The Rockies Institute



Impacts are already being felt

- The consequences of a warming world are already occurring on natural and human systems on all continents and across the oceans. Kenow fire, Harvey, Irma, and Maria hurricanes are recent examples
- Continued emission of greenhouse gases will cause further warming and long-lasting changes in all components of the climate system, increasing the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems

Education Session Outline

1 Hour with Q & A

- Project Outline
- What is Climate Change?
- Common Climate Change Terminology
- Why we should take Climate Change Seriously
- The Kainai First Nation and Climate Change
- Opportunities to get Involved

Q & A

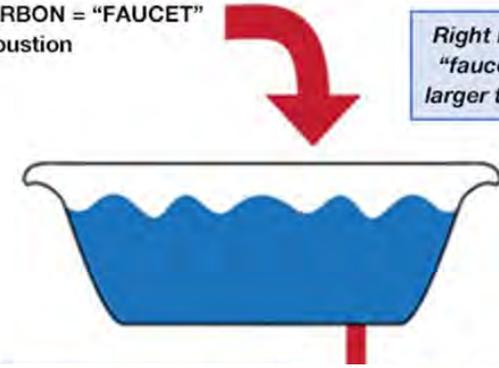
Green House Gas (GHG) refers to gases in the atmosphere that are causing climate change. These include: CO², Nitrous Oxide (fertilizer), Methane, and others in smaller amounts. CO² is the largest contributor to global warming and stays in the atmosphere a long time.

The Carbon 'Bathtub' and its Components

SOURCES OF CARBON = "FAUCET"

- Fossil fuel combustion
- Deforestation

Right now, size of "faucet" is much larger than "drain."



"The consequences of neglecting knowledge that was already here...we are seeing that today. Culture is a reflection of the ecology of the place."

~Narcisse Blood, Blood Tribe Elder

Climate Change Impacts Health & Safety



Vulnerability Assessment/Adaptation Plan Update



- Led by The Rockies Institute
- One-Day Workshop, June 2018
- Included identifying climate risks and vulnerabilities (vulnerability analysis).
 - *Intended to generate a list of the most important climate sensitive livelihoods, health, and social issues; and culturally-spiritually significant events, activities, and rituals.*
 - *Analysis will be used to better understand the degree to which climate change will impact these important aspects of the community.*
 - *As well, generate a list of priority climate phenomenon-community interactions for action planning.*
- Create a framework for Adaptation Planning that the Tribe can build on.
 - *Identify promising strategies and actions to better manage the priority climate change risks that have been identified by the vulnerability analysis.*
- Continued interviews for input through September, 2018



Art of Climate Change

- The Art of Climate Change is a project done in collaboration with the Kainai Nation and The Rockies Institute.
- Selected youth (16-21 years) will participate for a year, working with Blackfoot Artist Star Crop Eared Wolf to create a visual representation of their learning on climate change.
- The youth will be mentored by an Elder from the community on traditional knowledge and understanding of the changing climate.
- Monthly meetings will be held for learning on climate change, photographic skills, video skills and other interests the youth identify.
- The project will be documented and shared by social media and culminate in a community event/exhibition.
- Youth will receive a small stipend for participation as well as support for materials and equipment.

Traditional Plants

- Preserving and continuing to use traditional plant knowledge is essential to the health of Tribal members and to maintaining a key way of connecting to the land.
- Plant knowledge allows reading of the land to predict and monitor climate change effects.
- Preserve knowledge that could contribute to economic diversification
- Engage youth and community volunteers in a community-wide traditional plant seed initiative



Traditional Plants project components

- Participatory approach that involves co-designing the processes for data collection, training, and storage.
- Work closely with elders to identify traditional use plants.
- Skill building and engagement of young tribal members as Traditional Plant Use Apprentices
- Tribal owned database that is designed and implemented to be efficient yet user friendly
- On-going process for gathering of information for long after the initial project is complete which could include a process for Elders continuing to engage with and mentor youth, and on-going data storage in their database
- Baseline knowledge gathered will inform where traditional plants could be planted in context of climate change issues.

IPCC Cities Conference



- March 4, 2018
- Village of Hope: Transformative Change Infused by Indigenous Views
- The overall aim of the session is to create a welcoming space for Indigenous knowledge holders to share their stories and views with the scientific community on climate change challenges and solutions.
- There will be 3 Sharing Circle Panels.
 - *1. How we View the Climate Crises – Building Bridges between Knowledge Holders – a case example and the Blackfoot perspective*
 - *2. Global North and South Indigenous Knowledge Sharing – operationalizing the process, a case example from South African and Canada*
 - *3. Indigenous urban-rural relationships as a component of climate change resilience*

ICCON Participatory Video Pilot Project

Two reserves chosen for project in Alberta: Kainai and Samson First Nation

Train 4 youth from community in Climate Change, Video Making, and Interviewing

Create videos of interviewing other community members about climate change

Videos belong to the Tribe

Materials bought belong to reserve, even after pilot project finished

Videos to be used in future climate change awareness programs

Videos will also be posted on Climate Atlas
<https://climateatlas.ca/>

What's Next

Continue holding
climate change
workshops

Finalize Adaptation
Plan with
community and
leaders

Assist with
community Climate
Leadership
projects

Art of Climate
Change to finalize
projects by January
2019

Individual Elder
Interviews in
regards to climate
change

Traditional Plant
Project database -
on-going

Finalize ICCON
Video Project by
March 2019

Thank you for your time

- dbruisedhead@btlands.com
- Q&A



**Government
of Alberta** ■