

Take action for future generations! Today & every day.



Ward Churchill has written numerous books on indigenous history, environmental and land rights struggles, and other genocidal policies. Five of his more than 20 books have received human rights awards.



Jessica Koski's research and coursework at Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies focuses on understanding local mining issues in relation to broader frameworks of environmental law and policy, environmental justice and the indigenous rights movement.



Damien Lee founded his community's first citizen-driven environmental nonprofit organization to address the environmental racism affecting his community. Lee is completing the last year of his undergraduate degree in Indigenous Studies at Trent University.



Lee Sprague, the Sierra Club Michigan Clean Energy campaign manager, is a former elected tribal ogema and director of economic development for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and has worked with the UN and various Indigenous communities throughout the hemisphere.



Bettina Washington has been a tribal historic preservation officer for the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) for the past two years, and is a tribal member born and raised on Noepe (Martha's Vineyard).



Ben Yahola is a Muscogee language teacher, founder/co-director of Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative, a Sacred Sites Run national coordinator, founder of the Redstick Society, Field Arbor Theater for Indigenous Storytelling, and Earth Keepers Voices for Native America, and lectures on Ancient America, Indigenous worldviews and culture.

George "Chuckie" Green is assistant director for the Mashpee Wampanoag Natural Resources Department and a tribal historic preservation officer. Former tribal vice-chairman and council member, Green has also served on the Waquoit Bay Estuarine Research Reserve, the Mashpee Conservation Committee, and as the Cape Cod Conservation district supervisor.

Please fill out the evaluation forms and give us your feedback.
Miigwech/thanks!

For more information on the NMU Center for Native American Studies visit www.nmu.edu/nativeamericans

Miigwech/thanks to all the helping hands who made this summit possible:

The **presenters**, for sharing their talents and wisdom

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All NMU student and community volunteers

Bonanza Steakhouse

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NMU Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Committee for their generous sponsorships.

And chi miigwech (great thanks) to you, the participants!

3rd annual

Indigenous Earth Issues Summit

Taking ACTION for Mother Earth

Monday, April 5, 2010

Great Lakes Rooms

University Center

Northern Michigan University

Marquette, Michigan

Made possible by the NMU Center for Native American Studies,
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community,
and NMU Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Committee



8:30 - 9:00 am

Gathering In

9:00 am

Opening Remarks**Welcome Circle***Center for Native American Studies*

9:45 am - 10:30 am

Decolonizing by Creating Space: The Challenges and Successes of Establishing a Nonprofit Organization in a First Nation Community*Damien Lee (Fort William First Nation, Trent University)*

Established to provide community decolonization by addressing environmental racism affecting the Fort William First Nation traditional territory, the Anishinabek Gitchi Gami Environmental Programs (AGG) became a conduit of imperialism amongst the very people who were mobilized to decolonize themselves. This presentation, while outlining successes, also reports lessons learned about employing colonial legislation when developing community governance entities.

10:45 am - 11:30 am

Creating a Vision for Our Communities and Mother Earth*Jessica Koski (Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies)*

How do we heal from a legacy of colonization and discrimination? How do our local struggles fit within broader contexts and movements for environmental justice and indigenous rights? How can we utilize the opportunities available to us to become agents of change for our communities and Mother Earth?

11:45 am - 12:45 pm

Lunch*On your own*

1:00 pm - 1:45 pm

The National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106 Consultation) and the Cape Wind Project*Bettina Washington (Mashpee Wampanoag, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer)
Chuckie Green (Mashpee Wampanoag, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer)*

A review of the federal government's deficiencies in the 106 consultation process of the National Historic Preservation Act as it relates to the Mashpee Wampanoag protection of sacred sites on Cape Cod in the face of a proposed mega-windfarm.

2:00 pm - 2:45 pm

Sustainable Agriculture: Life, Food and Spirit*Ben Yahola (Alabama Quasartte Tribal Town Member of Oklahoma, Mvskoke Food Sovereignty)*

This workshop will inform participants about the history of the Muscogee Peoples' worldview and the ecological balance the current tribal leadership seeks, advised by traditional cultural leaders and reinvigorated by the tribal town food and security policies that sustained autonomous tribal groups before U.S. federal control was imposed prohibiting tribal laws.

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

Tribal Jurisdiction, Tribal Interests: Air and Water Quality*Lee Sprague (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Sierra Club)*

Michigan Tribes have government to government relationships with federal, state and local units of government. The workshop will focus on tribal opposition to new coal fired power plants and intergovernmental accords as well as the impacts on the environment of this industrial activity.

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Action Circle with Presenters*Facilitator: Aimée Cree Dunn*

Given the lessons on taking action we've learned so far today, what steps do we need to take to get to the futures we each envision?

5:15 pm - 6:45 pm

Dinner*On your own*

7:00 pm

Evening Keynote**Water is Life: Reflections on an Omnicidal Equation***Ward Churchill (Native scholar and activist, Rainbow Coalition Council of Elders, American Indian Movement - Colorado)*

The historical engagement of euroderivative settler societies in genocide against indigenous peoples worldwide is inextricably linked to a deeper hostility toward the natural world and is manifested in an unrelenting effort to destroy it. The inherent interaction between genocide and ecocide results in an "omnicidal" mentality generating a pathological compulsion to eradicate the basis for life itself. This will be examined through the lens of past and planned destruction of North America's water-based biospheres.

Book Signing*Ward Churchill*