4th annual
Indigenous Earth Issues Summit
Taking ACTION for Mother Earth

Friday, March 25, 2011
Whitman Hall Commons
Northern Michigan University
Marquette, Michigan

Sponsored by the NMU Center for Native American Studies with generous support from the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, NMU Multicultural Education and Resource Center, NMU Geography Department, NMU College of Arts and Sciences, and NMU English Department
8:30 - 9 am  **Registration and Gathering In**

9 am  **Opening Remarks**
*Dr. Michael Broadway (Dean of the NMU College of Arts and Sciences)*

9:15 - 10:30 am  **Ojibwa Environmental Values and Today’s Mining Threats** (Whitman Commons)
*Tony DePerry (Red Cliff Band of Ojibwe)*

*The land and people of the northern Great Lakes area face many industrial threats today, including open pit mining in the Penokees of northern Wisconsin. This presentation will discuss this threat and will also explore the lessons in ecology offered by traditional Ojibwe culture.*

**The Art of Birchbark-Biting and Issues with Birch Today** (Whitman 122)
*Lois Beardslee (Grand Traverse Band of Odawa)*

*The art of birchbark-biting is a traditional woman’s art in Ojibwe culture. Hear what a birchbark artist has to tell us about the health of birch trees in our region today.*

10:15 - 11:45 am  **Bow and Drill Traditional Ojibwe Firemaking** (Whitman Outdoor Firesite)
*Nick Hockings (Lac du Flambeau Band of Ojibwe)*

*Building a fire from scratch is not as easy as some may believe. This skill is an essential, however, and comes with many lessons of its own. This hands-on workshop will teach each participant how to make a fire using a bow and drill and will incorporate lessons from traditional storytelling as part of the instruction. Limited to 20 participants. Children are welcome if accompanied by an adult.*

10:30 - 11:45 am  **Translating Traditional Ecological Knowledge Into Action: How to Start a Sustainable Earth-Centered Revolution** (Whitman 122)
*Dr. Scott Herron (Ferris State University)*

*Dr. Herron will discuss how to model a successful earth-centered revolution based on Traditional Ecological Knowledge by highlighting the Native Wild Rice Coalition and examining the successes and potential roadblocks that may come when translating TEK into action.*

**Using Music to Protect Mother Earth** (Whitman Commons)
*Bobby Bullet St. Germaine (Lac du Flambeau Band of Ojibwe)*

*Participants are welcome to bring their own acoustic instruments

Lyric content and different musical sounds can affect the mind and the spirit and can effect change. In this workshop, participants will explore the dynamics of music and how it can contribute to environmental activism.*

11:45 am - 12:45 pm  **Lunch**

*NMU Marketplace*
1 - 2:30 pm
**Summit Keynote** (Whitman Commons)
*Linda Hogan* (Chickasaw)
A reading and talk on animals, humans, and the Earth

2:45 - 4:15 pm
**Bow and Drill Traditional Ojibwe Firemaking** (Whitman Outdoor Firesite)
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2:45 - 4:00 pm
**The Dynamics of Activist Organizing (Honoring Walter Bresette)** (Whitman Commons)
*Frank Anakwad Montano* (Red Cliff Band of Ojibwe), *Frank Koehn, Al Hunter* (Anishinaabe)

*This workshop will explore the dynamics of activist organizing such as the importance of developing a message, identifying goals, building coalitions, and working with local media. The workshop will review actions with Walt such as the train blockade, drilling for oil, garbage incineration, organizing the logistics of a Walk To Remember around Lake Superior, the walk to Madison, racism on the boat landings, and confronting the reality of toxic fish.*

**Wiisinidaa Anishinaabe Miidjim** (Whitman 122)
*Dr. Martin Reinhardt* (Sault Sainte Marie Band of Chippewa, Northern Michigan University)

*Miidjim (food) is a major aspect of the deep historical interconnectedness, or spiritual kinship, between Indigenous peoples and their traditional homelands. We will consider how we interact (or don’t) with the plants and animals our ancestors relied on in a pre-colonial context for their very survival. Dr. Reinhardt will present an outline of the Decolonizing Diet Project (DDP), and ask participants to share their experiences and ideas.*

4:15 - 5:30 pm
**Action Circle: A 7th Fire Transition Movement?** (Whitman Commons)
*Aimée Cree Dunn* (unaffiliated Metis, Northern Michigan University) with various Summit presenters

*Given the current mistreatment of Mother Earth, the possibility of a post-peak oil industrial collapse, and other related issues, how can we take the lessons learned from today’s presenters and apply them to our bioregion?*

5:15 - 6:45 pm
**Dinner**
*On your own (NMU Wildcat Den is recommended)*

7 pm
**Earth Jam Open Mic** (Whitman Commons)

**Book Signing** (Whitman Commons)
*Linda Hogan*
A former professor and wildlife rehabilitation volunteer, a humans, shares his, born in the bush along an Ontario trapline, was immersed in Native culture and did not speak English until he was nine.

Hunter participated in taking a stand to protect Eagle Rock.

Tony DePerry, born in the bush along an Ontario trapline, was immersed in Native culture and did not speak English until he was nine years old. At age four, he came near death but was cared for by his great-grandfather and given a new opportunity to live and share his heritage. Tony has walked two paths: one of modern society and one of his traditional culture. With this experience, Tony helps people understand the Ojibwa path, guiding them to better awareness of themselves and the responsibilities we have to the Earth.

Scott Herron, a tenured professor of biology at Ferris State University, directs the Wild Rice and Ethnobiology Lab, and is Visiting Professor of Ethnobotany at University of Michigan Biological Station. His dissertation on the Ethnobotany of the Anishinaabek Indians evolved into several applied ethnobotany projects including the Native Wild Rice Coalition, which he co-chairs.

Al Hunter is a poet, speaker, and tribal council member. An activist and organizer, he worked with Walter Bresette on various issues. Recently, Hunter participated in taking a stand to protect Eagle Rock.

Nick Hockings is a respected traditional teacher, artist and activist from Lac du Flambeau reservation. One of the leaders of the Ojibwe spearfishing movement, Hockings is involved with Waswagoning Traditional Village, a 20-acre re-creation of a 17th century Ojibwe village.

Frank Koehn is a CPR and Medic First Aid instructor at the local technical college. A retired teacher, he served on local, regional, and statewide union boards and also as town chair and county board supervisor. He is the first Green Party candidate to be elected to office in the United States. In his activism, Koehn often worked closely with Walter Bresette.

Frank Anakwad Montano, an international peacemaker, storyteller, and performer from the Red Cliff reservation, mastered the ukulele, harmonica, and guitar at a young age. By his teens, he had learned many other instruments, including the mandolin, banjo, and fiddle, and began playing in bands. Later he started making and playing the traditional woodland flute and has made dozens of recordings. Anakwad will celebrate his 70th birthday the day of the Summit.

Martin Reinhardt is a citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians from Michigan. He is the owner and CEO of Reinhardt & Associates, an American Indian owned and operated educational and business consulting firm, and an assistant professor of Native American Studies at Northern Michigan University. With a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the Pennsylvania State University, his doctoral research focused on Indigenous education and the law with a special focus on treaty educational provisions.

Miigwech/thanks to all of those who made this summit possible:

The presenters for sharing their talents and wisdom:
Cory Fountaine (NMU student and Keweenaw Bay Indian Community member) and Linda Cree for the beautiful artwork used for Summit materials;
Sam Hasek and Ivana Busuttil for coordinating the children's activities;
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all NMU student and community volunteers;
the North Country Greens;
the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, NMU Multicultural Education and Resource Center, NMU Geography Department, NMU College of Arts and Sciences, and NMU English Department for their generous sponsorships,
and to you, the participants!

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