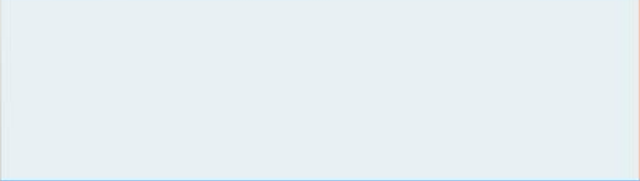


**COMMUNITIES
LEADING
on CLIMATE**

Morning Session 2 / Fort Western

Engaging Your Community

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Shantel Neptune
Penobscot Nation

Community Action For Energy Justice

The Challenge

- Access to alternative (sustainable) energy solutions as a community of color, reducing GHG emissions, access to environmental education and tools



Process

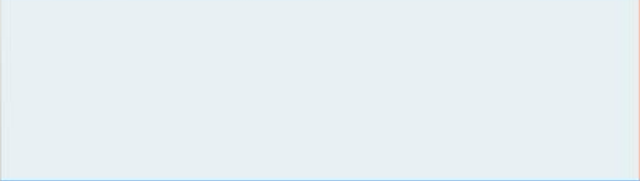
- Dr. Sharon Klein from UMO, engaged citizens from Penobscot Nation to discuss sustainable energy issues in our community (large and small scale).
- She presented an opportunity to conduct a window insert build for Penobscot Citizens, while learning about how we can bring other opportunities to our Wabanaki communities. To recruit people from the community to sign up for inserts we passed out fliers and shared information via social media. Being a part of the community, myself, we found it easiest (and maybe most comfortable) that anyone interested would reach out to me to set up their window measurement appointment.
- In collaboration with PN Housing Department and UMaine Students, we were able to bring the whole process to fruition (from pre-workshop duties, to the build itself).
- Due to COVID, the build had to take place outside of the community. Fortunately, we were able to use the Mitchell Center at UMO and heavily recruited students and Penobscot community members to help build almost 150 window inserts.



Solutions/Results

- Post-build, we noticed heightened interest from Wabanaki communities for window inserts. Many who signed up shared how impressed they were with the immediate results upon installing their inserts.
- I'm excited to see how other Wabanaki communities might get involved, whether that be signing up to get inserts through Window Dressers, help at future builds, conduct their own community builds, or just general excitement to learn more about alternative energy solutions.
- In the long run, I hope these interests lead to larger conversations about how we can progress as Indigenous people to be the best advocates possible for our Mother Earth.





**COMMUNITIES
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Brenda Harrington
Belfast

All of Belfast Climate Dialogues

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The Challenge

- To engage the community in educational programs and discussions about climate change and to ensure that all voices and views are included.
- To overcome despair and hopelessness.
- Our goal continues to be to bring people together to have conversations about what can be done and highlight what is already being done.



Goals

1. Engage broad cross-section of Belfast in talking about climate
2. Curate high-quality education materials regarding climate change
3. Develop programming to normalize conversation on climate
4. Archive full range of Belfast residents ideas and priorities regarding climate change



Process

COVID-19 pandemic required a new approach.

- New webpages
- Online collection space to post writing, letters, artwork, poems, pictures about climate impacts
- Event series
- Partnering with existing organizations working on climate change issues to offer educational programs
- Co-sponsoring the Waldo County Climate Symposium

A-ha Moments:

#1: Working together is the best antidote we've found to feeling overwhelmed.

#2: A community's resilience -- its ability to flex with and recover from challenge -- is only as strong as the web of connections that hold it together.

#3 Meeting people where they are to encourage engagement.



Solutions/Results



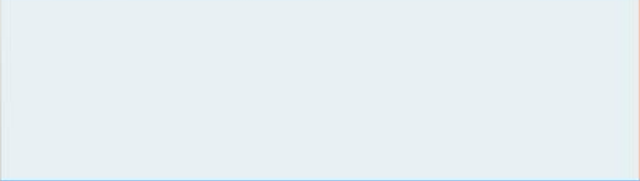
All Of Belfast Climate Dialogues

A Belfast Free Library project created to help all residents in our area talk about climate change and its impacts in order to increase awareness and help us prepare for the challenges ahead.

Funding from the Institute for Museum and Library Services

- Collaborating with the Belfast Climate Crisis Committee to host a public discussion about the initial draft of the Belfast Climate Action Plan.
- Bringing the arts into the Climate Change conversation with a recent exhibit , "The Art of Re-Climation".
- This is an ongoing project.

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Amara Ifeji

Youth, Young Professionals & Educators

Building a Climate Education
Movement: Grassroots,
Community-Informed, and
Youth-Led Policy Efforts

The Challenge

Addressing pressing climate issues requires an investment in youth, educators, and overburdened Maine people; however, these groups are typically left out of these conversations.

- How can we implement policies that support environmental education for youth without their input?
- How can we support educators to facilitate meaningful learning experiences for their students without first hearing from them?
- How can we shape an environmentally-just future if we do not center those people disproportionately impacted by environmental harm?



Process



- Coordination of Maine's first statewide climate education **summit**, a cross-sector, intergenerational convening, co-planned by youth and adults.
- The summit generated powerful solutions to advance climate change education in Maine and beyond, creating a **shared vision for climate education and action**.
- Introduction of **LD 1902**, a resolution on climate education
 - Drafted bill language *informed* by summit stakeholders
 - Secured *bi-partisan sponsorship*
 - Developed an *inclusive* bill campaign strategy
 - Mobilized *over 100 youth, educators, and legislators* to the Statehouse in Augusta in support



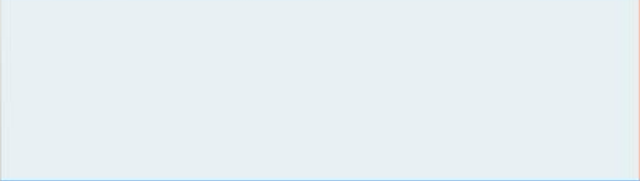
Solutions/Results

Tremendous momentum generated by the **summit** leads to climate education successes within state agencies, community partners, and policy spaces, including:

- Climate education stakeholder process convened by the Maine Department of Education
- Climate education curriculum resources organized by several community organizations; and
- New climate education credentialing programs organized by the University of Maine system.

LD 1902 passed in the Maine House and Senate and **was signed into law** on May 9, 2022 with **\$2.1 million dollars** to advance climate education in public schools in Maine - a historic climate bill in our state.





**COMMUNITIES
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Deb Paredes

Many underrepresented
Communities

Changemakers

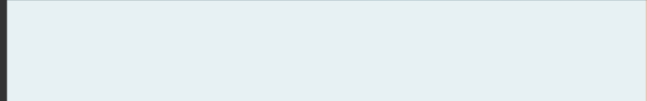
Climate Action

Resident at TNC

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The Challenge

- Multiple points of intersection with under resourced and disenfranchised communities that are climate related



Process

- Holding space for others during dialogue, making connections with community, moving those connections through into different spaces, really adding capacity and perspective to already building projects



Solutions/Results

- Ongoing, but definitely community building. keep on engaging. to continue to engage communities important to me in meaningful ways.



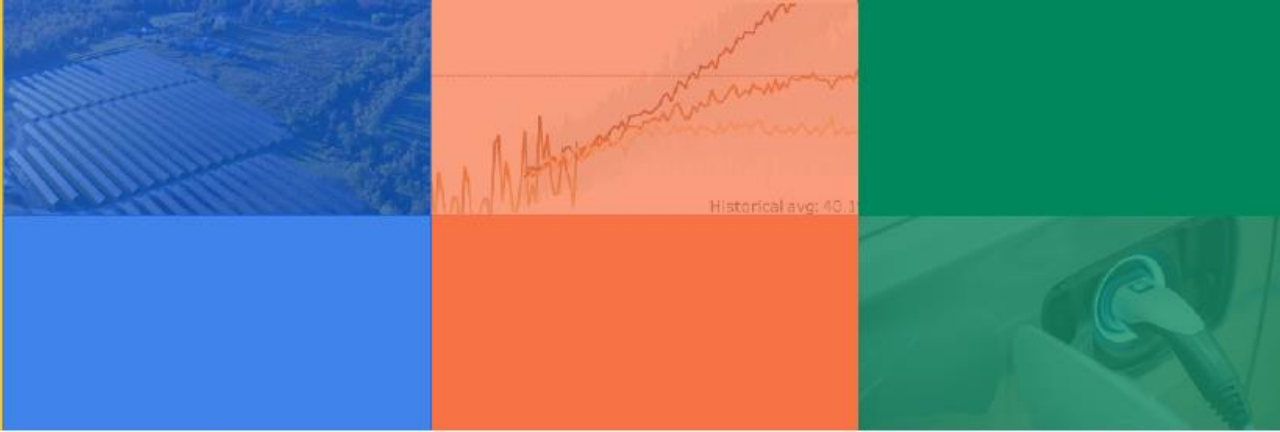
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COMMUNITIES LEADING on CLIMATE

JUNE 17, 2022 8:30AM – 4:00 PM
AUGUSTA CIVIC CENTER, 76 COMMUNITY DR, AUGUSTA, ME



9:00 AM Welcome & Opening Remarks
(livestreamed)

*Augusta/Pine
Tree/Capital*

MCC co-chairs Hannah Pingree and Melanie Loyzim
Remarks from Maine's congressional delegation
Janet Mills, Governor of Maine

12:00 PM Networking Lunch

Auditorium

Getting Started *(livestreamed)*
Understanding Social Vulnerability
Efficiency Begins at Home

**1:00 PM Keynote: Gina McCarthy,
White House National Climate Advisor**

*Augusta/Pine
Tree/Capital*

Livestreamed

11:00 AM Morning Session Two

The Future of Transportation *(livestreamed)*
Climate Ready Communities
Engaging Your Community

1:45 & 2:45 PM Afternoon Workshop Sessions 1 & 2

See printed agenda for full list & available livestreams

3:30 PM Adjourn