TTR TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE CENTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

February 2024

Tootinaowaziibeeng Treaty Reserve

Dear TTR Members,

Our TTR Climate Change Initiative continues to support activities to build our capacity and awareness about how to address the impacts of Climate Change and how to take action as active users of the land.

Last fall, we completed the TTR Climate Change Health and Vulnerability Assessment, which provided important insight into the potential health risks associated with Climate Change at TTR.

This report concluded that climate change is changing the landscape and quality of life within TTR. Warning signs of a warming climate have community members feeling uneasy about wildfires and wildfire smoke that comes from across Canada. Survey participants gave an indication that there appears to be increasingly more ticks and mosquitoes as the climate changes, although no cases of West Nile Virus or Lyme Disease had affected them to date. Community members also noted that there is an apparent increase in the intensity and frequency of severe weather events (extreme temperatures, summer and winter storms, wind, heavy rain, etc.) and results from the survey showed members are becoming more anxious in relation to the changing weather.

The survey gave an indication that climate change is beginning to affect the mental health & stress levels of some community members, including higher anxiety levels and feelings of unhappiness in relation to a changing climate.

We would like to invite you to participate in our next community meeting on March 14th, where we will be sharing the results of this report.

On a different note, I am pleased to advise that our TTR Climate Change initiative will be extending its activities due to the recent confirmation of funding that has been approved.

We would like to thank the Climate Change Health Adaptation Program and Indigenous Community-Based Climate Monitoring Program for supporting this important program.

Miigwech!

Don Clarke
TTR Climate Change Initiative

SAVE THE DAY!

TTR CLIMATE CHANGE MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH
9:30 AM TO 11:30 AM
(TTR HALL)

WE WILL SHARE THE RESULTS OF THE HEALTH VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT REPORT,
AND
WE WILL ANNOUNCE THE ACTIVITIES FOR CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAM PHASE III & IV.

WE WILL HAVE LUNCH FOR ALL ATTENDEES AND DOOR PRICES!!! SEE YOU THERE!

ATTENTION TO ALL TTR ELDERS & YOUTH:

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF OUR CLIMATE CHANGE MONITORING PROGRAM?

THIS YEAR, OUR PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE TRAINING AND PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT FOR OUR MONITORING PROGRAM

IF YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW TO BE INVOLVED, PLEASE ATTEND OUR INFORMATION SESSION ON MARCH 14TH, 2024 AT 9:30 AM AT THE TTR COMMUNITY HALL.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO HAVE A CLIMATE CHANGE MONITORING PROGRAM?

The purpose of a monitoring program is to understand the short, medium and long-term effects of climate change on our lands, water, wildlife and vegetation.

HOW DO WE DO THIS?

Training is a crucial component of a successful community-based climate monitoring project.

Well-trained community members will be better able to carry out all aspects of your project, from work plan development to quantitative and qualitative data and information collection, data analysis, and reporting results.

WHAT TYPE OF DATA WOULD BE COLLECTED FOR THE MONITORING PROGRAM?

CLIMATE AND WEATHER:
air temperature, precipitation, humidity, wind, extreme weather events

LAND AND WATER:
permafrost conditions, landslides, drought, water quality and quantity, water salinity, water temperature, flooding, freshwater conditions, snowpack, storm surges, soil quality or moisture.

OBSERVATIONS AND PERCEPTIONS FROM ELDERS:
historical information about life in the community, animal behaviours, hunting and cultural/traditional relevant sites within the community's lands.

WILDLIFE AND VEGETATION:
population/abundance, diversity, distribution, health, seasonal timing, habitat quality, species at risk, invasive species, and changes to traditional medicines.

OTHER KEY INDICATORS:
number of days where the band office/school is closed due to extreme weather conditions; weather-related disruption of electricity supply; number of properties flooded per year; current/projected energy consumption per household.