

Forestry and Indigenous Knowledge in Alberta

April Connolly
Senior Advisor, Indigenous Initiatives
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Agenda

1. Indigenous initiatives involving Forestry Division
2. Ideas for working together

Indigenous Learning Initiative

- Overview on Indigenous histories, residential schools, treaties and contemporary issues
- Inspired by the TRC call to action #57
- Jointly led by an Elder and a GoA employee
- Developed with input from engagement
- Indigenous Learning Panel provides ongoing advice

S10

- Deciduous timber quota
- Request for proposal is out now
 - 40% of evaluation based on Indigenous partnerships
 - Weighted more heavily to local, then within consultation area of interest, then within Alberta

Junior Forest Ranger Program

- Established in 1965 to train and educate youth in forestry
- 2003 – started more directly recruiting Indigenous youth with community representatives on crews
 - Goal is 50% Indigenous crew membership
- Final week involves an Indigenous Culture Day
- Approximately 600 Indigenous youth in Alberta have participated in the program

BRACE – Fire with Fire

Project: *Fire with Fire*: Gathering and braiding Indigenous and scientific knowledge of wildfire, as part of the Indigenous Climate Change Observation Network (ICCON)

Objective: Mobilize best Indigenous and scientific knowledge on fire to inform innovative practices for adaptation and reducing risks from wildfires; enhance climate change resilience and adaptation in Alberta

Key Partners: Kainai, Samson Cree, Piikani, and Dene Tha' First Nations; The Rockies Institute

Expected Outputs: Participatory videos, workshops, knowledge-sharing gatherings



Working Together

- Build relationships
- Find common ground
- Make information meaningful
- Give yourself time

Questions?

