

Toward
**Net Zero
by 2050**
Conference



FNMPC'S 5th ANNUAL INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT EVENT

"Indigenous leadership in the energy transition"

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FIRST NATIONS
MAJOR PROJECTS
COALITION

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



First Peoples Worldwide
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

visit fnmpcindustryevent.com

Backgrounders

FNMPC

The First Nations Major Projects Coalition (FNMPC) is a non-profit organization comprised of 85+ Indigenous communities that span across Canada. FNMPC members recognize that we are stronger together and was established to promote the shared interests of our members.

Advancing major projects is the core of FNMPC's service delivery. FNMPC's technical team is active in supporting our member communities with tools, capacity supports, and advice related to corporate structures and benefit sharing models, as well as tools to promote environmental protection and impact assessment.

Members of the FNMPC know that, especially in our rural and remote communities, major projects are one of the few development opportunities that could bring meaningful change. First Nations communities know they cannot rely on government programs alone to close the infrastructure and socio-economic gaps; economic development is required.

In addition to mainline project support to its members, FNMPC has a mandate to build effective relationships between its members, the private sector, governments, and other organizations.



FPW

First Peoples Worldwide is a US Indigenous-led organization that translates on-the-ground impacts of investment affecting Indigenous Peoples to corporate decision-makers. We do this by deploying multiple strategies that build the business case for respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

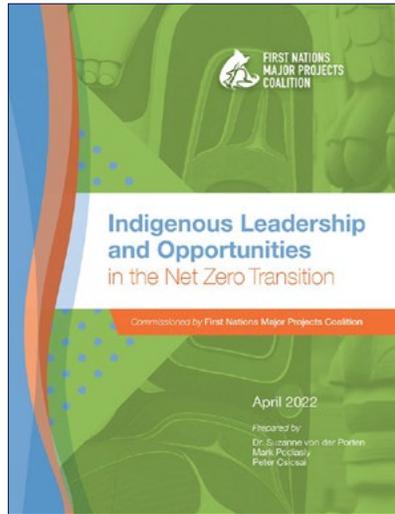
Having started the flywheel of Indigenous- centered corporate engagement in the 1990s, First Peoples Worldwide is now a leader in deploying strategies to move the market towards respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Through the intersection of business, law, and finance, First Peoples Worldwide increases corporate accountability.



c. Toward Net Zero by 2050 conference



[Info Sheet](#)



[Primer](#)



[Agenda](#)

About the Primer

Canada and the United States must achieve net zero carbon neutrality by 2050 or risk contributing further to the catastrophic consequences of global climate change. This conference primer explores four important areas of transitioning to net zero that are, or may increasingly become, important to Indigenous nations in the United States and Canada. These areas are discussed in this four-part conference primer:

- Part 1: Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change
- Part 2: Electric Vehicle and Storage System Batteries
- Part 3: Clean Energy Transition
- Part 4: ESG Investment Standards and Net Zero

Profiles



Chief Sharleen Gale

Chair of the Board, First Nations Major Projects Coalition

Sharleen Gale has been an elected Councillor of the Fort Nelson First Nation since 2009. She is an active member of the Fort Nelson First Nation and envisions a future where all members are working together to become a strong, proud, healthy, and self-reliant Nation. She is the grand-daughter of Fred Burke and Madeline Needlay. Her roots run deep in the lives of her people and she enjoys being on the land with her family exploring the territory and teaching her son the traditional ways on the lands and how to hunt, fish, and gather medicines and berries. As a leader and Chief of the Nation, she understands the importance of upholding the spirit and intent of the treaty by asserting her peoples' rights to their land and taking responsibility for ensuring that our future generations are able to live their lives in their territory in a way that honours our ancestors. Sharleen started her career at Westcoast Energy Inc. in 2000. Her various roles working in Administration, Finance, Maintenance, Planning and in Leadership have given her extensive experience in the oil and gas sector, the corporate world and the vision to ensure our people are managing our lands and our resources in our territory to the benefit of our members. Sharleen is the chair of the First Nations Major Projects Coalition (FNMPC) and believes that First Nations need to have the opportunity to have equity in major project infrastructure and access to meaningful financing for these projects happening in their territories. One that focuses on a balance approach of economic prosperity and environmental stewardship. Several First Nations have formed the First Nations Major Projects Coalition for the purposes of examining how ownership of major resource projects on their lands could be facilitated and how environmental practices can be improved to meet their needs.



Niilo Edwards

Executive Director, First Nations Major Projects Coalition

Niilo Edwards is the Executive Director of the First Nations Major Project Coalition, a role he assumed upon the establishment of the Coalition as a not-for-profit society in 2017.

Niilo is responsible for implementing the overall strategy and mandate of the Coalition. He also provides business capacity and negotiation support to the Coalition's national membership, representing a project portfolio worth a total capital cost exceeding \$17 billion.

Previously, Niilo worked at the First Nations Financial Management Board and was an advisor to the Chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Aboriginal Peoples in the Senate of Canada.

Niilo serves as a corporate trustee for a First Nation development corporation. He is also a board member of the Canadian Council for Public Private Partnerships, and a member of the advisory board for the University of Ottawa's Positive Energy Initiative.



Mark Podlasly

Director of Economic Policy and Initiatives, First Nations Major Projects Coalition

Mark Podlasly (Nlaka'pamux Nation, Cook's Ferry Band) is the Director of Economic Policy at the First Nations Major Projects Coalition. He has over 25 years of experience in the development of capital projects connected to energy, natural resources and community infrastructure around the world.

In addition, Mark informs Indigenous governments on the establishment of sovereign wealth funds/trusts to capture and invest revenue from resource extraction industries. He currently manages a \$40 million investment fund shared by eight BC First Nations.

Mark holds a master's degree from Harvard University and is a regular speaker at global business and governance events including the International Finance Corporation's annual sustainability conference in Washington, DC.



Kate R. Finn

Executive Director, First Peoples Worldwide

Kate R. Finn is Executive Director of First Peoples Worldwide, an organization whose mission is to work from a foundation of Indigenous values to achieve a sustainable future for all. Ms. Finn leads the organization, situated within the University of Colorado at Boulder, to build corporate accountability to the rights of Indigenous Peoples at the intersection of law, finance and business.

Ms. Finn's areas of focus and research expertise include Indigenous Peoples law and policy, federal Indian law, preventing violence against women, sustainable finance, and business and human rights. Her recent work focuses on articulating the impacts of development in Indigenous communities as business and financial risks to forecast the materiality and opportunity of embedding respect for Indigenous Peoples into routine business operations.

Among several papers, she has co-authored, *Harnessing Private Equity for Indigenous Peoples*, *Indigenous Peoples' Human Rights as a Minimum Standard for Corporate Practice*, *Social Cost and Material Loss: The Dakota Access Pipeline*, and *Responsible Resource Development and Prevention of Sex Trafficking: Safeguarding Native Women and Children on the Fort Berthold Reservation*.

Ms. Finn holds a J.D. and a Masters in Public Administration from the University of Colorado, and a B.A. from Princeton University. She was the inaugural American Indian Law Program Fellow at the University of Colorado Law, where she worked directly with Tribes and Native communities. She serves on the boards of First Nations Community Financial, Unified Solutions Tribal Community Development Group, Cultural Survival, and on the Stewardship Circle of Adasina Social Capital. Ms. Finn is an enrolled citizen of the Osage Nation.

Media Advisory



The Towards Net Zero by 2050 conference hosted by the First Nations Major Projects Coalition (Canada) and First Peoples Worldwide (US) will welcome 900+ attendees April 25th & 26th

US Secretary of Energy, Minister of Natural Resources Canada, Chief Executive of Rio Tinto Aluminium, Chairman of Navajo Power and CEO of Anglo American amongst keynote speakers

MEDIA ADVISORY

[Coast Salish Territory] On April 25th & 26th The First Nations Major Projects Coalition (FNMPC) and First Peoples Worldwide (FPW) will bring together over 900 leading continental Indigenous, corporate and government experts to the Vancouver Westin Bayshore to highlight the environmental and economic Indigenous partnerships that are leading the way towards a net zero economy.

The annual FNMPC event “Towards Net Zero by 2050” will focus on what will be required of energy, mining, and financial proponents to ensure respect and protection of Indigenous peoples’ rights and interests while we all work to save our planet in a 2050 net zero future.

Keynote speakers include:

- » **Jennifer Granholm**, United State Secretary of Energy,
- » **Jonathan Wilkinson**, Minister of Natural Resources Canada,
- » **Brett Isaac**, Chairman of Navajo Power,
- » **Dave Archambault II**, Tokala Ohitika - Brave Fox, 45th Chairman, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe,
- » **Wahleah Johns**, Director, Office of Indian Energy - US Department of Energy,
- » **Ivan Vella**, Chief Executive, Rio Tinto Aluminum,
- » **Mark Cutifani**, CEO, Anglo American, and
- » **Mark Poweska**, CEO, Hydro One Networks Inc.

Notes for the media

The Toward Net Zero by 2050 conference will be help April 25th & 26th on Coast Salish Territory at the Vancouver Westin Bayshore (Vancouver, B.C., Canada).

- » Conference website: www.fnmipcindustryevent.com
- » Conference summary: [Click here](#)
- » List of sponsors: [Click here](#)
- » Media are invited to attend the conference online or in person at no cost.

Please reach out to Allie Meeres for any media inquiries:

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News Release



First Peoples Worldwide
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

First Nations and US Tribes gather for a continental discussion about Indigenous leadership and opportunities in the net zero transition

Over 1000 delegates from Indigenous nations, industry and government gather in Vancouver for a first-of-its-kind Indigenous net zero policy conference

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2022 (Coast Salish Territory) – The Canadian-based First Nations Major Projects Coalition (FNMPC) and the US-based First Peoples Worldwide will host 1000 delegates representing Indigenous nations, industry, and government at a first-of-its-kind Indigenous led net zero policy conference at the Westin Bayshore Hotel on April 25-26, 2022.

The purpose of the conference is to hold discussions between Indigenous clean energy leaders from the US and Canada with industry, investors, and government officials in the context of a North American transition to net zero. Questions will be focused on how the public policy and investment decisions needed to achieve net zero by 2050 will impact on Indigenous interests and rights and where Indigenous voices need to be included in those discussions.

“The transition to net zero represents a \$6 trillion dollar opportunity. This includes a 14-fold increase in critical mineral production – all this coming from Indigenous lands. At the conference we will be having discussions about how we can align the policy and investment decisions on net zero with the principles of free, prior, and informed consent and how we are to meaningfully include Indigenous people as partners and equity owners in net zero projects” – stated Chief Sharleen Gale, Chair of FNMPC.

“Most proposed solutions for achieving net zero by 2050 – be it clean power stations, carbon capture and storage facilities, or new mines for transition minerals – rely on using Indigenous lands and resources. Therefore, these solutions need to be either Indigenous-led or have strong Indigenous partnership to ensure respect for Indigenous lands, cultures, and societies along with our shared environment,” said Kate R. Finn, Executive Director, First Peoples Worldwide. “This conference provides opportunity for Indigenous and industry leadership to begin critical conversations about how to achieve net zero solutions in ways that are aligned with international human rights standards such as FPIC and fully account for the impacts of development in Indigenous communities. We look forward to hearing from Indigenous thought-leaders about the steps we must take together to build true equity – economic, social and environmental – with and for Indigenous Peoples in the next energy economy.”

Delegates to the conference will hear from speakers such as:

- » **Jennifer Granholm**, United State Secretary of Energy,
- » **Jonathan Wilkinson**, Minister of Natural Resources Canada,
- » **Brett Isaac**, Chairman of Navajo Power,
- » **Dave Archambault II**, Tokala Ohitika - Brave Fox, 45th Chairman, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe,
- » **Wahleah Johns**, Director, Office of Indian Energy - US Department of Energy,
- » **Ivan Vella**, Chief Executive, Rio Tinto Aluminum,
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