



CINE



McGill
MACDONALD CAMPUS

Annual report
2022-2023

It is a pleasure to present our annual newsletter aiming to provide information with our ongoing and emerging projects. The Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment (CINE) was created in response to a need expressed by Indigenous Peoples' for participatory research and education to address their concerns about the integrity of their traditional food systems. Consequently, our projects promote and incorporate traditional knowledge on nutrition and environment.

ON GOING: RESEARCH INITIATIVES, NETWORKS & PROJECTS

Understanding the impacts of climate change on Arctic nesting geese

Collaborator *Prof. M. Humphries*

Arviarmiut (people of Arviat) want to know if their goose population is **safe to consume** and how to ensure geese and eggs **sustainable harvest**.

This project aims to promote renewed **community harvests** of light geese an underutilized food resource in the context of **climate change** and contribute to restoring **Inuit food sovereignty**.

[Read more](#)



Indigenization of new approach methods for contaminated sites assessments in Indigenous communities

A community-based case study in the Kanien'kéha:ka community of Kanesatake

PI *Prof. N. Basu*

This project aims to design, build, and test a new **Approach Methods** founded on **Indigenous Knowledge**, related to **contaminated sites assessments**. The learnings and outcomes will impact Kanesatake and other Indigenous Communities.



First Nations Environmental Contaminant Program (FNECP)

Co-PI Prof. N. Basu

The Program aims to increase **awareness** of potential health risks and to improve health and **environmental conditions** by helping First Nations communities to identify, monitor, and investigate contaminants of their environment.

Two CINE ongoing projects are funded by the FNECP program:

- *Environmental contaminants characterization and exposure risk assessment for three First Nation communities in Southeastern Manitoba*
- *Mohawk Council of Kanesatake's Environmental Contaminants Health and Impact Project*



Photo courtesy of Isabelle-Anne Bisson, TerraHumana Solutions. Valerie Gabriel (left) and Tianai Zhou (right) collect water samples from a nearby stream in one of the priority areas identified by Kanesatake community members.



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Co-PIs Prof. M. Humphries, Prof. H. Melgar-Quiñonez & co-lead Prof Delormier

This project is an Indigenous and **community-led project** with an interdisciplinary team of scholars and knowledge holders, collaborating with **Indigenous partners globally**. Its goals are to support the health and well being of the environment and people by building the capacity of Indigenous organizations to **document** and **share knowledge** on the interconnections between **biodiversity conservation and health**.

[Story map](#)

Tahatikonhsontóntie' Network Environment for Indigenous Health Research (NEIHR)

Prof. T. Delormier (Principal Applicant)
Brittany Jock (Collaborator)

The network aims to **enhance** the **health research capacity** of Indigenous communities focused on their needs and vision to fill the gap between Indigenous communities, research teams, academic institutions and organization.

NEIHR launches a series of **funding offers** creating scholarships, awards programs, and cultural safety round tables for Indigenous graduate students.



[Learn about the projects](#)

[Read more](#)

Peary caribou, muskoxen and their predators: the value of Indigenous Knowledge in informing species recovery

Collaborator [Prof. M. Humphries](#)

This project aims to develop a **species recovery plan** for Peary caribou. The project focuses on emerging technologies and co-applying **Indigenous knowledge** on the Arctic ecosystem and western science to **quantify** the impact of **climate change** on **the Arctic** landscape and its wildlife. The project also tests different climate change adaptation strategies and conservation networks to prevent species loss and promote **biodiversity conservation**.



Food Environment Health and Nutrition for First Nation Nutrition and Youth (FEHNCY)

[Prof. Brittany Jock](#) (Co-PI) & [Prof. Treena Delormier](#) (Advisor)

FEHNCY is a **cross-Canada** research project focusing on the **nutrition, health, and environment**. The 10-year study **engages First Nations communities** in each province, Yukon and Northwest Territories. The main questions are:

1. How healthy are First Nations children in Canada?
2. Are First Nations children living in healthy environments?

Currently, one community is implementing the survey.

Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Food Sovereignty and Nutrition

[Prof. T. Delormier](#)

This program addresses **food insecurity** among Indigenous populations by identifying structural constraints and **finding solutions** while considering their distinct **food systems and practices**. Collaborations include [the Kahnawake Schools Diabetes](#) and the Kahnawake Food Sovereignty Action Group, providing **training opportunities** for students and researchers. The program aims to provide **evidence for policies and strategies** that empower Indigenous Peoples and remove barriers to **food security and health**.



Food sovereignty: Promoting Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems and well-being

Treena Wasontlio Delormier, PhD PDt
Associate Professor, School of Human Nutrition
Associate director, Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition & Environment (CINE)

[Video](#)

[Read more](#)

[Video about food sovereignty](#)

Canadian Mountain Network of Centres of Excellence (CMN NCE)

Prof. M. Humphries (co-Research Director)

The CMN is a national NCE that promotes the **resilience and health** of **Canada's mountain peoples** and places through research partnerships based on both **Indigenous and Western knowledge**. It was launched in 2019 and has mobilized a network of Indigenous leaders, researchers, and organizations committed to enhancing resilience. Over 50% of CMN's funds are allocated to **Indigenous-led research**, prioritizing ethical space approaches that respect **diverse ways of knowing**, values, relationships, and innovation.



[Video about CMN NCE](#)

Wildlife, Environmental Change and Local Indigenous Food Systems (WECLIFS) in Eeyou Istchee and Nunavik

Prof. M. Humphries (Chair holder) & Prof. T. Delormier (co-PI)

The research initiative WECLIFS and the aligned McGill Chair in Northern Research partners with Cree and Inuit regional organizations study the use and importance of **local food systems**. The work adopts a value chain framework and knowledge co-production methods to **document knowledge, practice, and adaptation measures** intended to maintain **traditional food security** in the midst of socio-ecological change.



STUDENTS

- **Postdoctoral fellows**

[Gwyneth MacMillan](#)

- **PhD students**

[Lena Bureau](#)

[Mathilde Lapointe](#)

[Jacqueline Hamilton](#)

[Katie Chong](#)

[Alexandre Langwieder](#)

[Nathan Badry](#)

[Allison Ford](#)

[Revathi Sahajpal](#)

[Christine Ha](#)

[Luisa Fernanda Samayoa](#)

[Duncan Warltier](#)

- **MSc Students**

[Will Hein](#)

[Patrick Gibeau](#)

[Jolian Wong](#)

[Jessica Norris](#)

[Shannon Udy](#)

EMERGING: RESEARCH INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

Braiding Knowledges Canada (BKC)

The main desired outcome of CMN proposal is to enhance the influence of **self-determined**, place-based, and co-produced knowledge in science, **public policy**, and **decision-making**

BKC will support research that is

i) place-based (i.e. consider the complex and interdependent relationships between humans and their non-human natural environment), **ii) action-based** (i.e. leads to on-the-ground change while advancing understanding); and, **iii) led by**, or in knowledge co-production partnerships with, **Indigenous communities**.