



4TH NATIONAL CLIMATE GATHERING

*Strengthening First Nations Climate Leadership:
Braiding Relationships, Knowledge Systems,
and Inherent Responsibilities*

October 5 – 8, 2026 • Hamilton Convention Centre • Hamilton, Ontario

Provisional Gathering Agenda

Monday, October 5, 2026 <i>Chedoke Foyer, Level 3, Hamilton Convention Centre</i>	
Time	Activity
4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Gathering Registration
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Welcome Reception

Day 1 – Tuesday, October 6, 2026 <i>Chedoke Foyer, Level 3, Hamilton Convention Centre</i>	
Time	Activity
7:30 a.m.	Gathering Registration
7:30 a.m.	Hot Breakfast
8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Trade Show
9:00 a.m.	Opening Ceremonies & Welcoming Remarks
10:00 a.m.	Health Break
10:15 a.m.	Keynote Address: <i>National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nipinak</i>
10:45 a.m.	Plenary Panel - Natural Law and First Nations Stewardship: Advancing Economic Reconciliation and Community Prosperity <i>Moderator: Regional Chief Andrea Paul, Nova Scotia</i> <i>Panelists:</i> • Chief Rebecca David, Pauquachin First Nation • Carissa Waugh, AFN Women's Council • Chief Dalton Silver, Sumas First Nation
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
12:40 p.m.	Humanity Over the Edge: Transformation or Extinction <i>with Dr. David Suzuki</i>



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Day 1 – Tuesday, October 6, 2026 <i>Chedoke Foyer, Level 3, Hamilton Convention Centre</i>	
Time	Activity
1:15 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions #1 – #6
	Session #1 <i>First Nations Climate Impacts</i>
	Session #2 <i>First Nations Youth Voices in Climate Action and Justice</i>
	Session #3 <i>Caring for Our Lands and Waters: First Nations-led Conservation & Climate Action</i>
	Session #4 <i>Building First Nations Capacity for Transportation Planning & Carbon Offset Projects</i>
	Session #5 <i>Weaving Food Systems: Braiding Relationships, Knowledge and Responsibility</i>
	Session #6 <i>First Nations Household Energy and Community Energy Sovereignty and Resilience Through Integrated EV, Solar, and Battery Systems</i>
3:15 p.m.	Health Break
3:30 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions #7 – #12
	Session #7 <i>Strengthening First Nations-led International Partnerships for Climate Action</i>
	Session #8 <i>Indigenous-led Trade & Investment, Law, and Natural Economies: Centering First Nations' Rights in Canada's Economic Future</i>
	Session #9 <i>Calling the Fires Together: Nation-building through Natural Climate Solutions and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas</i>
	Session #10 <i>Climate Assessments and Urban Indigenous Climate Action: A Well-Being Approach</i>
	Session #11 <i>Environmental Health, Research, and Climate Change</i>
	Session #12 <i>Mapping Climate Change</i>
5:30 p.m.	Adjourn for Day 1



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Day 2 – Wednesday, October 7, 2026 <i>Chedoke Foyer, Level 3, Hamilton Convention Centre</i>	
Time	Activity
8:00 a.m.	Gathering Registration
8:00 a.m.	Hot Breakfast
8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Trade Show
9:00 a.m.	Recap of Day 1 & Overview of Day 2
9:05 a.m.	Plenary Panel: First Nations Rematriation in Water Legislation and Climate Action <i>Moderator: Regional Chief Wendall Labobe, Prince Edward Island</i> <i>Panelists:</i> • Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige, Anishinabek Nation • Chief Shana Thomas, Lyackson First Nation • Hanna Sewell, AFN National Youth Council • Amber Skye, Dean of Language, Culture, and Lifelong Learning, Six Nations Polytechnic
10:15 a.m.	Health Break
10:45 a.m.	Plenary Panel - International Partnerships: First Nations Working Internationally <i>Moderator: Lea Nicholas-Mackenzie, North America Member of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues</i> <i>Panelists:</i> • Nasu?kin Donald Sam, ?Akisqnuq First Nation • Nittaya Earkana, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact • Regional Chief Joanna Bernard, NBAFN • Lynn Jacobs, International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Plastics
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Provided
1:15 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions #13 – #18
	Session #13 <i>From Ownership to Impact: First Nations Leadership in the Clean Energy Transition, Financial Governance, and Data Equity</i>
	Session #14 <i>Relational Infrastructure: Indigenous Knowledges Leading Climate Planning</i>
	Session #15 <i>Strengthening the Circle: Denesuline Governance, Water Protection, and Climate Resilience</i>



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Day 2 – Wednesday, October 7, 2026 <i>Chedoke Foyer, Level 3, Hamilton Convention Centre</i>	
Time	Activity
	Session #16 <i>The Health of the Land: First Nations Perspectives, Actions, and Research</i>
	Session #17 <i>First Nations Community Health Through Climate Change</i>
	Session #18 <i>First Nations Impact Assessment, Climate Futures, and Cumulative Effects</i>
3:15 p.m.	Health Break
3:45 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions #19 – #24
	Session #19 <i>Advancing First Nations Youth Leadership: Sharing Lessons and Outcomes from Youth-led Gatherings</i>
	Session #20 <i>Uplifting First Nations International Climate Action Partnerships, Solidarity and Joint Advocacy: Shared Experiences from Climate Resilience Projects between First Nations in BC and Indigenous Organizations/Nations in Peru, Colombia, Bolivia and Guatemala</i>
	Session #21 <i>Climate Strategy Case Studies from the Territories of Mi'kma'ki and Treaty #3</i>
	Session #22 <i>From Evacuation to Resilience: First Nations Leadership on Climate Emergencies and Housing</i>
	Session #23 <i>Climate Resilience, Adaptation and Community Health</i>
	Session #24 <i>Using Systems Thinking to Assert First Nations Jurisdiction in Climate Action</i>
5:45 p.m.	Adjourn for Day 2
Reception & Cultural Evening 6:15 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. <i>Location: Chedoke B-C, Level 3</i>	



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Day 3 – Thursday, October 8, 2026 <i>Chedoke Foyer, Level 3, Hamilton Convention Centre</i>	
Time	Activity
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Gathering Registration
8:00 a.m.	Hot Breakfast
8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Trade Show
8:30 a.m.	Recap of Day 2 – Overview of Day 3
8:35 a.m.	Plenary Panel: First Nations, Major Projects, and Environmental Protection <i>Moderator: Drew Lafond, MLT Atkins</i> <i>Panelists</i> • Chief Joe Miskokomon, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation • Chief Dylan Loblaw, Ross River Dene Council • Chief Tamara Young, Pictou Landing First Nation
9:30 a.m.	Plenary Panel: Investing in Intergenerational Leadership and Future Generations <i>Moderator: Taylor Behn-Tsakoza, Fort Nelson First Nation</i> <i>Panelists</i> • Chief Janelle Nahmabin, Aamjiwnaang First Nation • Tejana Buffalo, AFN National Youth Council • Holly Laforme, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation • Knowledge Keeper Dr. Gwen Point, AFN Knowledge Keeper's Council
10:20 a.m.	Health Break
10:30 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions #25 – #30
	Session #25 <i>Seeds of Change: Relationships, Co-Learning, and Indigenous-led Climate Research</i>
	Session #26 <i>First Nations Youth Leading Climate Solutions</i>
	Session #27 <i>First Nations Advocacy in the Global Plastics Treaty Negotiations</i>
	Session #28 <i>The Sacred Leadership of First Nations Women</i>



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Day 3 – Thursday, October 8, 2026 <i>Chedoke Foyer, Level 3, Hamilton Convention Centre</i>	
Time	Activity
	Session #29 <i>Climate Change, Emergency Management, and Wildfires Facing First Nation Communities</i>
	Session #30 <i>Restoring Responsibility: Land, Identity, Leadership, and Intergenerational Wellness in First Nations Communities</i>
12:30 p.m.	Closing Ceremonies
1:00 p.m.	Gathering Adjourned