INTRODUCING FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE’S

TRIBAL LANDS

CONSERVATION FUND

FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

JUNE 2023
Webinar Management

All attendees will be muted throughout this webinar.

If you have questions, please enter them in the Q&A box at the bottom of your webinar panel.

If you experience any technical difficulties, please reach out through the Q&A box.

This webinar is being recorded and it will be available on our website later this week, along with the PowerPoint presentation.

Thank you and enjoy!
OUR TEAM

Michael E. Roberts  
President & CEO  
Tlingit

Mike became President and CEO of First Nations in 2005 after having served as a Research Officer and Chief Operating Officer from 1992 to 1997 and returning to the organization in 2002.

In December 2021, Mike was recognized by Unboxed Philanthropy Advisors in its “Philanthropy 100” list of 100 of the most significant foundations, corporations, nonprofits and individuals in philanthropy committed to innovations in transforming society and advancing justice.

Mary Adelzadeh - Moderator  
Director – Stewarding Native Lands  
Navajo

As a long-time consultant for First Nations, Mary has over 20 years of experience working with tribal and federal governments and non-governmental organizations in project management, grant-writing, land and natural resource planning and protection, and facilitating collaboration.

Mary previously served as a senior program officer at First Nations and as a project advisor to the Maidu Summit Consortium and Conservancy, where she supported efforts to restore Maidu Traditional Ecological Knowledge and establish a Maidu Cultural Park in California.
Hetrick has a BA in marine resource management, an MS in natural resources and environmental management, and an MPA in public administration with a focus on natural resource policy. She was born and raised in Prince William Sound and takes pride in serving the region to this day. Her work experience includes a variety of marine and terrestrial biology research; collaborating on projects with state, federal and public agencies, NGOs, and private stakeholders; state and federal permitting; regulatory compliance; and cultural community sensitivities.

Hetrick has experience in climate change sustainability planning and how the environmental effects of climate change, including on coastal zone management, fish and wildlife management, sustainable energy, forest management, food security, land-use planning, and environmental equity and policy coordination, are affecting the region.

Willow Hetrick  
Chugach Regional Resources Commission  
Executive Director
Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources Joseph “Joey” Owle, of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (ECBI), is responsible for a range of environmental resources, regulatory, and renewable energy initiatives for this tribal nation of more than 16,000 citizens. His team worked to bring the first electric school bus in the state of North Carolina to the ECBI reservation, known as the Qualla Boundary. This process involved multiple buses as well as solar power, and Owle also helped the tribe’s casino set up a solar farm to offset its electricity usage. Secretary Owle oversees a staff of more than 30 people, interacts with the tribe’s executive and legislative branches, and coordinates with all levels of local and national government agencies. Besides leading coordination of the ECBI agricultural economic development plan, he has lobbied for millions of dollars for a new tribal fisheries program, new cannery, and stream restoration. After a period of advocacy, Owle and multiple partners have raised $10 million to decommission and remove the hydroelectric Ela Dam that, for 100 years, has blocked Oconaluftee River connectivity and fish migrations to ECBI lands. Owle has a master’s degree in crop science and is the first secretary of the ECBI Agriculture and Natural Resources Division appointed.
Sayokla (It Snows Again) Kindness-Williams is of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of WI/Turtle Clan. She resides in Baraboo, Wisconsin, on the traditional lands of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Sayokla is the Coordinator of WMAN’s Indigenous Caucus. Her work promotes Indigenous Peoples leadership within WMAN through the support of the WMAN Indigenous Caucus, fundraising, and collaboration with the WMAN Network Coordinator and the WMAN Steering Committee.

As a lifelong activist, Sayokla’s career in environmental justice began in 1999, when she was hired by the Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN) and their partner, Project Underground, to lead the Indigenous Mining Campaign Project. Her past work also includes working for the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin as a Grant Development Specialist. Sayokla is a member of the IEN Board of Directors and is active in the local fight in Wisconsin and Michigan to save Menominee Nation sacred sites and the Menominee River from the proposed Back 40 Sulfide Mine.
KNOWLEDGE
THAT'S
NATIVE
Tribal Lands Conservation Fund

Native peoples have always been the best ecological stewards of our lands and waters.

The Tribal Lands Conservation Fund is an opportunity to amplify Native voices.

Native-led initiatives are woefully underfunded.

There is an urgency to find climate solutions.
Things you can do to support!

• Share information about the TLC Fund on your social media

• Tell all your friends, family, and colleagues about the good work First Nations is doing

• Donate directly to the TLC Fund – Right now all gifts will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to $750,000

Scan the QR code or visit firstnations.org/ActNow

Donate $5 or more today and get this beautiful sticker!

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ORIGINAL ARTWORK BY:
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THANK YOU

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