

First Nations & Métis Virtual Gathering: Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit Workshop Report

In Partnership with Environment and Climate Change
Canada (ECCC) and
The Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources
(CIER)

March 7, 2022

2:00 - 5:00 pm CST, 1:00 - 4:00 pm MST, 12:00 - 3:00 pm PST

Report Completed By:



CIER
Centre for Indigenous
Environmental Resources

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Workshop Summary

This virtual gathering was attended by 32 participants representing 21 Indigenous communities, (and others representing councils of multiple nations) and 12 Indigenous languages (plus others from the United States (U.S.) participants). The workshop format began with introductions and background material, followed by a word cloud exercise, three presentations by Indigenous leaders of diverse projects, and one video and ensuing discussion. A lively and organic discussion knitted the presentations together and easily filled most of the three-hour session. The themes discussed were diverse and included: bison repatriation, connectivity, cultural bison herds and barriers to recognising them as wildlife, the Buffalo Treaty, wildlife health and human health, including community programming to tackle diseases such as Chronic Wasting Disease, food sovereignty, community gardens and the concept of “conservation” (what it means to participants and decolonising the concept and application). Follow-up opportunities will include an Indigenous session at the Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit in Colorado in May.

Purpose

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) partnered with the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER) to facilitate the Central Grasslands Roadmap workshop on March 7, 2022. Participants were invited to share their voices on what grasslands mean to them in relation to any grassland type, any grassland species or community, or any other aspect. These perspectives will be shared, if permission is given, with the Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit (<https://www.grasslandsroadmap.org/>) community.

Registration and Participants

An invitation list was finalised by CIER in discussion with ECCC staff. The contact lists developed by Wendy Eskowich of ECCC Prairie Region and used for the Species at Risk (SAR) 101 workshop held on March 1, 2022, were especially useful. In addition, CIER staff used Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping to create a list of First Nations in grassland areas of British Columbia and expanded the invitations accordingly. British Columbia falls outside of the area defined in the Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit, but these grasslands are significant for many First Nations in this area who are responsible for the management of native grasslands. This will require some follow-up discussion with the steering committee of the Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit. Please see Appendix 1 for the full Participant List.

A total of 54 participants registered for the event, including the presenters, five members of the Indigenous working group for the Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit in the U.S., five ECCC staff and three CIER staff. Of the 54 registrants, 32 participated on the day in whole or in part, representing 21 First Nations (not including councils that represent multiple nations) and 12 Indigenous languages as follows (as well as others from the U.S. participants):

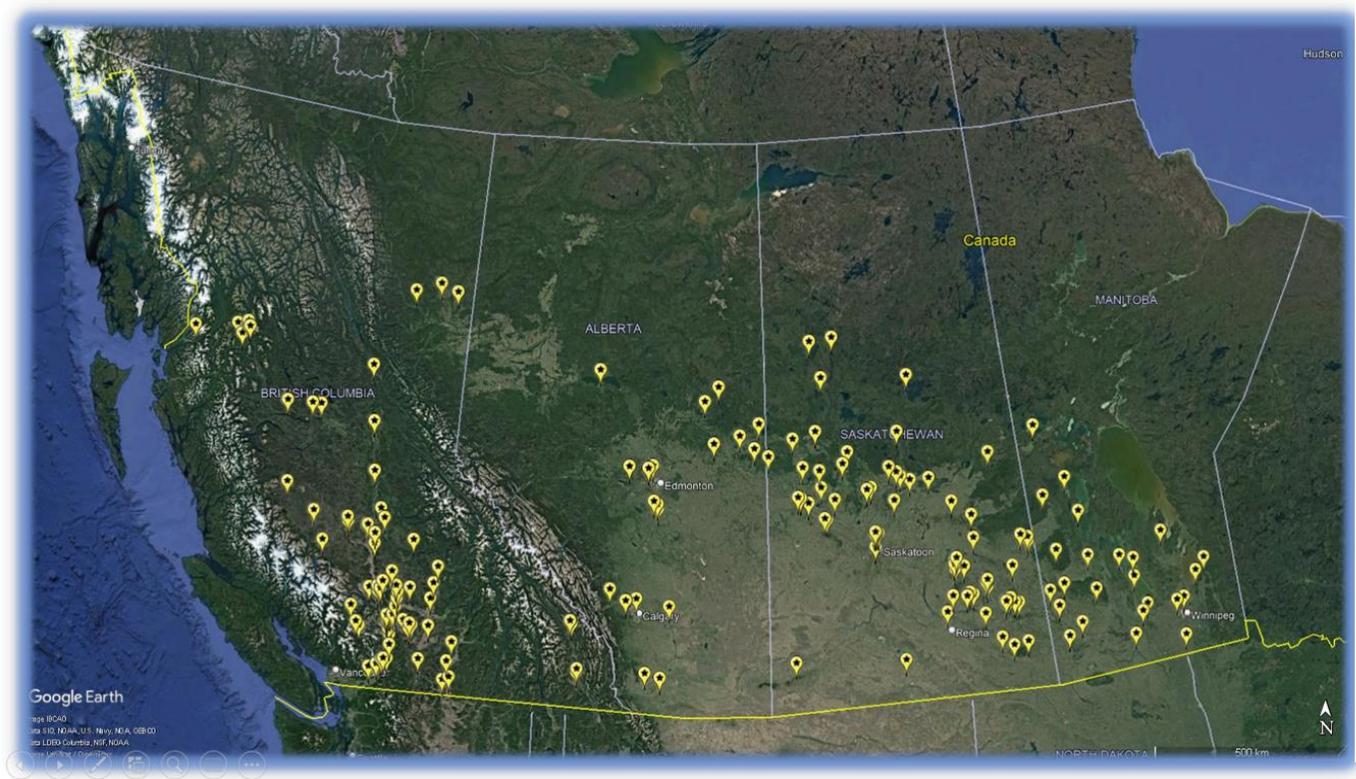
Salishan language family: N̓syilxč̓ñ (Sylix), Secwepemc, Éy7á7juuthem;

Na-Dene language family: Tsuut'ina, T̓s̓ilhqot'in;

Siouian-Catawban language family: Nakota, Dak̓hótiyapi, Lak̓hótiyapi;

Algonquian language subfamily: Siksikáí'powahsin (Blackfoot), Nêhiyawêwin (Plains Cree), Michif (Métis), Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe)

The Image Below Indicates the Indigenous Community Locations where Invitations were Addressed:



Agenda

The agenda was designed over a series of three meetings with speakers devoted to Indigenous-led conservation in grassland ecosystems who had expressed interest in this gathering, including Emily Boyd-Valandra, Kansie Fox, and Cheyenne Ironman; CIER staff (Kate Hewitt and Alexia Goodswimmer), and ECCC staff Christian Artuso. Emily Boyd-Valandra of the Rosebud-Sicangu Lakota Oyate, as part of her efforts in leading an Indigenous working group for the Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit process, saw this as an opportunity to establish connections and exchange ideas. She was supported by Dian Doan Crider, Cristina Eisenburg, Kristin Rempel, and Aimée Roberson, who did not present but participated in questions and discussions. Kansai Fox of the Kainai Environmental Protection Agency and Cheyenne Ironman, Climate Change and Special Projects Coordinator for Sioux Valley Dakota Nation planned their presentation together to touch on related themes in their work. At the request of the presenters, all presentations were designed to be as interactive as possible; this created an organic and flowing discussion. Please see the Appendix 2 for the full Agenda.

The Word Cloud Exercise

The Word Cloud was planned in advance by CIER staff to start discussion and encourage people to reflect on their own vision of grasslands. Participation was exceptional, with some commenting that it was the largest Word Cloud they had seen. The Word Cloud was left open throughout the three hours of the session and words continued to trickle in even in the latter portions. A poll was sent to the participants after the workshop to ask if they would be willing to share the word cloud specifically, and other aspects of the presentation; there was complete support for its inclusion by the participants.

- Linking cultural herds
- Political issues including the classification of bison in cultural herds as 'livestock' (rather than wild animals)
- The Buffalo Treaty
- Food Sovereignty (community food security programs)
 - Community gardens and food sovereignty
- Wildlife Health and Human Health
 - Community safety
 - Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)
- Indigenous "Conservation"
 - Some discussion of what the word "conservation" means for Indigenous people and how it may differ

These concepts were echoed in the Word Cloud through terms such as 'resilience,' 'health,' 'diverse,' 'relationships,' and others. In general, most questions and discussion were voice, but there were some additional comments and conversation in the chat log. Some noteworthy comments in the chat include:

Kaylyn Buffalo to Everyone: Our nations signed the Buffalo Treaty in 2016 and repatriated buffalo into Banff National Park. In 2023, we are getting additional buffalo. Kyra works with Amethyst and Marie Eve and formalized their work on the Buffalo Treaty and have developed the Buffalo Institute that oversees the Buffalo Treaty.

Emily Boyd-Valandra to Everyone: Thank you so much for today. I appreciate the sharing of knowledge and the opportunity to participate. I hope this is the only the beginning. I also want to leave you with one final question. Do your Indigenous Nations have a definition for conservation? I feel westernized science's definition of conservation is centered on people and profit.

Please see the Appendix 4 for the full Discussion.

Recommendations

The purpose of the Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit workshop was for participants to share their voices on what grasslands mean to them in relation to any grassland type, any grassland species or community, or any other aspect. CIER would like to provide recommendations for moving forward based on the success stories we heard and present suggestions for bridging gaps that currently exist at various levels.

We discovered that many participants are currently working on grasslands-related projects of some capacity across large geographical distances and that there is great interest in sharing the knowledge and experiences with others to improve individual projects. Future workshops that focus on building these relationships would be ideal and could include the sharing of contact information to continue individual conversations outside of workshops. We recommend a series of focussed workshops around the issue of Wildlife Health, including a look at the transmission of diseases and impacts on the plants and animals for human consumption. A specific concern mentioned was Chronic Wasting Disease (CWS) and as it is easily transmitted across regions we suggest organizing information sessions presented by veterinarians and biologists who can speak to this and other concerns, such as steps for prevention.

A major topic of conversation was the health and distribution of bison across grassland ecosystems and the connection to food sovereignty and the exercise of Indigenous Rights and Title. We heard suggestions about redesignating bison as 'wildlife' from their current designation as 'livestock.' However, others had concerns about this approach as if bison are redesignated there is a worry that it may impact the legality of hunting these animals, leading to questions about Rights and Title. We know, however, that the listing of a

species as a 'Species at Risk' does not necessarily impact the Indigenous right to hunt. It is for these reasons that we suggest a workshop on bison that is open to all of those interested in grassland ecosystems and those who are involved in Species at Risk work, including ECCC and Parks Canada, as well as an Indigenous legal expert to help ensure all voices and perspectives are heard.

Conclusion

The Central Grasslands Roadmap Summit workshop was a great success due to the high number of individuals who attended and their participation in the discussion. Many participants expressed the desire to follow-up on the workshop and strengthen the connections made. The themes of bison rematriation and food sovereignty (with particular applicability to grassland ecosystems) are certainly worthy of follow-up workshops. The ECCC Species at Risk team may be able to incorporate some of this material in their workshops on Plains Bison.

CIER has been following-up with the participants who expressed interest in connecting with other communities and organizations about grassland ecosystems work. ECCC is currently discussing with the Central Grassland Roadmap organisers how to best facilitate a continuing dialogue and translate the excellent opportunity for knowledge exchange into future opportunities. Conversations are ongoing about future workshops and topics based on the themes collected, including further discussion on wildlife health with provincial veterinarians and jurisdictional opportunities as these topics supersede imposed geographical provincial and national boundaries.

We wish to thank the presenters for their time and attendance at pre-meetings, preparing the presentations, and at the workshop. In addition, we wish to thank all participants for their attendance and participation; this workshop was successful in large part due to the fruitful discussions.

Appendix

1) Participant List

In Attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Community</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Position</u>
Bobby Axe	Siksika Nation	Siksika Nation Consultation Office	Technical Staff/Manager
Maryssa Bonneau	Penticton Indian Band	Penticton Indian Band	Natural Resources Dept.
Carolyn Buffalo	Montana First Nation	Yellowhead Tribal Council	Technical Staff
Kaylyn Buffalo	Samson Cree	Samson Cree Nation Consultation	Technician
Rhonda Cameron	Swan Lake First Nation	Swan Lake First Nation Consultation	Staff
Carmen Chelick	Gift Lake Métis Settlement	Kelowna, Biodigenous Consulting Ltd.	Technical Staff
Alvin First Rider	Kainai First Nation	Blood Tribe Land Management	Technical Staff
Kansie Fox	Kainai First Nation	Blood Tribe Land Management	Presenting
Warren Gervais	Metis Nation Saskatchewan	Western Region III Metis Nation SK	
Cheryl Gordon	Lac La Biche		
Wendy Hawkes	Penticton Indian Band	Penticton Band Natural Resources	Staff/Elder
Cheyenne Ironman	Sioux Valley Dakota Nation	Sioux Valley Dakota Nation	Presenting
Anthony Johnston	Mistawasis	Mistawasis Nehiyawak	Special Advisor
Myra Juckers	Yaq̓it ?a-knuq̓i 'it First Nation	Yaq̓it ?a-knuq̓i 'it Environment	Technical Staff
Barbara Kishchuk	Métis Nation Saskatchewan	Science Consultation Services	Contractor
Shannon Landrie-Crossland	Whitecap Dakota First Nation	Metis Nation Saskatchewan	Lands & Consultation Liaison Officer
Doreen Johnson	Esket	Esk'etemc	Technical Staff- Elder/KH
Abdullah Mamun		Prince Albert Grand Council	Technical Staff
Scott Many Guns	Siksika Nation	Siksika Nation Consultation Office	Technical Staff/Manager
Robin McLeod	Prince Albert	Prince Albert Grand Council	Consultant
Violet Meguinis	Tsuut'ina Nation	Tsuut'ina Consultation	Elder/Staff
Kyra Northwest	Samson Cree Nation	Samson Cree Nation	Technical Staff
Sunal Ojha	Trible Chief Ventures Inc.	Trible Chief Ventures Inc.	Technical Staff
Mike Oka	Kainai First Nation	Tribal Government & External Affairs	Technical Staff

Jessica Okeynan			
Franklin Onespot	Tsuu t'ina Nation		Field Technician
Chad Peekeekoot	Ahtahkakoop first nation	Ahtahkakoop first nation	Lands Manager
Noreen Plain Eagle	Piikani First Nation	Piikani Lands Department	Technical Staff/Manager
Jocelyn Rabbit	Montana First Nation	Montana First Nation	Technical Staff
Carol Sangwais	Zagime Anishinabek	Zagime Anishinabek	Grenfell
Sonja Seher	?aqam Community	?aqam Community	Technical Staff
JJ Shade	Blood Tribe	Tribal Government & External Affairs	Technical Staff
Ashley Shaw	Métis Nation of Alberta	Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 2	Technical Staff
Carolyn Smeltzer	8 First Nations	Swampy Cree Tribal Council	Technical Staff
Cedric Solway	Siksika Nation	Siksika Consultation Office	Not Specified
Liberty Stevenson	Kahkewistahaw First Nation	Chief Joseph Crowe Govern. Center	Lands and Regulatory
Mark Thomas	Shuswap Band	Shuswap Band	Invermere
Naomi Torres	Enoch Cree nation	Enoch Cree nation	Technical Staff
Katherine Walker	Okanese First Nation	University of Saskatchewan	Technical Staff
Shannon Woods	Xeni Gwetin First nations	Xeni Gwetin First nations	Not Specified
Natasha Young Chief	Beaver Lake First Nation	Government & Industry Relations	Technical Staff
Emily Boyd-Valandra	Rosebud-Sicangu Lakota Oyate		U.S. First Nation, presenting
Diana Doan Crider	Indigenous Working Group	Animo Partnership Natural Resources	U.S. First Nation
Cristina Eisenberg	Raramuri & Western Apache	Oregon State University Forestry	U.S. First Nation
Kristin Ruppel		Montana State University	U.S. First Nation
Aimée Roberson	Choctaw	American Bird Conservancy	U.S. First Nation
Christian Artuso		ECCC	Organizing Team, Facilitator
Kate Hewitt		CIER	Organizing Team, Facilitator
Alexia Goodswimmer		CIER	Organizing Team, Technical/Notetaking
Wendy Eskowich		ECCC	Organizing Team
Duane Hanson	Tla'amin Nation	CIER	Organizing Team
Paulson Des Brisay		ECCC	Organizing Team
Krystal Rancourt		CIER	Organizing Team

Curtis Kayseass	Fishing Lake First Nation	ECCC	Organizing Team
Niki Wilson		ECCC contract	Organizing Team

2) Agenda

Introduction and opening remarks, support CIER staff Kate Hewitt and Alexia Goodswimmer, CIER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • Opening remarks • Virtual Interactive Activity: Word Cloud
Introduction to the Road Map Christian Artuso, ECCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the Road Map
Guest Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emily Boyd-Valandra, Biologist and dual citizen from Sicangu Lakota Oyate (Rosebud Sioux Tribe) and USA • Possible presentations from others
Break	
Interactive Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheyenne Ironman, Climate Change and Special Projects Coordinator, Sioux Valley Dakota Nation • Kansie Fox, Environmental Protection Manager, Blood Tribe Land Management
Open Mic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A chance for participants to expand on discussions about the Grasslands Projects ○ Closing comments and gratitude for attending this session on the Grasslands Road Map Project
Closing and Wrap Up Christian Artuso and Kate Hewitt	

3) Presenter Biographies

Mitakuyepi, Emily Boyd-Valandra emaciyapi ksto. Greetings relatives, my name is Emily Boyd-Valandra and I am a dual citizen of the Sicangu Lakota Oyate (Rosebud Sioux Tribe) and the USA. My educational background is in environmental science and ecology. I also have years of experience in Tribal land use and environmental management and as an adjunct instructor at our local Sinte Gleska University. From 2009-2021, I was the biologist for Rosebud's Department of Natural Resources. The pandemic has temporarily shifted my focus toward my family and working as a contract biologist consultant, which is how I joined the Central Grasslands Roadmap to coordinate their Indigenous workgroup efforts. I also earned a professional certificate in cultural heritage tourism last year and have completed many hours over the last couple years learning how to build effective engagement to our Indigenous communities. I am also a founding board member and officer of the recently formed Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance.

I hope to facilitate an interactive, engaging session surrounding our relationships with the land and environment. Being Lakota, this conversation will be through an Indigenous lens, and as a life-long inhabitant of the central great plains region, the lands I refer to will be the prairie grasslands. As an Indigenous biologist/ecologist, I view all aspects of our natural world as being all connected and all related. The conversation will be a balance between our shared histories, current conditions & management strategies and future hopes for the lands that incorporate scientific knowledge from both our traditional lifeways/teachings and westernized thought.



Cheyenne Ironman is from Sioux Valley Dakota Nation and has been working in her community since August 2020, which brings together two of her greatest passions – working within her community and creating a more sustainable future. Cheyenne manages several projects and initiatives from adaptation planning, food sovereignty, renewable energy, land-based programming, language and cultural programs, cemetery mapping, training, awareness, youth kayaking and skateboarding programs, and more! She previously worked as a Research Associate (2017-2020) for the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources after attaining a B.A. in Political Science and a minor in Sociology from Brandon University.

About the presentation:
Sioux Valley Dakota Nation is home to almost 100 tatanka (bison), including 7 white bison and home to threatened and endangered grasslands species. In this

presentation, we will learn more about Sioux Valley's journey from Species at Risk awareness, to where the community is now, what they plan to do next, and how caretaking for the bison is becoming part of the solution to protect this critical and endangered habitat.



Kansie Fox is Blackfoot, Navajo, and a proud mother of two. She enjoys working on the Blood Reserve as the Environmental Protection Manager with the Blood Tribe Land Management Department and is working towards her Masters in Biological Sciences degree studying the ecological and cultural effects of linnii (Buffalo) rematriation to the Kainai / Blood Reserve

The Kainai linnii Rematriation research project is studying the effects of Blackfoot ecocultural restoration on soil health, mixed grassland vegetation and Blackfoot traditional plants composition, insect communities, grassland birds, amphibians and reptiles, mammals, and the Kainai community. As linnii return home and restore important relationships they will be the ecological driver for increasing prairie biocultural diversity by improving soil structure, plant community heterogeneity, create healthy habitat for prairie wildlife, and re-establish healthy connections to the land. The baseline data collected will be essential for community based long-term monitoring.

In addition, as part of Kansie Fox's presentation, a two-minute video presentation by Alvin First Rider on linnii rematriation was shared. The video was both moving and inspiring and received great praise both in the discussion and in the typed chat. The presenters have been asked if they will share their presentations on the Roadmap Summit website, perhaps by rerecording the presentations in a shorter time frame (without the interaction from the audience) and this will hopefully include Alvin's video.

4) Discussion Portion

The floor was opened by Christian Artuso, who introduced the Grasslands Road Map project, and participants were made aware of available funding plus an upcoming event in Colorado, the Grasslands Roadmap Summit, where participants are welcome to join and have been invited to contact Christian for more information.

First was a presentation from Emily Boyd-Valandra; the following are questions and/or comments that derived from the presentation as well as the responses;

- Q) A concerning topic from Montana First Nation is Chronic Wasting Disease. The concern is how it spreads and how it stays on the land. Is this a topic being discussed much? What are nations across turtle island, what are we doing about it? Food sovereignty and food security is a continuing concern, our people plan but how do we plan when Chronic Wasting Disease is spreading. When it

is going to render our lands (by infecting them), how we will be able to grow food on lands (for decades) after chronic waste is there?

A) Emily Boyd-Valandra responded by describing that they were one of the first tribes in South Dakota to sign an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with State Fish and Parks, separate from jurisdiction. Only wildlife management and disease management. The BNGA were allowed to draft some language to better monitor because of land ownership in the area. The suggested approach is to start seeking partners, growing knowledge, identifying what resources are available and what is required (to make the plan successful). Start by looking for partners who can begin monitoring or providing surveillance and knowing [chronic waste and how it affects the lands] plus having answers is the best route to go. When it first happened it was so unknown, so it was not planned to test, now more information is available. Emily suggested with starting by identifying needs, big goals, and dreams plus a funding plan for disease management, and then when funding becomes available the community is prepared to take action. Sometimes diseases such as EHD (Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease) and blue tongue, a practice such as doing nothing, has worked. Nature sometimes takes its course, “she takes care of herself.”

- Q) Penticton Indian Band representative: Connections you have established are transboundary, it is wonderful to see. The borders that are placed are arbitrary to building relationships and establishing that with ecosystems in Canada. How was this possible?

A) Emily: The Central Grasslands Roadmap provided the opportunity to look at a broader scale. The networking reach was off at the border with other programs, funding, and factors. Emily suggested locating the commonalities (between communities and those surrounding, or those attending same workshops), shift focus to working a smaller scale such as regional, then downsize the focus to just state (province) and finally, the community. Having these conversations, introduces you (as a representative) to other communities.

- Comment: Samson Cree First Nation: Response to Chronic Wasting Disease. In Samson Cree First Nation there is a “meat locker” that provides traditional game to the community. The community member employed there has established a relationship with a scientist from the University of Alberta and they are now collaborating on making a video that explains the testing of the wild game in the area for Chronic Wasting disease. This is great, however, not always successful as some community members do not have the time to wait, or do not want to give up the brain for testing. Soon the video will be made available to the community members so further education is provided (knowledge on Chronic Wasting Disease).

Comment by Emily: Getting information out there is important because it is so new. Not everyone has the time or funding. CWD funding was made available for the community, and rangers got the training to take samples in the end. For those nations without funding or capacity it can be challenging, however, if it is available.

- Comment: Prince Albert Grand Council: CWD is a relevant issue with grasslands as it is killing all our deer, elk etc. The Biology Department at the University of Saskatchewan is working with several Nations here in Saskatchewan to have conversations on moving forward with the management of CWD. I am part of the work, and I would be happy to discuss the issue if you have time and interests to do so.

Next was a presentation from Kansie Fox; the following are questions and/or comments that derived from the presentation as well as the responses;

- Comment: Prince Albert Grand Council: This eco-cultural conservation, proud to see that you are doing this work. People do not understand that. If this culture is not preserved, not maintained, this

knowledge is lost. Things like this and the work you are doing is amazing and should be an example to be followed by others. Thankful for your presentation. – One of the problems is western science is really extracted they are missing the important stuff.

- Comment from Christina: I've been working with Kansie for almost a decade, she described this as an effort that took many years and that is true and has been working on Kansie's thesis and decolonizing by presenting it as Blackfoot science.

The last presentation was by Cheyenne Ironman; the following are questions and/or comments that derived from the presentation as well as the responses;

- Q) Kansie: We're doing a lot of the same things; we have interest in the food security and gardening as well. There are not a lot of people in the community who are established gardeners- how did you get your program off the ground?

A) Cheyenne: Our community used to have a lot of gardeners in the past, the interest is reviving it again. There is a generation gap, and a lot of people want to see it, elders want to see it. With elder involvement, that is how we got gardening tips and traditional corn seeds. Being aware of climate change and what's happening around the world. With rising food prices and the result of the droughts, transportation costs. It is about self-governing your community, to become self-sufficient in every single way. Trading knowledge and taking care of one another.

- Q) Do you have a predator management plan to mitigate risks to the bison? What are the bison predators?

A) Cheyenne: A lot of cougar sightings, which is new. No more rabbits. Climate change has affected the animals. There are moose nearby, which is new as well. Bears, cougars, these are all new. We use an 'Online Greenhouse' that includes community online zoom, Facebook and other live sessions, discussion topics, and wildlife safety.

- Q) With building on food sovereignty, in your community what has been successful?

A) Cheyenne: Ask your people and ask your community; ask if they want a large one or small garden. Early in the project a lot of people were volunteering, however it is best to pay them. Start fundraising and looking for funds for paid volunteers, your project will more successful in the long run. Do a counter, or educational part, on the history of food, cultural side, people side. Teach and host sessions on canning and preserves to prevent waste. Another idea is garden sharing, or having a centralized community garden. Emily mentioned having an edible forest and how it is ideal. That is how they [community members] can get the experience and that is how this community got the involvement. Take it to the community gatherings, pow wows, elders gatherings it helps get the word out there too. We applied for the community garden through the federal CCHAP (Climate Change and Health Adaptation) program.

- A) Wendy Eskowich: Thoughts on the Kansai, gardeners love to share. What about collaboration, a reconciliation project? Neighboring communities in your area can share ideas on how to start a garden. To share knowledge, combined. Funding under climate solutions and become self-sustaining.

Cheyenne (question to the participants) "What would it take to feed the whole community? What would it take to get us to that point?"

- Comment: Get involved, build online forums to create awareness. Get input. Canning workshops, foraging. Medicine picking. Things with youth too.

- Q) Do bison travel well? What is the potential for bison exchange between your community and Kansie's? I mean to maintain diversity in the herd?
 - A) Some come in and some are original herd. Our community trades a lot to keep the herd diverse.
- Wendy Hawkes shared some Traditional knowledge of stories, Okanagan valley, of the Buffalo had travelled from a far distance
- Comment: Getting grasslands not just on reservations but on that purpose long term in other areas.
- Comment: The treeline used to be completely different, how sparse the trees are now. Oral history, stories it was sinceep (did not manage properly) for agriculture.
- Comment: Tie it back to grasslands more relationships, Rosebud has over a million acres of grassland, zero of that comes back to our people. It isn't only for food, it is also making connections back to native foods (plants, meats, lands).
- Comment from Cheyenne: Great work! Can you tell us how you convinced your members to get into the idea of community gardening?
 - A) Finding people, getting started was not as a community garden. It's finding the ones who are passionate. Support them and find what they need to get started.
- Comment from Paulson Des Brisay: garden, food security, pollinator type funding that could help.

5) Links Shared

The Buffalo National Grassland Alliance: <https://www.bngalliance.org/>

The Buffalo Treaty website: <https://www.buffalotreaty.com/>

The Central Grasslands Roadmap: <https://www.grasslandsroadmap.org/>

The CIER website: <http://yourcier.org>

The Dakota Field Guide: <https://yourcier.org/read-now-dakota-field-guide-and-storybook-learn-to-identify-over-80-grassland-birds/>

ECCC Funding Programs: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-funding.html>

Parks Canada Bison Herd link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/parks-canada/news/2022/02/plains-bison-herd-establishment-for-the-key-first-nation.html>