



Tribal Climate Action and Response at COP26: *Stories from Indian Country*

Thursday, January 13, 2022 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. EDT

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), in partnership with the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), International Indian Treaty Council (IITC), the Yurok Tribe, and NDN Collective, will host a webinar regarding Indian Country's participation at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26). NCAI and its partners invite you to join this important discussion to hear stories about COP26 and how its outcomes have implications for Tribal Nations in the United States.

Moderator: Quinn Buchwald, assisted by Sadie Red Eagle and Gwynne Evans-Lomayesva (NCAI)

Speakers: Kim Gottschalk, NARF, Staff Attorney; Frank Ettawageshik, NCAI Representative at COP26; Andrea Carmen, IITC, Executive Director; Jade Begay, NDN Collective, Climate Justice Campaign Director; Javier Kinney, Yurok Tribe, Carbon Project Manager, Natural Resources Division.

Agenda

- 1:30 p.m. – Invocation by Frank, introductions, and housekeeping by Quinn Manson Buchwald
- 1:45 p.m. - Andrea Carmen (International Indian Treaty Council). Focusing on the history of COP, the development and functions of the Facilitative Working group and the Indigenous Caucus.
- 2:05 p.m. - Javier Kinney (Yurok Tribe). Focusing on Tribal Nation's participation in the international arena, particularly their experiences at COP26 and how individual tribes can advocate for themselves at the international level.
- 2:25 p.m. – Jade Begay (NDN Collective). Focusing on the conjunction of grassroots efforts, climate change activism, and international policy at COP26.
- 2:45 p.m. – Frank and Kim, (NCAI/NARF). Focusing on NCAI's participation, and future plans, particularly the importance for continued engagement. Also, discuss the outcomes from COP26 and what it means for Indian Country.
- 3:05 p.m. – Q&A from the audience
- 3:25 p.m. – Closing comments



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Speaker Bios



Frank Ettawageshik lives in Harbor Springs, Michigan, with his wife Rochelle. He served in tribal elected office for sixteen years, fourteen as the Tribal Chairman of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians in Harbor Springs, Michigan. During his tenure as Tribal Chairman he was instrumental in the adoption of the Tribal and First Nations Great Lakes Water Accord in 2004 and the United League of Indigenous Nations Treaty in 2007. Recently he was appointed Tribal Court Appellate Justice for his tribe.

Since 2009 Frank has been serving as the Executive Director of the United Tribes of Michigan. He also serves on the board for the Association on American Indian Affairs, the Michigan Water Use Advisory Council, the Great Lakes Advisory Board for the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the Great Lakes Water Quality Board of the International Joint Commission. In 2017 he was appointed to the Environmental Justice Working Group by Michigan Governor Rick Snyder. Internationally, he has represented the National Congress of American Indians at several meetings of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change from 2015 to 2021, the latest being held in Glasgow, Scotland. He has also participated in meetings of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland.



Andrea Carmen, Yaqui Nation, became a staff member of the International Indian Treaty Council in 1983 and its Executive Director in 1992. Andrea was IITC's team leader for work on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in 1997 was one of two Indigenous representatives to formally address the UN General Assembly for the first time at the UN Earth Summit +5. In 2006, Andrea was selected as Rapporteur for the UN Expert Seminar on Indigenous Peoples' Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources and their Relationship to Land, the first Indigenous woman to serve as Rapporteur for an

UN Expert Seminar. She has been an invited expert at UN sessions addressing a wide range of issues impacting Indigenous Peoples. In 2019 Andrea was selected to represent North America Indigenous Peoples on the Facilitative Working Group for the UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform in its first three years of operation, and served as its 2nd co-chair until May 2021.



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Javier I. Kinney is a Yurok Tribal citizen and currently serves as the Carbon Project Manager, Natural Resources Division for the Yurok Tribe. He has attained a Bachelor of Arts Degrees in History and Native American Studies from the University of California, Davis, a Master of Arts degree in Law & Diplomacy, specializing in Development Economics and International Law from Tufts University-Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, and a Juris Doctorate from Suffolk Law School. Mr. Kinney has extensive experience advising Tribal governments with expertise in areas of diplomacy, mediation, negotiations, public policy, leadership development, economic development, youth empowerment, land acquisition and management, Climate resiliency, tribal governance, grant management, protection of tribal cultural resources, strategic alliances and partnerships.

Kinney has been invited to serve as a key-note speaker and guest lecturer at various universities and colleges domestically and internationally, focusing on leadership, education, Nation-building, and Indigenous affairs. His thought leadership, work and interests have provided him the opportunity to travel globally and includes initiatives in Scotland, Netherlands, Hungary, Venezuela, Jamaica, Colombia, Bolivia, Mexico, Norway, Brazil, Ecuador, Chile, Hawaii, New Zealand and Canada. His commitment to global consciousness and visionary change, motivate him to work with Indigenous communities globally and on tribal reservations through the United States. As a graduate student at the Fletcher School, Kinney was selected as a delegate to the inaugural International Achievement Summit held in Budapest, Hungary and has served as a guest speaker at the United Nations in conjunction with the Nexus Global Youth Summit, and a delegate receiving the United Nations Development Programme-Equator Prize on behalf of the Yurok Tribe in New York.



Kim Gottschalk is an attorney at the Native American Rights Fund. He has represented NCAI at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change for several years on the negotiation of indigenous issues to be included in international and national climate action.



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Jade Begay, Climate Justice Campaign Director, is Diné and Tesuque Pueblo of New Mexico. Begay leads NDN Collective's climate justice campaign work and brings extensive experience working in climate justice movement spaces throughout Turtle Island and within Indigenous communities across the globe. She has also worked as a multimedia producer, filmmaker and communications professional working in non-profit and Indigenous organizations. She has a Bachelor's degree in Film and Video and a Master of Arts degree in Environmental Leadership.



Quinn Manson Buchwald is a member of the Mackinac Bands of Chippewa and Ottawa Indians, a descendant of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, and a dual US-German citizen. Quinn is a Policy Specialist- Environmental Sustainability & Natural Resources, at the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). In this capacity Quinn focuses on NCAI's international policy work. Previously, Quinn worked in the Development Department at NCAI. Before joining NCAI, Quinn was a Development Advisor at the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), specifically working with Indigenous Peoples in Indonesia on anti-corruption and deforestation projects. Quinn has also held positions as a federal contractor for the Administration for Native Americans and the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma. Quinn graduated from the American University Honors Program in Washington DC with a BA in International Relations, and earned a Master's in International Relations at the Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals in Barcelona, Spain. As a result of his personal and professional experiences, Quinn is dedicated to improving the lives of Indigenous People and serving Indian Country both at home and abroad.