

CENTRAL REGION REPORT

Central's Integral Ecology Working Group met Dec 4th. to follow up on the input from the Central Region council meeting, held on Nov. 7th, 2020 (See report below). No new members have come forward. Faithful Followers want to focus on Education of the region on the water issue and will get in touch with Fr. Greg Kennedy concerning a one-hour retreat in the new year. They will also find out what the Jesuits have been doing on this issue. Walk in the Light will contact the MPP of Northern Ontario to find out more about the water situation and speak to Autumn Peltier, our council speaker, to ask her if she has suggestions on ways we could help from her experience. They will also contact Thunder Bay CLC group to see if they would like to be involved. An internet search on who might be helpful in this action has already been done. I will contact Council of Canadians and see what work they have been doing on water in Ontario. Earlier the Zachariah's had sent the Working group information on 'Living Machines' by John Todd. I am trying to get a cost estimate and find out the possible scale of the machine. I have contacted the Prairies region about their action on Lake Winnipeg and am trying to contact U'S CLC about their previous efforts to clean the Great Lakes. Hearts Afire will email their MP about the reasons why Prime Minister Trudeau says the goals for clean water in indigenous communities can't be met. We plan to meet December 18th. for our next meeting. We are acting on behalf of the region so appreciate any and all input from an individual or group.

Submitted by Susan Rodgers



RECOMMENDATIONS FLOWING FROM CENTRAL REGION COUNCIL MEETING, NOV. 7TH 2020.
RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Water treatment and clean, potable water availability in northern Canada, specifically indigenous communities under boil water advisory.
2. What do those communities need? Respect their needs and requests, asking permission.
3. Collaborate with organizations such as:
   -all political parties
   -Council of Canadians
   -Sisters of St. Joseph - Social Justice arm
   -Loretto Sisters
   -Jesuits
   -Wellington Water Watchers
   -Assembly of First Nations
   -Chiefs of Ontario
   Communicate and discern whether It is possible to collaborate with them.

We are talking about urgent matters.

Deadline for CREXCO to report or recommendation action(s): January 15, 2021
Interim report: December 21, 2020

Ten communities of twelve regional communities represented at this Council meeting agree unanimously.
Each community is requested to send a representative to the Integral Ecology Working Group. An email can be sent to Susan Rodgers susan.rodgers8@gmail.com

Identified by Integral Ecology Working Group:
- Education
- Collaboration
- Advocacy
- Water

Need to listen/watch for MAGIS.

We are aging, but we are not useless. We can **collaborate with other established groups** to:
- Educate
- Advocate
- Write letters/sign petitions
- Support

We can **pray**.
We can **learn**.

Although information is good, we need to remain aware of possibility of being overwhelmed by that information. **Need for communal discernment.**

Water is the centre. Clean, safe drinking water is needed. In Canada, there is such disparity between north and south. We can help advocate and support the north where population is smaller.
Magee sent in a chat:
Constitution Act 1982/Section 36:
Canada must "provide essential public services of reasonable quality to all Canadians." Water is an essential service/human right.

International collaboration and cooperation needed, especially USA/Canada states and provinces near the great lakes. CLC communities and regions could become involved in this. Canada needs to ratify international statements.

Report from Judith De Witt.