



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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CANMORE, Alberta, Canada

**The Rockies Institute (TRI)**, a charitable organization based in Canmore will present *Village of Hope* – an engagement process designed by TRI for bringing together Indigenous and non-Indigenous experts for respectful and meaningful dialogue on climate change, December 6, 2018 at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Conference of the Parties (**COP 24**), underway in Katowice, Poland.



Karl Van Orsdol, TRI's Senior Climate Change Fellow will present TRI's Village of Hope, December 6 at COP24

Sought out for its expertise in facilitating the engagement of Indigenous and scientific knowledge holders, TRI will be among several organizations from across the globe presenting programs and ideas on climate leadership to delegates of COP 24 via their Action Hub Events <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/events/action-hub-events>.

*TRI's Village of Hope* was presented as a pilot session as part of the IPCC Cities Conference in Edmonton in March 2018. The process enables seemingly disparate stakeholders such as government officials, scientists, and Indigenous and NGO participants to meet in a meaningful way and join forces for future collaborations that can lead to transformative approaches to the growing climate challenge.

With 100% satisfaction reported by participants, TRI's Village of Hope engagement could become a replicable process for other IPCC and UNFCCC meetings, including a way to operationalize the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples' Platform (LCIP) under the Paris Agreement.

In addition to representatives from Métis and First Nations groups in Canada, Scientists from South African National Parks, and the Agricultural Research Council of South Africa were among the participants in TRI's Village of Hope pilot at the March meetings. TRI has since delivered an engagement project with the Nama tribe in South Africa to help them adapt to their changing climate. Karl Van Orsdol, TRI's Senior Climate Change Fellow will be presenting TRI's Village of Hope process as well as results of the Nama Tribe adaptation project including a [video](#) produced by community partners in South Africa.

TRI is also working on multi-year climate-resilient building projects with the Kainai First Nation (Blood Tribe), and the Piikani Nation.

**“TRI is looking for partners at home and abroad** to help vulnerable communities, particularly in Indigenous and mountain communities adapt to threats such as drought, flooding, fires, resulting from our changing climate,” states Laura Lynes, President. She adds that, “TRI currently offers custom workshops for small businesses, communities, and organizations that are interested in learning more about climate change and how they can develop pathways to resilience through adaptation planning and education.”

**For more information contact:**

Laura S. Lynes, L.L.M.  
President, The Rockies Institute  
Cell: 403-679-8492 / Email: [Laura@rockiesinstitute.ca](mailto:Laura@rockiesinstitute.ca)  
Twitter: [@TRIInitiative](https://twitter.com/TRIInitiative) / [rockiesinstitute.ca](http://rockiesinstitute.ca)



The Rockies Institute (TRI) is a charitable organization in Canada. As a non-State we are dedicated to the Paris Agreement and to advancing activities that will help build adaptive capacity and operationalize the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples' Platform. Our mission is to co-create a climate resilient future. We achieve our mission by delivering education, braiding together knowledge systems, and bridging the gaps between knowledge and action. We are unique in the way we approach projects by co-developing learning journeys and braiding Indigenous and scientific knowledge. Our focus areas are among the most vulnerable to climate change – Indigenous Peoples and mountain communities.