

Our Children's Mother Earth Collaborative Project

Best Start Resource Centre Conference 2014
Toronto, Ontario



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Union of Ontario Indians
FASD Program



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Purpose

- ☐ To share and distribute information about the "Our Children's Mother Earth" and the "Grandmother Bag" project.
- ☐ To provide useful educational resources on preconception, FASD and children's environmental health
- ☐ To provide an interactive workshop format that incorporates cultural teachings

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"Every child deserves to live in a healthy environment."

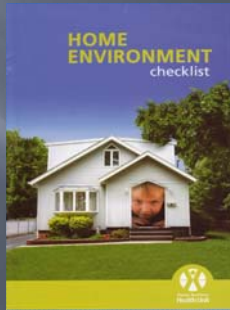
"We can all work together to improve the health of First Nations children"

Phil Fontaine
National Chief
Assembly of First Nations (1997-2000 and 2003-2009)

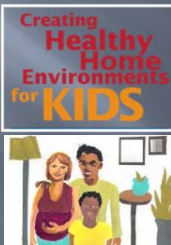
From : Through The Eyes of a Child: First Nation Children's Environmental Health, 2009
Union of Ontario Indians, Anishinabek Health Secretariat

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Phase One



Local Video Launch



Canadian Partnership For Children's Health and Environment



The Four Elements



Through The Eyes of a Child: First Nation Children's Environmental Health, Union of Ontario Indians (2009)

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7 Grandfather Teachings

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Phase Two: People Making a Difference

THE MOTHER'S BODY IS THE
ENVIRONMENT FOR THE
DEVELOPING FETUS

YOU GO WHERE THE ENERGY IS

FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY WORKER SEES LINKS
BETWEEN FASD AND CHILDREN'S
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



A PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE USES CPCH
MATERIALS IN OUTREACH TO FIRST NATIONS



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Creating Our Feast Bundle



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Acknowledgements

- ▣ Minnesota Historical Society
- ▣ Falcon Skye McLeod-Shabogesic
- ▣ Brenda J. Child for her book "Holding Our World Together: Ojibwe Women and the Survival of Community"
- ▣ Elders
- ▣ Workshop participants
- ▣ UOI, TBDHU, CPCHE, Ecosuperior
- ▣ Best Start Resource Centre

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"The well being of our people today and generations to come are directly related to our ability to live in balance and harmony with Mother Earth"

John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief
Union of Ontario Indians (2004-2009)

Taken from: *Through The Eyes of a Child: First Nation Children's Environmental Health*, 2009
Union of Ontario Indians, Anishinabek Health Secretariat

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Feast bags for a healthy environment

WAGNAPITAE FIRST NATION – Participants lend their personal touch in decorating a feast bag during Wagnapitae First Nation's Elders and Local Knowledge Gathering held in July.

Union of Ontario Indians PASO Lake Huron worker Linda Liberry facilitated the session that encouraged individuals to carry their own utensils and dishes when attending a gathering or feast.

Reducing the amount of waste generated from paper plates and plastic utensils is just one small step in protecting our Mother Earth. Participants also learned of the importance of filtering and purifying the water every day to ensure it will be clean for many generations to come. Several youth who attended the session had a keen interest in the project and much hope for the future of the Anishinabek Nation.

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Photo by Lynda Banning

The Sleeping Giant, also known as Nanabijou, the Spirit of the Deep Sea Water turned to stone when the existence of silver (at base of the mountain/Giant's feet) was revealed to the white man. Just like Nanabijou protects its silver treasure, we need to protect children, our greatest treasure from environmental contaminants.

Protecting Our Children's Future: A Caring for Mother Earth Checklist

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IKWE-NIIMI'DIOWAG
THEY DANCE THE WOMEN'S DANCE

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Photo Story



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Medicine Wheel Activity



Through The Eyes of a Child: First Nation Children's Environmental Health,
Union of Ontario Indians (2009)

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Resources

- ❑ www.anishinabek.ca - Union of Ontario Indians Anishinabek Health Secretariat
- ❑ tbdhu.com/tbdh/cch - Thunder Bay District Health Unit: Children's Environmental Health
- ❑ www.healthyenvironmentforkids.ca - Canadian Partnership for Children's Health and the Environment
- ❑ <http://www.ecosuperior.org> - Ecosuperior

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