

QUILLS

Queen's University Indigenous Land-Based Learning STEM
Queen's University Biological Station

Culminating Task: Town Hall Meeting

Organizational Info:

Title: Town Hall Meeting on Water Issue

Summary: Students take on the role of different people/animals affected by a water issue and

have a town hall meeting to discuss its impacts.

Duration: Four to five classes (depending on research time)

Learning Environment: Classroom, online **Season:** Summer, Spring, Fall, Winter, All

Materials:

Computers for research

Costumes (optional)

Meta Data:

Content Type: Activity, Culminating Activity

Bundle: Water

Theme: Contaminants in the Environment

Subject Area: Biology, Drama, Environmental Education, Geography, History, Science, Social

Studies

Curriculum Focus: 8

- Teacher organizes a town hall meeting, choosing a topic for discussion (listed below).
- Each student takes on the role of a being affected by the topic ie: water, fish, osprey, local Member of Parliament, industry leader, community member, mother, student, farmer, etc.
- Each student must clearly articulate how the being they represent is impacted by the issue drawing on Indigenous land-based knowledge and Western science.
- Students must also develop a position statement regarding how they believe the issue can be resolved in a good way (again incorporating an understanding of both Indigenous landbased knowledge and Western Science). A similar activity can be found in the following lesson plan: <u>Woodland Caribou Independent Study 1 | our incredible world</u>

Potential Topics for discussion:

- Nestle's Ontario Water Problem
- Kinder Morgan Pipeline
- Grassy Narrows
- o Lake Manitoba
- Victoria Harbour
- Six Nations water crisis (90 min from Toronto without access to clean water)
- Constance Lake First Nation (Blue green algae bloom)
- Maori (Watershed work and natural governance system)
- Tyendinaga (Lack of access to clean water)



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Please note that the learning represented in this activity reflects Big Idea D. in the Indigenous Knowledge Learning Bundle: "Drawing on both Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being and Western Science will Help us to Address the World's Problems". To help your students learn more about this check out the Learning Activities titled: Two-Eyed Seeing, Drawing on Two-Eyed Seeing to Seek Solutions to Real World Issues, Two-Row Wampum, and Tying it All Together found in the Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being with the Natural World Learning Bundle (Grades 7-10).