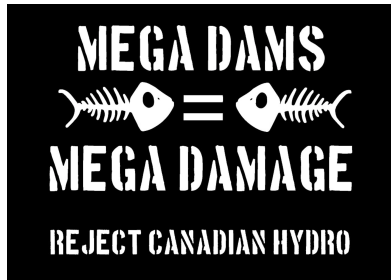


North American Megadam Resistance Alliance

Protecting rivers and their communities by resisting megadams and their transmission corridors



Press Release

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INDIGENOUS SPEAKERS AT 51st DAY OF MOURNING IN PLYMOUTH MA CONFRONT CULTURAL GENOCIDE OF CANADA'S HYDROPOWER DAMS

For immediate release: November 26, 2020

Twelve Indigenous speakers from across Canada confronted the cultural genocide and environmental destruction of hydropower dams on their ancestral lands and traditional cultures. Indigenous Inuit, Innu, and Pimicikamak (Cree) speakers described the legacy of colonialism associated with the hydropower dams. The video is available [here](#).

Across Canada, Indigenous communities including the Innu of Labrador, Pessamit, Wemotaci, Pikogan, Lac Simon, and Kitcisakik accuse Hydro-Quebec of violating human and constitutional rights. Visit www.quebechydroclash.com and

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The Day of Mourning is an annual event hosted by the [United American Indians of New England](#) to serve as a reminder of the genocide of millions of Native people, the theft of Native lands, and the relentless assault on Native cultures. It is held on Thanksgiving Day in Plymouth, Massachusetts, USA, the site of the landing of the Pilgrims.

Inuit Denise Cole whose ancestral lands are impacted by hydropower development said, "We have major threats to water here in Labrador. Megadams being built on our rivers have wreaked havoc in many ways by causing the loss of traditional food webs being contaminated by methylmercury. Instability issues put us at risk downstream of potential flooding and loss of life."

Youth speaker Carlton Richard from Pimicikamak described the food insecurity in his remote subarctic community caused by hydrodams that alter river flows. River flows are unpredictable making fishing, hunting, and trapping impossible. Dams cause ice to become unstable, preventing people from using the ice for winter travel and food gathering

The speakers are allies of [North American Megadam Resistance Alliance](#) an international campaign to protect rivers and communities. The Alliance campaigns to stop hydropower export corridors to the U.S. because the electricity is not clean and renewable as claimed. In Massachusetts, Governor Baker backs a proposed transmission corridor through Maine to import more hydroelectricity from Indigenous lands. The Pessamit Innu First Nation, Wemotaci Atikamekw First Nation, Pikogan, Lac-Simon, and Kitcisakik in October 2020 called the Massachusetts export corridor part of a "state-run extortion endeavor" that sells electricity "[without our consent and compensation](#)."

This is the fourth year NAMRA has hosted Indigenous allies from Canada at the Day of Mourning. Previous speakers included Amy Norman (Nunatsiavummiuk), Marjorie Flowers, AngajukKâk of Rigolet, Nunatsiavut, and from Pimicikamak in the Manitoba region, Rita and Tommy Monias, Noretta Miswagon, and Carlton Richard.

Resources:

[North American Megadam Resistance Alliance](#)
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[Website of Pessamit Innu First Nation, Wemotaci Atikamekw First Nation, Pikogan, Lac-Simon and Kitcisakik](#)

****END****

Photos from the 2019 National Day of Mourning in Plymouth, MA.



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