

# SESSION 5: WATER AS RELATIVE – INDIGENOUS WATER LAWS

March 11, 2026

Elder Copper Joe Jack



Land and Peoples  
Relationship Model



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# WELCOME AND OPENING FROM ELDER COPPER JACK WATER PRAYER



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# HOUSEKEEPING

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**Questions:** Please always type your questions in the chat; we will note them down and either address them today or by email. We appreciate good questions, so please keep them coming.

**Mic & Camera:** Please mute yourself, and feel free to turn off your camera during the teachings if you prefer. Please turn on your camera during discussion time, if you can!

**Land Camp Application EXTENDED**

<https://forms.gle/AZqwc5anUjoaq9C36>



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# THE LPR MODEL IS CEREMONY

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You are NOT required to use the model in any way for your project plan! If you wish to, however:

1. Bring on the LPR Model Team to facilitate the model.
2. Use our services as guidance (Copper could help select and support a facilitator, for example).
3. If using/facilitating the model independently, use it as a whole, without cherry picking components.

*\*2 & 3: LPR Model Team is not responsible for the outcome of externally facilitated processes.*

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# SESSION FLOW

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**50 MINS** – Welcome and teachings from Elder Copper

**10 MINS** – Body Break

**50 MINS** – Breakout groups, report back

**10 MINS** – Closing thoughts from Elder Copper



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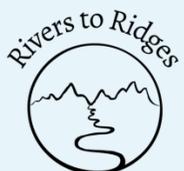
# INDIGENOUS WATER LAWS

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*How do Indigenous Water Laws relate to water's connection to life?*

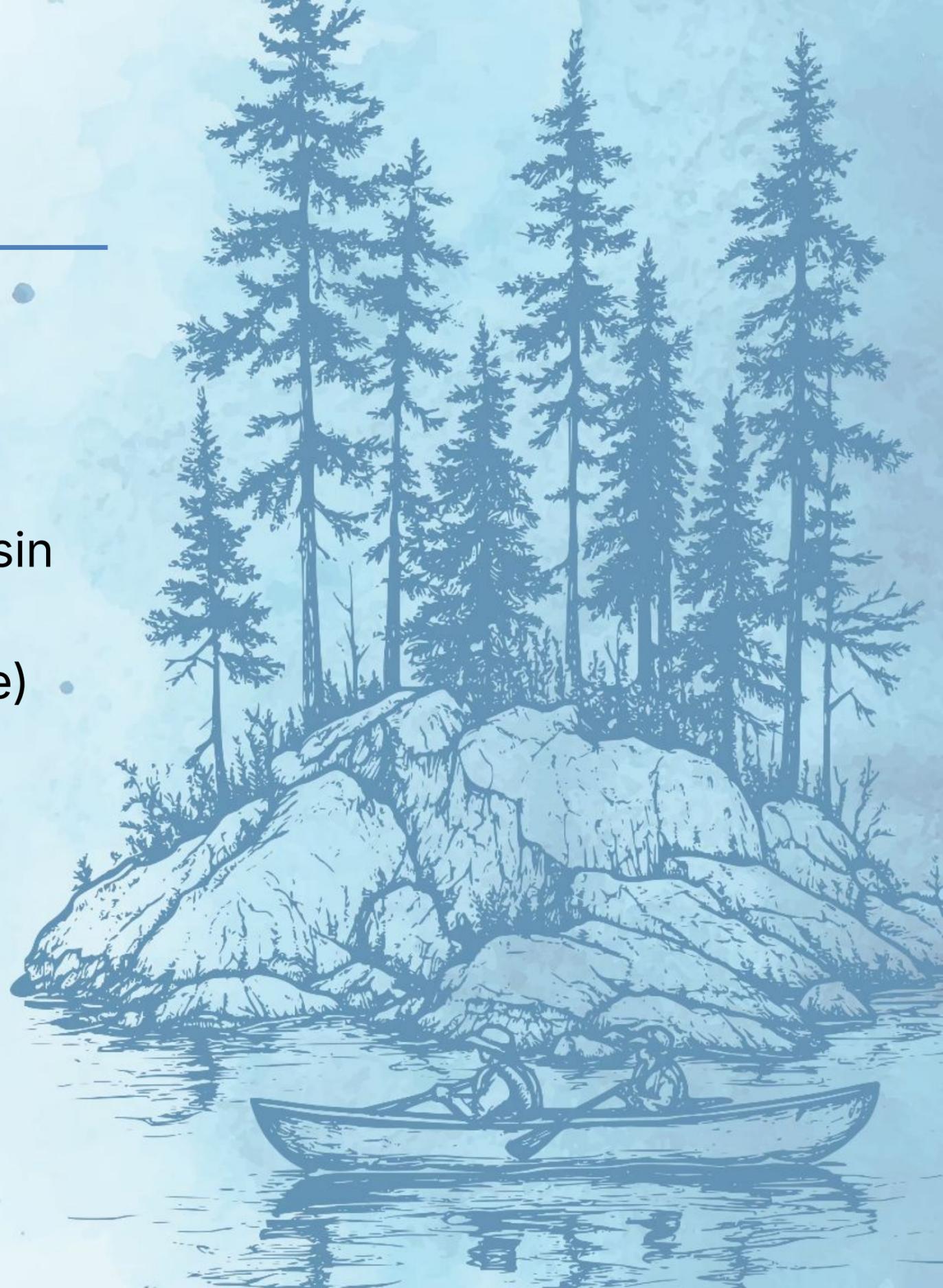
- **Story of water:** in the universe, on earth, in the basin
- **Water has a consciousness:** It reflects its surroundings, mirrors its environment (Kluane Lake)
- **Respect water:** Where water is born
- **Keep water clean:** Camp away from water
- **Cycle of water:** Obligations

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# RIGHTS OF WATER

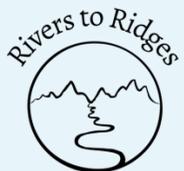
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*Globally, organizations are working to gain 'personhood rights' for bodies of water.*

*How do you feel about granting water legal personhood?*

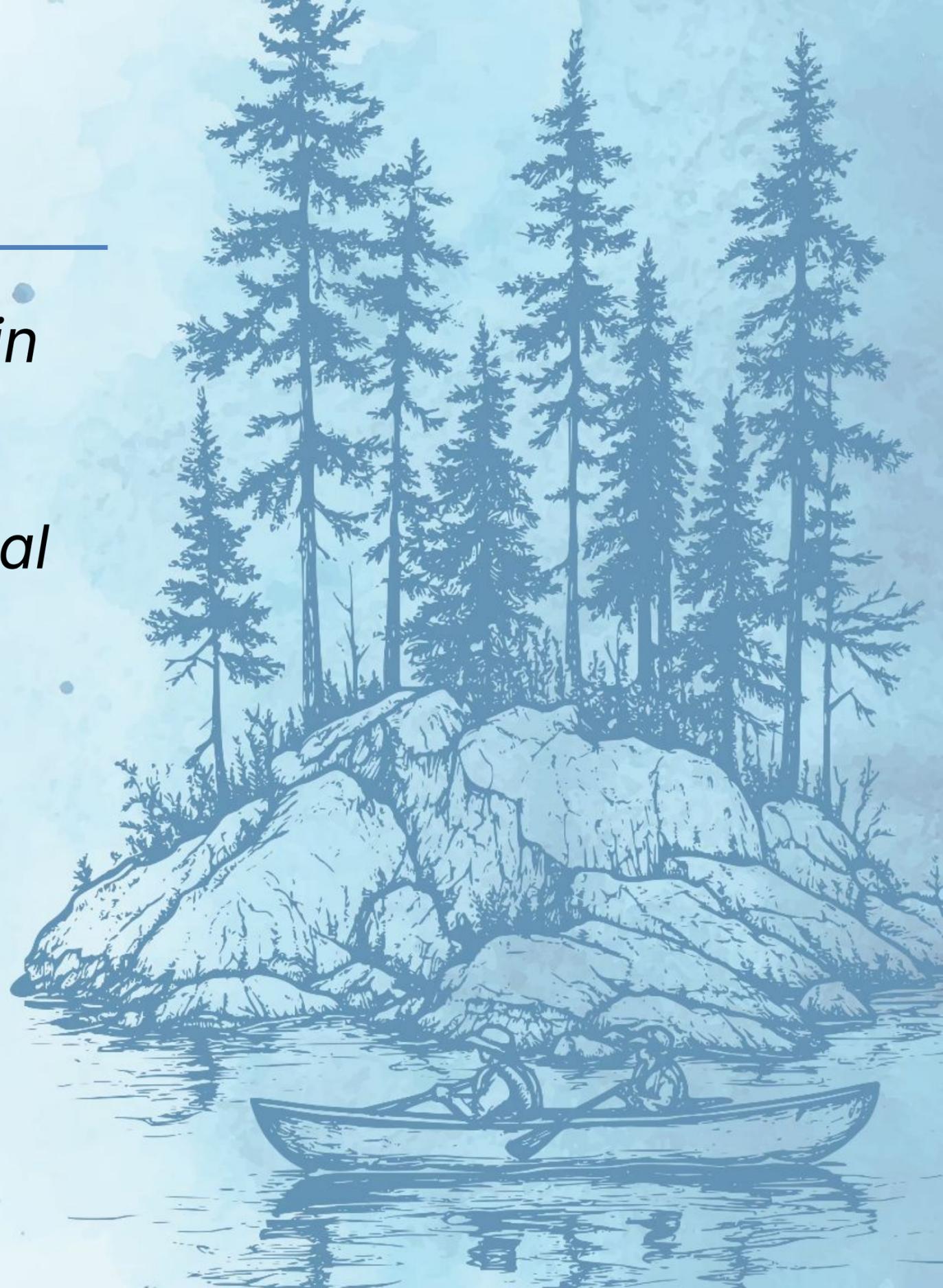
- Water deserves more rights than a person
- Water creates and maintains life
- Water is vulnerable to mistreatment

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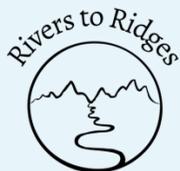
# CONCERNS FOR WATER

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*The Model is working with many projects connected to water. What common concerns are coming up?*

- Pollution/water quality
- Drought/water scarcity
- Glacial melt
- Permafrost melt
- Flooding

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# 10-MIN BODY BREAK



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# SHARING CIRCLE - BREAK OUT GROUPS

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In 5 groups, take **30 minutes** to discuss:

1. *Group introduction round*
2. *Key question: **What does water need to do its work properly?***

*\*Remember to designate someone to **take notes in the shared Google Doc** + someone to **report back**\**

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## FOR NEXT SESSION

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- Complete **Week 5** in the Project Workbook.
- Review **Session 6** content on the course page, including watching and reflecting on the stories:
  - “Copper Jack and the Wolf Pack”
  - “The Tree Message”

**Land Camp Application EXTENDED**

Application QR Code here:



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Gunatchéesh Ho Ho (Teslin Tlingit)  
Shaw Nithan (Southern Tutchone)  
Shaw Than (Northern Tutchone)  
Mahsi Cho (Gwich'in; Tr'ondek Hwech'in)



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