

**Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** Re: Funding

We hope to hear back soon from Braiding Knowledges Canada (<https://braidingknowledgescanada.ca>) and the Chanie Wenjack Fund (<https://downiewenjack.ca>)

- **Mike:** Funding for?
  - **Sydney Kuppenbender:** For attendance at our summer land camp July 9-14!

**Linnéa:** I apologize for being late.

- **Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** We're glad you're here!
  - **Linnéa:** Glad I made it, in the end! :-)

**Linnéa:** Where do you leave the food? In the same place each time?

- **Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** I know that he is often on or around his family's land along the lake. It's likely a place that the Grey Jay's have been nesting, and where they're used to seeing and hearing him, a place where they maintain their relationship, with the land and with each other.

**Cindy Allen:** Mahsi, thanks for the teachings and indigenous laws and stories. I have another meeting tonight. If I can I'll try and return later.

**Jac (They/She):** Hey just looking at this Grey Jay photo, & I'm wondering if a photo of a banded Grey Jay was intentionally chosen?

- **Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** It wasn't intentional, but that is a really interesting question and possible discussion!
- **Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** It reminds me of the teachings I've heard from various Indigenous leaders on how Western styles of monitoring often clash with traditional values. And recently learned about eDNA as a way to gather data about life below water in a way that doesn't directly disrupt or stress them if done properly. <https://academic.oup.com/fisheries/article/49/4/169/7810780?login=false>
  - **Jac (They/She):** As a bird bander, it makes me think about some of the conversations that we have had about banding ethics and respecting the birds we are working with.
- **heide clelland (she/her/they):** ❤️
- **Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** @Jac (They/She) I mentioned this to Copper and he may speak a bit about monitoring and guardianship approaches.

**Sydney Kuppenbender:** Any other questions for Copper?

**Linnéa:** Thank you

**heide clelland (she/her/they):** i'm loving the deep inside thinking and details being woven to show how the stories live inside for a lifetime -- this is very practical and meaningful, Shaw nithan!

**Kristy's iPhone:** How do you foster land stewardship at the community level?

**Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** WALK WITH US

Respectful Travel Guidelines:

[https://indigenouslyukon.ca/assets/documents/028-051 - Respectful Travel Guidelines DOC 04\\_WEB.pdf](https://indigenouslyukon.ca/assets/documents/028-051 - Respectful Travel Guidelines DOC 04_WEB.pdf)

**Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** Here is the final survey on changing the timing of the course (or not): <https://forms.gle/T7dMkHMuigWRWhvX7>. After this we will go forward with a decision for the remaining sessions of the program.

- **heide clelland (she/her/they):** do we fill it out if we did it last time?
  - Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges: No need to fill it out if you have already completed it. Unless your answer has changed.
    - **heide clelland (she/her/they):** thx

**Kristin Walsh (she/her) - Sturgeon County:** Apologies, I have to leave at 7.

- **Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** Thank you for letting us know!

**Sydney Kuppenbender:** Question for discussion after the break: what does land stewardship look like for you? and, how does this connect to your professional life/work?

**Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** Also Copper may share a bit about monitoring/guardianship and Indigenous values.

**heide clelland (she/her/they):** How do you decide or guide a person you are mentoring to know when it is time to bring the knowledge and ways coming into their bodies and ways minds to share with others in a larger way?

**Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** Google Doc note-taking space: Feel free to add your own thoughts here if you wish.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/10eOEI5T6L\\_9ISehO2f8Drn-f5yDuFCHLSXE4xq34-v4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/10eOEI5T6L_9ISehO2f8Drn-f5yDuFCHLSXE4xq34-v4/edit?usp=sharing)

**Kianna Bear:** We can only view the document - can you grant us editing access Wren :)

- **Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** Appreciate that!

**Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** Updated:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/10eOEI5T6L\\_9ISehO2f8Drn-f5yDuFCHLSXE4xq34-v4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/10eOEI5T6L_9ISehO2f8Drn-f5yDuFCHLSXE4xq34-v4/edit?usp=sharing)

**Kristy's iPhone:** Thank you for sharing so many thoughts running right now.

**heide clelland (she/her/they):** Those thoughts we shared are the beginning of the question so perhaps that's lots for this little time together today! 🌿

**Kristy's iPhone:** I was typing something along that line to Kianna then lost it when we went on the break. Glad you asked that question as I feel that's all I am doing these days is trying to convince leadership, people in power how important land stewardship is and how it will benefit us all in so many ways.

**Sydney Kuppenbender:** Kianna, I think about this a lot too. What has worked for me previously, is asking people straight up, "what would the river think about this?" "what would the caribou think about this?", etc. Actively calling the No Voice into the space has often shifted the conversation or at least caused people to pause

**Meriya Gmeiner-McPherson (she/they):** Stewardship for me has looked differently depending on where I lived and at different times in my life. When I lived in downtown Toronto I struggled with connection to the land in a space that felt so urbanized. At that time, I spent time cleaning up an alleyway behind the home I was living in and it helped me feel like I was caring for the land and animals that lived there. Personally now, I try to spend time on the land with horses and my dogs and spend time getting to know the wildlife and patterns that emerge when I go there regularly. With my professional life, at Inclusion Yukon, we have a plot at the community garden in Whitehorse and every summer we go and tend to the garden and we all volunteer to care for garden and berry bushes surrounding it. We have been having more discussions about how disability and climate change is so interconnected and we want to build more energy around land stewardship and building relationship with the land

**Colin Arlt:** Reciprocity

- **Sydney Kuppenbender:** Hi cousin! Welcome ❤️
  - **Colin Arlt:** Thanks so good to see you!
- **heide clelland (she/her/they):** 🌿🐻
- **Jac (They/She):** Good to see you cousin 🐻

**heide clelland (she/her/they):** love how full and practical this question is for kindling deeper shared caring and sharing and respect with All beings and with the Land 🌿

**Raphaëlle Dancette:** In my work (marine conservation for the government), I try to include as much as possible people who are most connected to the land (indigenous and local communities) and their values (regarding the lands and waters), in all committees, activities and documents that we produce. Accompanying guardians in their activities (wanting to monitor seagrass and lobsters evolution in their waters) was also a precious experience. Being closer to people who are already close to the no voice is helping a lot to open my senses to better feel what the no voice have to tell.

**Jac (They/She):** for me, land stewardship looks like caring for the land around my home, and having conversations with others about caring for the land that we share. I've been thinking about how to walk gently in my day to day.

- **Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** Would you like me to share this?
  - **Jac (They/She):** no having it in the chat feels fine

**Colin Arlt:** Love you all 😊

**Mike:** As a Land Relationship Planner, the role involves ethically integrating Indigenous Traditional Knowledge into regional land use planning by grounding decisions in relationships with the land rather than ownership. Questions about land stewardship help guide this responsibility, emphasizing listening to the land, its ecosystems, water, wildlife and seasonal cycles before acting. Land stewardship is understood as a lived practice rooted in responsibility, respect and cultural continuity.

**Levi Denny:** Land stewardship to me is minimizing harm and maintaining balance for the environment so that all my no voice relations are able to thrive and live freely as they were created.

**heide clelland (she/her/they):** "freely as they were created" yes, i felt that in Colin's powerful clear words of this law of reciprocity

**Sydney Kuppenbender:** Taanishi friends, I have to leave the course a few minutes early today, so if the slides disappear that's just because I'm skedaddling! 💕 Maarsi for sharing your energy with us today.

**Linnéa:** Decades ago, when I was younger & stronger, I operated a biodynamic farm in Ottawa's Greenbelt. It was my last attempt to exercise land stewardship from a Western model and, within that model, it's considered extreme because the farmer is encouraged to consider the farm as holistically as possible (including the movement of the moon and planets). Even so, when I left Riverglen Farm, I had come to the understanding that farming itself is for fools: farmers are constantly, without cease, fighting the natural world in their goals of growing and protecting certain human food crops & domestic animals. Since then, my understanding of stewardship has come to mean supporting and helping the water, plants and animals around me, wherever I am, to do what they want to do. I'm slowly getting to know this northern Boreal forest.

Colin Arlt:

[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-priorities/provide-food-and-water-sustainably/food-and-water-stories/virtual-fencing-research-conservation-tool/&ved=2ahUKEwi125K\\_uLyTAXWpOzQIHRyWOG4QFnoECBwQAQ&usq=AOvVaw19QCNZEVfnl\\_cgDS5N\\_4fQ](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-priorities/provide-food-and-water-sustainably/food-and-water-stories/virtual-fencing-research-conservation-tool/&ved=2ahUKEwi125K_uLyTAXWpOzQIHRyWOG4QFnoECBwQAQ&usq=AOvVaw19QCNZEVfnl_cgDS5N_4fQ)

**heide clelland (she/her/they):** this sounds alsrming to my heart and mind, the way fences caused the elk to die in the 1920s Rockies because they couldnt reach foods and gut microbes

**Colin Arlt:**

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-priorities/provide-food-and-water-sustainably/food-and-water-stories/virtual-fencing-research-conservation-tool/>

**Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/rcmp-spies-1970s-indigenous-rights-9.7134112>

**heide clelland (she/her/they):** a kind of mobile rez system

**Linnéa:** it might not be bad, this electrical fence, if it keeps animals away from highways and train tracks, but I suppose it depends on who controls the 'fence'.

- **heide clelland (she/her/they):** and that is part of what can become invisible. like industry trying to influence species numbers and community population data that might confound their objectives, so they can claim there is minimal impact
  - **Linnéa:** Exactly
    - **heide clelland (she/her/they):** it also allows tracking for poaching or intercepting "inconvenient" species at risk, it has long been important to be discreet about habitat and population locations
    -

**Bêlit Peters:** I work for "How We Walk With The Land and Water" that is composed of Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Carcross/Tagish First Nation, and Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. HWW is traditional knowledge focused and led, to ensure the southern lakes first nations voices are heard, recognized, and valued at the "land use" planning table. I started working with HWW to ensure my future and that the next 7 generations behind me have the same or even better land and water! Stewardship to me is a responsibility instilled into me from my ansestors and elders who guide me on my path everyday, the path they paved for me. I have never seen Caribou or the giant king salmon my ansestors had a relationship with but I hope the next generations will have that opportunity if I continue my stewardship path many have walked before me. (you dont have to read out loud!)

**heide clelland (she/her/they):** yes, how Wren names the importance of asking the NoVoice how they feel about surveillance and fencing and being managed by distant humans on a screen or even AI

**Wren Nicolardi (any pronouns) Rivers to Ridges:** Tasks to tend before Session 7:

- Complete Week 6 in the Project Workbook.
- Review Session 7 content on the course page, including watching and reflecting on the stories:
  - "Messages from the No Voice"
  - "Model Breakdown" video

- Land Camp Application EXTENDED
  - Application here: <https://forms.gle/HhsKYB1XsSV2LzMA8>

Join us for next week's Optional drop-in for more small-group time with Copper

**Sage Brown:** Within my role as Coordinator with the Yukon Food Security Network, I always try to ensure that land sovereignty & stewardship are brought into discourse around food sovereignty / food security. Food is such an important way we connect, not only as communities, but to the land & water systems around us. We often hear many concerns relating to the ongoing impacts of mining & industry activities on traditional foodways throughout the Yukon. Land stewardship is essential to safeguarding northern foodways & I think there are a lot of opportunities to strengthen our collective advocacy

- **Colin Arlt:** What a legend. Thank you for the work you do. I'd love to have a virtual coffee with you my email is [Colin@nciaf.ca](mailto:Colin@nciaf.ca)
  - **Sage Brown:** Absolutely! I'll shoot you an email first thing tomorrow :)

**heide clelland (she/her/they):** Shaw Nithan for feeding us many good seeds and cranberries and well seasoned peanuts 🍌

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  - Application here: <https://forms.gle/HhsKYB1XsSV2LzMA8>
- Final chance to weigh in on course timing: <https://forms.gle/T7dMkHMuiqWRWhvX7>

**Michelle Leona (She/They):** Thank you Kianna.