**Idle No More**

**The Vision**

Idle No More calls on all people to join in a peaceful revolution, to honour Indigenous sovereignty, and to protect the land and water

* INM has and will continue to help build sovereignty & resurgence of nationhood.
* INM will continue to pressure government and industry to protect the environment.
* INM will continue to build allies in order to reframe the nation to nation relationship, this will be done by including grassroots perspectives, issues, and concern.

**The Manifesto**

The Treaties are nation to nation agreements between First Nations and the British Crown who are sovereign nations. The Treaties are agreements that cannot be altered or broken by one side of the two Nations. The spirit and intent of the Treaty agreements meant that First Nations peoples would share the land, but retain their inherent rights to lands and resources. Instead, First Nations have experienced a history of colonization which has resulted in outstanding land claims, lack of resources and unequal funding for services such as education and housing.

The state of Canada has become one of the wealthiest countries in the world by using the land and resources. Canadian mining, logging, oil and fishing companies are the most powerful in the world due to land and resources. Some of the poorest First Nations communities (such as Attawapiskat) have mines or other developments on their land but do not get a share of the profit. The taking of resources has left many lands and waters poisoned – the animals and plants are dying in many areas in Canada. We cannot live without the land and water. We have laws older than this colonial government about how to live with the land.

Currently, this government is trying to pass many laws so that reserve lands can also be bought and sold by big companies to get profit from resources. They are promising to share this time…Why would these promises be different from past promises? We will be left with nothing but poisoned water, land and air. This is an attempt to take away sovereignty and the inherent right to land and resources from First Nations peoples.

There are many examples of other countries moving towards sustainability, and we must demand sustainable development as well. We believe in healthy, just, equitable and sustainable communities and have a vision and plan of how to build them. Please join us in creating this vision.

**The Story**

Idle No More has quickly become one of the largest Indigenous mass movements in Canadian history – sparking hundreds of teach-ins, rallies, and protests across Turtle Island and beyond.

What began as a series of teach-ins throughout Saskatchewan to protest impending parliamentary bills that will erode Indigenous sovereignty and environmental protections, has now changed the social and political landscape of Canada.

The National Day of Action on Dec. 10th, inspired thousands of people to action, committing themselves to ongoing resistance against neo-colonialism. In a few short months, Idle No More has become the center of media attention, drawing millions of people to our websites, twitter account and face book pages every day. It has also brought together a number of solidarity groups and allies looking to work against the current and pending governmental policy that impacts on collective rights, social safety nets, and environmental protections.

The impetus for the recent Idle No More events, lies in a centuries old resistance as Indigenous nations and their lands suffered the impacts of exploration, invasion and colonization. Idle No More seeks to assert Indigenous inherent rights to sovereignty and reinstitute traditional laws and Nation to Nation Treaties by protecting the lands and waters from corporate destruction. Each day that Indigenous rights are not honored or fulfilled, inequality between Indigenous peoples and the settler society grows.

This website seeks to provide ongoing information on the historical and contemporary context of colonialism, and provide an analysis of the interconnections of race, gender, sexuality, class and other identity constructions in ongoing oppression. This website also seeks to make visible what has often been untold - some of the powerful personal stories of those who have been moved by the spirit of Idle No More. Idle No More has provided hope and love at a time when global corporate profits rule. We invite everyone to join in this movement.

**Calls for Change**

Idle No More and Defenders of the Land, a network of Indigenous communities in land struggle, have joined together to issue this common call for escalating action. Our message is clear and in accordance with the principles of coexistence and mutual respect between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples. We call for Canada, the provinces and the territories to:

* Deepen democracy in Canada through practices such as proportional representation and consultation on all legislation concerning collective rights and environmental protections, and include legislation which restricts corporate interests.
* Honour the spirit and intent of the historic Treaties. Officially repudiate the racist Doctrine of Discovery and the Doctrine of Terra Nullius, and abandon their use to justify the seizure of Indigenous Nations lands and wealth.
* Actively resist violence against women and hold a national inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, and involve Indigenous women in the design, decision-making, process and implementation of this inquiry, as a step toward initiating a comprehensive and coordinated national action plan.

**Greenpeace**

**History**

In 1971, a small group of activists set sail to the Amchitka island off Alaska to try and stop a US nuclear weapons test. The money for the mission was raised with a concert, their old fishing boat was called “The Greenpeace”. This is where our story begins.

Life on a Greenpeace voyage always involves a lot of colourful characters, strong opinions, good times and bad. Obviously at this point early Greenpeace leader Bob Hunter was not in the greatest of moods and chose a novel and non-violent, if not entirely non-offensive, way of showing it:

*"Why not sail a boat up there and confront the bomb?"*

It was a fancy, at first. Marie Bohlen casually expressed the idea over coffee one morning. But the people around her – a loose alliance of Quakers, pacifists, ecologists, journalists and hippies – weren’t known for shrugging off the really big ideas.

A few weeks later, the Don’t Make the Wave Committee – as the group was still called then – had a plan. “If the Americans want to go ahead with the test,” Marie’s husband Jim said, “they’ll have to tow us out.”

Leaving one of those heady first meetings, Irving Stowe flashed the peace sign – as was his custom – and said "Peace". On that occasion, the usually rather quiet Canadian ecologist Bill Darnell made the off-hand reply: "Make it a green peace."

When the words didn’t fit onto buttons for the group’s first fundraiser, they were simply merged: Green Peace became Greenpeace.

**Mission Statement**

Greenpeace is an independent campaigning organisation, which uses non-violent, creative confrontation to expose global environmental problems, and to force the solutions which are essential to a green and peaceful future.

Greenpeace's goal is to ensure the ability of the earth to nurture life in all its diversity.

Therefore Greenpeace seeks to:

* protect biodiversity in all its forms
* prevent pollution and abuse of the earth's ocean, land, air and fresh water
* end all nuclear threats
* promote peace, global disarmament and non-violence

**Personal Responsibility and Nonviolence**

We take personal responsibility for our actions, and we are committed to nonviolence. These principles are inspired by the Quaker concept of 'bearing witness', which is about taking action based on conscience – personal action based on personal responsibility. We are accountable for our actions, and everyone on a Greenpeace action is trained in nonviolent direct action.

**Independence**

We ensure our financial independence from political or commercial interests. We do not accept money from either companies or governments. And we mean any money. Individual contributions, together with foundations grants, are the only source of our funding. Our independence gives us the authority we need to effectively tackle power, and make real change happen.

**Promoting Solutions**

We seek solutions for, and promote open, informed debate about society's environmental choices. We don’t work to manage environmental problems, we work to eliminate them. That’s why we developed our roadmap to save the seas through the establishment of marine reserves, and an Energy [R]evolution blueprint that points the way to a clean economy. It’s not enough for us to point the finger; we develop, research and promote concrete steps towards a green and peaceful future for all of us.

**Lady Gaga, Laverne Cox, Jennifer Lawrence Sign Letter Against Texas Bathroom Bill**

Alicia Keys, Amy Poehler, Sting throw support behind organization fighting anti-LGBTQ legislation

By Jon Blistein, *Rolling Stone Magazine*, Feb. 14, 2017

Lady Gaga, Laverne Cox, Jennifer Lawrence and Alicia Keys are among 140 celebrities to sign a letter protesting a proposed "bathroom bill" in Texas. The letter claims the proposed bill would diminish the rights of members of the LGBTQ community.

Addressed to "Texas Leaders," the letter comes from the organization TX Together. "Texas Senate Bill 6 and House Bill 1362 would criminalize and restrict the simple act of a transgender person using the restroom that aligns with their gender identity – a denial of basic human dignity."

Among the other signees are Sting, Ariana Grande, Jimmy Kimmel, Cyndi Lauper, Against Me!, Janelle Monáe, Carrie Brownstein, Tegan and Sara, Amy Poehler, Amy Schumer, Britney Spears, Kesha, Wilco and Emma Stone.

The letter states that along with the bathroom bill, the Texas legislature is considering laws that would force teachers to out LGBTQ students to their parents, strip cities of non-discrimination protections, undermine marriage equality and legalize discrimination on campuses and in public life.

"It is up to you whether these bills will become law and we are watching," the letter reads. "It is up to us to commit to doing everything within our power to make sure all of our fans, crews and fellow artists feel safe and welcome wherever we go."

While the Texas bathroom bill has not yet received a preliminary vote, it has already drawn criticism from LGBTQ advocacy groups and others. For instance, the NFL, after hosting the Super Bowl in Houston this year, suggested they would not consider Texas for future championship games if the bill becomes law.

The reaction to the Texas bill mirrors the response to North Carolina's infamous HB2, which sparked a massive backlash among musicians and sports leagues. Most recently, the NCAA threatened to disallow North Carolina from hosting any championship events through 2022 after the state's reluctance to repeal HB2.

**Black Lives Matter**

This is Not a Moment, but a Movement.

Black Lives Matter is a chapter-based national organization working for the validity of Black life. We are working to (re)build the Black liberation movement.

#BlackLivesMatter was created in 2012 after Trayvon Martin’s murderer, George Zimmerman, was acquitted for his crime, and dead 17-year old Trayvon was posthumously placed on trial for his own murder. Rooted in the experiences of Black people in this country who actively resist our dehumanization, #BlackLivesMatter is a call to action and a response to the virulent anti-Black racism that permeates our society. Black Lives Matter is a unique contribution that goes beyond extrajudicial killings of Black people by police and vigilantes.

It goes beyond the narrow nationalism that can be prevalent within Black communities, which merely call on Black people to love Black, live Black and buy Black, keeping straight cis Black men in the front of the movement while our sisters, queer and trans and disabled folk take up roles in the background or not at all.

Black Lives Matter affirms the lives of Black queer and trans folks, disabled folks, black-undocumented folks, folks with records, women and all Black lives along the gender spectrum. It centers those that have been marginalized within Black liberation movements. It is a tactic to (re)build the Black liberation movement.

**What Does #BlackLivesMatter Mean?**

When we say Black Lives Matter, we are broadening the conversation around state violence to include all of the ways in which Black people are intentionally left powerless at the hands of the state. We are talking about the ways in which Black lives are deprived of our basic human rights and dignity.

**Support for #BlackLivesMatter**

We were humbled when cultural workers, artists, designers and techies offered their labor and love to expand #BlackLivesMatter beyond a social media hashtag. Opal, Patrisse, and I created the infrastructure for this movement project—moving the hashtag from social media to the streets. Our team grew through an event organized to support the movement that was growing in St. Louis, MO, after 18-year old Mike Brown was killed at the hands of Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson. We’ve hosted national conference calls focused on issues of critical importance to Black people working hard for the liberation of our people. We’ve connected people across the country working to end the various forms of injustice impacting our people. We’ve created space for the celebration and humanization of Black lives.

**March on Washington (1963)**

The civil rights movement in the United States during the late 1950s and 1960s was the political, legal, and social struggle to gain full citizenship rights for black Americans and to achieve racial equality. Individuals and civil rights organizations challenged segregation and discrimination using a variety of activities, including protest marches, boycotts, and refusal to abide by segregation laws.

On August 28, 1963, more than 250,000 demonstrators descended upon the nation’s capital to participate in the “March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.” Not only was it the largest demonstration for human rights in United States history, but it also occasioned a rare display of unity among the various civil rights organizations. The event began with a rally at the Washington Monument featuring several celebrities and musicians. Participants then marched the mile-long National Mall to the Memorial. The three-hour long program at the Lincoln Memorial included speeches from prominent civil rights and religious leaders. The day ended with a meeting between the march leaders and President John F. Kennedy at the White House.

The idea for the 1963 March on Washington was envisioned by A. Philip Randolph, a long-time civil rights activist dedicated to improving the economic condition of black Americans. When Randolph first proposed the march in late 1962, he received little response from other civil rights leaders. He knew that cooperation would be difficult because each had his own agenda for the civil rights movement, and the leaders competed for funding and press coverage. Success of the March on Washington would depend on the involvement of the so-called “Big Six”—Randolph and the heads of the five major civil rights organizations: Roy Wilkins of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); Whitney Young, Jr., of the National Urban League; Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC); James Farmer of the Conference of Racial Equality (CORE); and John Lewis of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

The details and organization of the march were handled by Bayard Rustin, Randolph’s trusted associate. Rustin was a veteran activist with extensive experience in putting together mass protest. With only two months to plan, Rustin established his headquarters in Harlem, NY, with a smaller office in Washington. He and his core staff of 200 volunteers quickly put together the largest peaceful demonstration in U.S. history.

The most remembered part of the March on Washington was the delivery of Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream Speech”. This was a seminal moment in not only the civil rights movement, but in all of America’s history.

**AT&T’s ‘It Can Wait’ Campaign Wins Year’s Best Campaign Award**

Jun 16, 2014

*Texting while driving was estimated to be involved in 200,000+vehicle crashes in 2012, often involving injuries and deaths. That’s why AT&T is committed to putting an end to texting and driving. We’re focused on educating the public—especially teens—on the dangers of texting and driving. No text is worth a life… It Can Wait.*

AT&T's "It can Wait" campaign to eradicate texting while driving has been honored as the year's best public service campaign across the industry.

Distracted driving has received worldwide attention and called for severe laws. Texting while driving has been identified as one of the biggest reason behind distracted driving, so AT&T started an awareness campaign to encourage drivers to put their phones aside while driving. The campaign, "It Can Wait", managed to attract millions of people's attention and its popularity won AT&T an award for the best campaign of the year.

The honor of the year's best campaign was given to AT&T's It Can Wait at Public Relations Society of America's annual Silver Anvil ceremony, which recognizes the industry's top campaigns across a wide range of categories and sectors. AT&T won the Best of Silver Anvil award and also the Silver Anvil in the "Public Service-Business" category, according to the company's press release Friday.

AT&T, through the "It Can Wait program", aims to reduce the number of accidents caused due to the act. The campaign also shows texting while driving is just as dangerous as drinking and driving. AT&T drew a massive audience, including teens and adults and also garnered support from more than 1,500 organizations.

Through the It Can Wait program, AT&T aims to eliminate texting while driving and reduce the number of accidents caused due to the act. The campaign also shows texting while driving is just as dangerous as drinking and driving. AT&T drew a massive audience, including teens and adults, towards the program and also garnered support from more than 1,500 organizations.

AT&T's battle against texting while driving has won a favorable outcome. Nearly 5 million pledges against texting while driving have been made on the campaign's site, which is up from 2.5 million in September last year.

"Texting while driving claims too many lives, and raising awareness of this completely preventable tragedy is key to saving them," U.S. Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx, said last year. "We've seen success before through our seatbelts and our drunk driving campaigns, and I both applaud the It Can Wait campaign for its efforts to raise awareness and encourage everyone to make a commitment on Drive 4 Pledges Day to drive focused and distraction-free."

**How AT&T is addressing the issue:**

* A No Texting and Driving Pledge. Encouraging drivers to make a commitment to never text and drive while holding themselves accountable to a loved one. All drivers can take the pledge at ItCanWait.com, and share their pledge in social channels to extend the no-texting-and-driving movement #ItCanWait.
* Driving Behavior Change. Encouraging individuals to create a routine in the moment of temptation that reminds them of their pledge not to text and drive and signals to friends on social and on text that they are unavailable while driving.
* First-Hand Accounts. Last year, AT&T worked with acclaimed filmmaker Werner Herzog to develop a powerful documentary and national advertising spots featuring real stories of lives drastically altered—and even ended—because of texting while driving. We also coordinate a speaker’s bureau bringing these stories to communities across the country.
* Teen Education. Asking individuals, especially teens, to spread the word about the dangers of texting and driving through #ItCanWait. AT&T has also provided the Werner Herzog documentary to every high school in the country.
* AT&T DriveMode® A mobile application offered for free for Android™ and BlackBerry® smartphone customers, designed to curb texting and driving. The app provides a customizable auto-reply message that users’ friends and family receive if they send an SMS or MMS text or email, notifying them that the user is driving and will respond when it is safe.
* Simulators. An online simulator is available at itcanwaitsimulator.org to show firsthand the dangers of texting behind the wheel. AT&T also is continuing to tour a state-of-the-art texting while driving simulator chair to high schools and events across the country.

**The Russian Revolution**

**Background**

By 1917, most Russians had lost faith in the leadership ability of Czar Nicholas II. Government corruption was rampant, the Russian economy remained backward, and Nicholas repeatedly dissolved the Duma, the Russian parliament established after the 1905 revolution, when it opposed his will. However, the immediate cause of the February Revolution–the first phase of the Russian Revolution of 1917–was Russia’s disastrous involvement in World War I (1914-18). Militarily, imperial Russia was no match for industrialized Germany, and Russian casualties were greater than those sustained by any nation in any previous war. Meanwhile, the economy was hopelessly disrupted by the costly war effort, and moderates joined Russian radical elements in calling for the overthrow of the czar.

**February Revolution: 1917**

The February Revolution (known as such because of Russia’s use of the Julian calendar until February 1918) began on March 8, 1917 (or February 23 on the Julian calendar), when demonstrators clamoring for bread took to the streets in the Russian capital of Petrograd (now called St. Petersburg). Supported by huge crowds of striking industrial workers, the protesters clashed with police but refused to leave the streets. On March 10, the strike spread among all of Petrograd’s workers, and irate mobs destroyed police stations. Several factories elected deputies to the Petrograd Soviet, or council, of workers’ committees, following the model devised during the 1905 revolution.

On March 11, the troops of the Petrograd army garrison were called out to quell the uprising. In some encounters, regiments opened fire, killing demonstrators, but the protesters kept to the streets and the troops began to waver. That day, Nicholas again dissolved the Duma. On March 12, the revolution triumphed when regiment after regiment of the Petrograd garrison defected to the cause of the demonstrators. The soldiers subsequently formed committees that elected deputies to the Petrograd Soviet.

The imperial government was forced to resign, and the Duma formed a provisional government that peacefully vied with the Petrograd Soviet for control of the revolution. On March 14, the Petrograd Soviet issued Order No. 1, which instructed Russian soldiers and sailors to obey only those orders that did not conflict with the directives of the Soviet. The next day, March 15, Czar Nicholas II abdicated the throne in favor of his brother Michael (1878-1918), whose refusal of the crown brought an end to the czarist autocracy. Power was then transferred to the provisional government and the Petrograd Soviet, until the October Revolution established a Marxist dictatorship under Vladimir Lenin.