

The Living Breath of wəṭəbʔaltx™



Indigenous Foods and Ecological Knowledge

This event began in 2013 and each year it has brought together individuals who have shared their knowledge on topics such as tribal food justice and security, traditional foods, health, community, place, responsibility, climate change, and treaty rights.



May 1 & 2, 2013 Symposium

Indigenous peoples in the Northwest have maintained a sustainable way of life through a cultural, spiritual, and reciprocal relationship with their environment.



May 1 & 2, 2011 Symposium Traditional Foods Table

This symposium serves to foster dialogue and build collaborative networks as we, Native peoples, strive to sustain our cultural food practices and preserve our healthy relationships to the land, water, and all living things.



“Now we have the responsibility to take the dreams in our hearts, that we’ve lived with and that have nourished us, to put them into reality”



Breakout Session, May 30, 2015 Summit

“Great job! What an excellent selection of panels and speakers! Loved the traditional foods!”





Matilda Atleo, Nuuchahnulth Traditional Foods Table, May 1 & 2, 2013 Symposium.

"As native peoples we have treaties with the plant nations and animal nations... we have to honor those treaties."

"There are different kinds of sacred foods wherever you are from... when you acknowledge those foods, do it with a good heart. Be connected"



Valerie Segrest, UW Indigenous Plants Walk Sept 26 & 27, 2014 Symposium.



Sonni Tadlock and Ciarra Greene, Breakout Session May 30, 2015 Summit.

"What happens without water? How can we grow our food? We have to restore the water, the people, the land... It is all connected"

"This is an education we don't get in the U.S. school and university system. As a non-Native person, I feel honored to have had the opportunity to learn about and be inspired by the incredible work that many communities are doing."



Coast Salish Traditional Foods Table. May 30, 2015 Summit.



2015 Planning Committee.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all our co-sponsors who provided financial support for the last three years, to everyone who gifted us with food, to all the volunteers, and to all the speakers and attendees who helped make our symposia and summit such wonderful and successful events! In the tradition of the Coast Salish peoples we raise our hands to all of you in thanks and appreciation!

Planning Committee: (left to right) Dr. Charlotte Coté (chair), Melissa Woodrow, Susan Balbas, Dr. Michelle Montgomery, Dr. Clarita Lefthand-Begay, Dr. Michelle Daigle, and Dr. Dian Million.



We look forward to seeing all of you next
year! May 13-14, 2016

We sincerely thank
our Living Breath of wəłəbʔaltx^w
Sponsors

UW-American Indian Studies Department
UW-Tacoma Social and Historical Studies
UW-College of the Environment
UW-Diversity Research Institute
UW-Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity
UW-Center for Ecogenetics and Environmental Health
UW-Canadian Studies Program
UW-Native Voices Program
UW-Tacoma MEDEX
UW-Department of Bioethics and Humanities
Dr. Marc Gladney
UW-Comparative History of Ideas Program
UW-Department of Geography
Na'ah Illahee Fund
Muckleshoot Tribe
Whole Foods



Photos and testimonials taken from the Living Breath of wəłəbʔaltx^w Indigenous Foods and Ecological Knowledge, 2013, 2014, & 2015 events

"I enjoyed hearing each speaker's perspective on water rights, treaties, and environmental protection."

"I appreciate the work and time put into this symposium. Thank you!"

"Food sovereignty... it's the inherent right of people to define their own diet."

"Our 'self-determination' is founded in the land"

"I learned a lot and am inspired to continue with the work I am doing in my region."

"The venue was excellent, food delicious, speakers excellent!"

"There was a lot of positive energy and it was cool to hear about all the different efforts that are being made towards food sovereignty."

"Inspiring and informative."

"In our languages, we don't have a word for 'resource'... we think instead as relatives, and we must love our relatives"

"These [plants and animals] are our sacred gifts - these are our relatives, we need to honor that"

"I enjoyed the mix of academic-style presentations with presenters sharing their knowledge through their own stories; I appreciated the different perspectives, examples and angles on the complex issue of food sovereignty; and the generosity of those who donated traditional foods to share with the attendees. Delicious!"

"The Living Breath... It has to be constantly nurtured to continue to be alive. It is what connects us as people: past present and future"



Follow us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/UWLivingBreath>

For more information, please contact
Charlotte Coté at clotise@uw.edu