

Cease Wyss

- Kewachys - the village
- daughter named Senoquata - name of nearby village.
- the land speaks to us - knowledge; stories come from land
- shared lands; waters of Musqueam Squamish Tsleil-waututh.
- a land of migratory bodies that travel
- Swiss ^{former} Hawaiian - diversity in our bloodlines
- "my heart feels lifted"
- memory of tracks - blanketed leaders; send across Canada on train, then to England
- song -

Kamala

- Sharon - Land & Sea project - about a year now
- shared land, waters; coastal traditions.
- salmon, sprouts, mint; nettle tea.

- Kamala - talk about plants; reflect on where we are
- indigenous plant diva - Cease - learned from.
- relationships "there's a language here there are thousands" thousands of years of continuity here
- Roundhouse - a colonial building, cedar strip the riches; sent them elsewhere. ~~erore~~ - empty land - terra nullius.
- why don't we have a sense that this is Indigenous land?
- connect to plants is really crucial. what our responsibilities? when going out on the land
- we don't have a sense of Indigenous laws.
- fuelled by desire to connect w nature, more sustainable ways of living
- creating true sustainability means decolonizing: supporting indig. people to have access to plants, lands.

- Cease - grateful to have traditional name from Nation.
- woman who travels by canoe to gather medicines for all people.
- the meaning is ancient
- we all had sacred roles in our community.
- urban community has less knowledge of medicines

- Ut-curie - entire community learned medicines from one knowledgekeeper
- in late teens tasked myself with deciding which way to go
- decided to learned from Elders rather than academia
- you have to trust where the ancestors guide you. Mohawk women.
- joy that my knowledge came from Elders → ancestors
- for generations ppl afraid to share knowledge between each other because of
- raised daughter by making teas, now her daughter. Knowledge transfer.
- we own that in our spirit, mind, ! blood
- "she understands what she sees" - Mohawk teacher, asked grandmother "what if I become blind?" - you will always understand what they see
- we can see things in our minds eye, that's what traditional knowledge is.
- why are Indigenous people so protective of lands & waters?
- N. Van - tiny piece of forest for sweatlodge. only piece of land between Lighthouse Park & Cates Park.
- 9 year old boy showed her a hummingbird nest in hemlock tree.
- confronted those who call themselves foragers. I am not a forager, I'm Indigenous.
- this building has my family's ~~story~~ in it.
- I give gifts to those of lands ~~to~~ travels to. I give something.
- the animals are the ones who sustain the forest.
- shells everywhere around old growth forest
- we are a part of that chain, we cant ever assume that we can ~~take~~ take whatever we want
- asked - how many believe they gather ethnically? almost all raised ^{→ "how many ask permission from Indigenous - only 5 ppl"} hands
- non-native people out gathering in forests, where native ppl have been arrested & are still battling in courts for access / title
- Ut'xam - you are all witnesses today. we saved a rainforest. it started in this room. @ceremonial activism.
- I have a place I can go where I don't have to ask permission except from the spirits.

You don't ask logging companies with a tree licence for permission.
You find indigenous people from that land and become part of their friendship circle.

Bardia

- from Iran - knowledge of indigenous people was not there when came.
- Canada has its own indigenous people, imagine that?!
- These projects, worked on organic farm in Richmond
- 6 lb bag of nettle brought from one weekend. a couple harvested Labrador tea - accidentally harvested poisonous plants; drinking all, having stomach ache
- tour companies with edible components to the tour - people on bus, go into forest
- treatment of salmon berries at inappropriate times of year
- there's a colonial / indigenous way of dealing with forest
- mass collection industries
- floral industry - birch stems, salal, dogwood
- the care of the forest is not a concern
- sense of overzealousness - we can just take from the forest, it's free!
- you don't need to eat something to understand it
- rewild land and take community garden, patch of land, school garden, plant native plants → more than welcome to eat
- cultural practices banned here → appropriation of indigenous knowledge, dispossessing people of their knowledge
- the last stronghold of knowledge and we want to take that too
- books written by non-indigenous people referencing Elders knowledge
- #forage 192000 posts on Instagram.
- unintended consequences, misused when it's out there
- why should people need to share their culture? Mining people all the time.

- yes, there can be knowledge keepers who don't share.
- give people a chance to control how it is shared → real reconciliation
- people have been far too generous

Dionne the first beam of sunlight to come over the hill to greet.

- Sechelt; Nuxalkmuth.
- transplant - you would call adopted, from Bella Coola.
- I practice medicine ways - don't want to say medicine woman
- Traditional Special FX in potlatch performance - Thesis.
 - what am I creating?
 - what am I doing it with?
 - why am I doing it?
- Father showed her relationship with plant. He offered her to take a bite of plant shoot. Knew there were secrets of the forest
- began with wonderment, moved to student role.
- relationship was "taking" - not selfish but curiosity.
- understanding cycle - when they bloom, go to sleep, wake up
- you can't stay in a student role forever → teacher, greater sense of responsibility
- not just harvesting plants but harvesting knowledge.
- as a teacher, relationship became giving
- saw 20 cedar trees all stripped → like a slaughterhouse ^{ground} turnover
- thought - oh shit, this is because of me
- made me reassess how I was sharing. didn't know who over harvested
- started business in medicines. Domestic Shaman.
- Elders - how would I feel if this was ~~put~~ in front of my teacher in Bella Coola? wrestling with ethics of selling medicines
- you can't sell this, you have to gift it → responsibility.
- the salal pricked my finger and heard the plant say "jam"
- when I work with them, I ask what they want.
- "you might end up in Paris"

- feminine & masculine energies in plants
- not all plants are healers. some take away.
- moss, duvet cover on mattress - Erotica show
- made a sexual lubricant with sacred plant medicines - 37
simmered 4 days on waning full moon
- infused with intention.
- journey → strong foundation as student to ↑ responsibility
- mental, emotional, spiritual & sexual healing
- I would go to visit and ~~let~~ let them know I won't be taking anything
this time. ^{land, plants.}
- not all of know about First Nations people.
- bring a gift to FN - food, tool, etc.
- have a give & take, reciprocal relationship.
- the universe is going to find a way to balance the scales
if you take too much.

Thigh-spinning demo - comic relief!
Sharon & Rebecca

linen nets → nylon nets.

traditional way for making fish nets.

Bardia - gift of Canadian goldenrod - native plant seeds

Questions

Fiv tips - Bardia

- ① Lichens - for dyes - from windfall
Bardia - it's a good way to do it.
- ② In California - sudden rain - desert is covered with flowers, bees
pollinate based on this time.

before you even start taking from nature, how do you be in nature? without trampling it.

Kamala - the doctrine of discovery
- "oh, did you know you can eat from the ground!?"
- take, claim, find, discover.

- Cease - plants huckleberry, wild ginger - what I want to eat
- has 1.5 yr old granddaughter touching only
- we're just going to sit here for half an hour
- it's not just people we ask permission from.
- rocks are grandfathers - can hold a rock
- what can we give to the forest? we take so much.
- Bee society - plant 2 things that will flower in late fall!
2 things that will flower in early spring.
- start indigenizing your yard
- look down, look up, look around. breathe.
- if you

Bardia - grew up in beautiful mountain garden in Northern Iran
- only taking one or two leaves from each plant
- ATVs! gus - don't make new paths!

Dionne - educating younger generations
- that person may still be in a student role

③ Protocol out there about how to gather - don't take more than you can ^{process that night.}
when log out with a group - everyone forgets to ask, and give a gift.

even harvesting plants we consider as less than.

disrespect for the plant. Not offering prayer - to shift into a different mentality about invasive species.

- a foraging song of gratitude commissioned by Earthland.

④ using medicines for prayer as a settler?

Cease urban native peoples develop their own protocols

- you wouldn't just walk into your grandmothers house and take whatever you want
- the forest is your grandparent's living room.
- tobacco clears the way for the relationship
- loving the plant
- if it feels awkward, that's ok. just explain to the plant.

Bardia - mailed tobacco seeds from Van Dusen - around province to give offerings.

- 2 species of tobacco from BC
- 1 species from Haida Gwaii - is extinct

⑤ outdoor educator - preschool

- there's a separate language - look ; listen
- choose a patch of ground and grow with it. see its changes.

Kamala - environmental stewardship is wonderful but there is an on-going struggle to be recognized

- we see land as neutral, as just "there". It's Indigenous land.
- always completely aware of what people have lost ; given up
- undoing structures of power ; violence
- it's a privilege to go out onto the land and not have to remember what your people have suffered

- The Reconciliation Manifesto - AA Manuel.

- title and nights.

- Cease

- I don't have to reconcile.

- connection between women! plants. "no means no"

- this circle is the size of one cedar tree

- questioning our knowledge needs to stop.

- you have to reconcile with why you are struggling ^{with our ~~answers~~ answers}

→ - a grain of sand on a beach of what we need to reclaim.

- multi-gendered people

Dionne - Apologies - many levels

- the promise will be kept in my actions.

Bardia - considers himself an immigrant, not settler

- considers himself a conduit to transfer knowledge.

- idea of ownership is fallacious