



CENTRE FOR LOCAL PROSPERITY  
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**MEDIA ADVISORY – Issued Sunday July 28, 2019:**

## **Climate emergency youth leaders retreat at Thinkers Lodge:**

### **Address from Pugwash at tree planting**

**Pugwash, Nova Scotia: Sunday, July 28<sup>th</sup>** - Youth climate leaders from across Atlantic Canada emerged today from a 3 day retreat at the Thinkers Lodge in Pugwash, Nova Scotia. Three days of brave and deep discussions culminated with statements, poetry and a tree planting ceremony.

One of the youth organizers, Lily Barraclough says, *“This weekend has been powerful and transformational. Twenty of us came together from all across Atlantic Canada to learn, to open our hearts and minds, to connect and to build relationships across our generation that will help us solve this crisis that we are in. These Thinkers have been brave, vulnerable, and open with each other. We have people from ages 15 to 29 involved with the student movement, free tuition, migrant rights, fighting for a liveable wage, 2SLGBTQ+ rights, Indigenous sovereignty, science, arts and many others. Everyone has been brave and open.”*

In another statement, *“The time to change our system, the one that has led to climate destruction, white supremacy, patriarchy, poverty, extraction, genocide of Indigenous people, colonization and multiple other forms of oppression is now. There is no time to wait, and we are here today to share with you our learnings from this weekend and our vision for the future, that leaves no one behind and ensures a liveable climate and society for everyone.”*

Some of the youth offered poems and other compositions. A video documentary is being prepared. A red oak tree planting ceremony was lead by Mi'kmaq women Hannah Martin and Paulina Meader, which included a smudge and water offering ceremonies. A Commemorative Plaque will be installed:

***On this land of Mi'kma'ki, we are planting this tree to acknowledge the previous seven generations who built this world and to protect the Earth for the next seven generations. To combat the climate crisis, it is up to us to break the systems that are meant to destroy us.***

This youth retreat on climate change is co-hosted by the Centre for Local Prosperity ([centreforlocalprosperity.ca](http://centreforlocalprosperity.ca)) and the Thinkers Lodge ([thinkerslodge.org](http://thinkerslodge.org)). The Thinkers Lodge is a [National Historic Site](#) for the 1957 [Pugwash Conference](#) on Nuclear Proliferation.

For more information, visit the Centre for Local Prosperity Facebook Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/CentreForLocalProsperity>

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