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Water Mixing Ceremony

1. We are proposing that the First Nations leaders who attend the Energy Summit bring ~2 liters of water from their respective watersheds. (i.e. salt water from the coastal tribes?; River water from the spawning areas of the Morice/Bulkley Rivers of the Wet'suwet'en; River water from the Nechako/Fraser/Stuart Rivers of the Carrier Sekani; water from the Athabasca River and Delta of the Oil Sands Region)
2. The leaders who brought water will be led out of the hall to a separate room where they can dress into their regalia.
3. To launch this ceremony a traditional prayer will be offered to the attendees of the summit and to bless the participants and to provide strength and courage to the leaders and their supporters.
4. A traditional "entry song" would be sung at the beginning of the ceremony allowing the leaders to slowly walk into the hall wearing their regalia and carrying their water.
5. Each of the nation leaders will have a chance to enter into this ceremony and bring their water to a larger clear container.
6. As the leaders finish surrounding this larger container the traditional entry song is brought to an end.
7. An elder will be summoned to begin singing a Wet'suwet'en *Sinelh*, which is a "spirit song" which is always sung with a rattle. The *sinelh* will be quietly sung as a background song while the leaders are handed a microphone.
8. The leaders then take turns talking about where their water that they brought to the summit came from. They will talk about why the water is important to them and what life forms it sustains in their ecosystems. (i.e. the fish, wildlife, plants, humans...) They will also have an opportunity to talk about existing threats to the water that they brought from their territories. (i.e. Equity Mine in Wet'suwet'en; Kemano for the Carrier Sekani; Exxon – Queen of the North for the Coastal Tribes; and Oil Sands – Uranium Mines for the Athabaskan Tribes) After each speech the leaders will then pour their water into the larger container.
9. When all of the water is poured, the leaders will be invited to share a ceremony/song from their nation that they feel is relevant to the situation.
10. At the end of the sharing portion, a photo opportunity will be made with the leaders standing behind the container.