# HOLDING MOTHER EARTH SACRED

Developing Energy Resources · Creating Sustainable Jobs · Honoring Indigenous Beliefs A Photo Journal Through an American Indian and Canadian Aboriginal Cultural Lens

### HOLDING MOTHER EARTH SACRED

Developing Energy Resources • Creating Sustainable Jobs • Honoring Indigenous Beliefs A Photo Journal Exhibit through an American Indian and Canadian Aboriginal Cultural Lena



You are Invited to the Fhoto Journal Exhibit Photographs by Earl Dotter, Concept & Interviews by Cindy A. Becnel

#### THE OPENING EVENT, AT THE UC DENVER NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL NATIVE AMERICAN BUILDING SATURDAY, MAY 22ND, 2010

6 pm - 8 pm, at the Anschutz Medical Campus

NE Corner of East 17" Avenue and Aurora Court, Aurora, Colorado 80045

The exhibit will move to the American Industrial Hygicae Conference & Exhibition (ATHee') in Denver on May 24th. ATHee' exhibit opening sponsored by the ATHA Social Concerns Committee.

Photo Journal Exhibit Funded by the NIOSH Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center (Grant # T42 OH009229) and the University of Colorado Denver Anschutz Medical Campus Office of Diversity and Inclusion with Project Support from Earl Dotter and Cindy A. Becnel

Please RSVP to Ken Scott at 303-724-4406 or Kenneth.Scott@ucdenver.edu

## Vision Intention / Intersecting Points of Focus

- To highlight the important role Native American and Aboriginal workers have in conventional energy production, sustainable energy development and green job creation on tribal lands in the US and Canada
- To raise awareness about OH & S and environmental health professional opportunities available to Native American and Aboriginal workers
- To highlight culturally relevant approaches to health, safety, and the environment to enhance a continuous learning process and dialogue between indigenous and non-indigenous groups



#### Inside



Solix: Fueling A Better World

The Native American Heritage Train; The Southern Ute Legacy



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Solix













2007 Built Green® Builder of the Year for the State of Colorado





"As Indian people we've always held Mother Earth sacred. We believe in harmony with Mother Earth." W. Bruce Valdez,



Phillip Harrison, Jr. Navajo Uranium Radiation Victims Committee, Est. 1970



Radiation Exposure Compensation Act



Reclaimed uranium mine area near Cove, Arizona









Navajo Nation Council Speaker: Lawrence T. Morgan









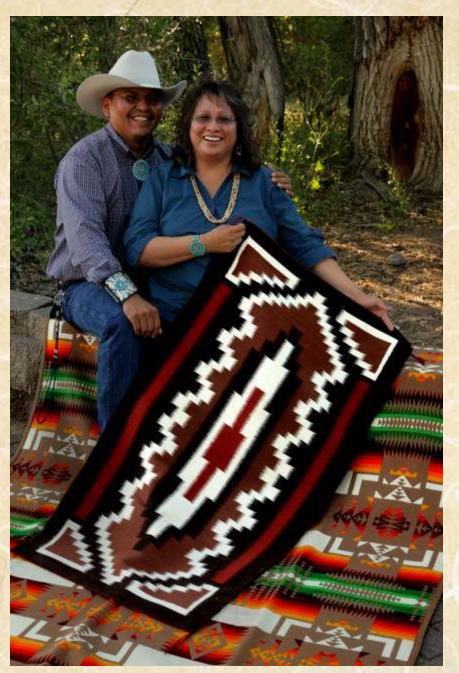
Photos Courtesy of Navajo Tribal Utility Authority



"Navajo rugs represent the entirety of Navajo life and spirituality. We do not separate the concept of art, beauty, and religion.

They are all interconnected."

**Gloria Nez and Travis Klain** 



## Canadian Aboriginal / First Nation Communities

- Manitoba Federation of Labour's Occupational Health and Safety Centre
- Wings of Change Project
- Manitoba Hydro
- Community Aboriginal Support
- Sharing Circles

### **Onefeather, Janice Greene**

Wings of Change Project Coordinator: "Creating respectful workplaces and building cultural bridges"

"Why is it that Aboriginal workers are even more reluctant than workers in general to get involved with workplace health and safety issues?"





7 Sacred Teachings: Respect Humility Love Truth **Honesty** Courage Wisdom

3 Workers Rights: Right to Know Right to Participate Right to Refuse Unsafe and Unhealthy Work

+

= The Workers Path to Health and Safety



Wanda Levasseur Community Support Worker Indian Family Centre





Aboriginal Health and Safety Committee Members, Union and Management Representatives at Black Cat Blades in Selkirk, Manitoba ←David Zirk, Past President, USW Local 9740, at Black Cat Blades and Community Sharing Circle Below





"The way we go to the future is with our back to it....to pull the past forward." Reverend Anita Keith Self-Government Program Red River College, Winnipeg

"There needs to be a positive influence towards Aboriginal workers through education and training about different cultures in the workplace. And we need to redefine our history from a First Nations perspective. It's so important for us learn about who we are, and to know where we come from in order to know where we're going."

Rodney Hunt, Cree

Chief of the Saskatchewan River First Nation Band

Aboriginal Self-Government Program, Red River College

Joe Thompson Manitoba Hydro











Nicolette Little Hawk Cheyenne River Sioux Oyate Connections Eagle Butte, South Dakota

"I want to try to get other women going on this. It's been a good experience and it means a lot to be able to go back and do this in my community."





