

# Climate Health and Dermatology: Indigenous views on Mother Earth and Skin Connections

It is not a new concept that the Earth impacts our physical health. For generations, Indigenous peoples were the sacred caretakers of the lands. There is a Traditional understanding that our health impacts Mother Earth, and in turn, her health impacts ours. However, despite Traditional teachings shared by Indigenous peoples for years, only recently has climate change become a topic of interest to Medical Practitioners. Particularly because the health of Mother Earth was ignored by the masses, and we are now seeing the impacts on our own health.

This topic has particular interest to Indigenous people and Dermatologists alike. In this section, we have provided resources that address the impact of the climate on our health and our skin. It is important to acknowledge Indigenous Traditional teachings, and how we can learn from them to better support Mother Earth. After all, the impact of climate change is felt more deeply by Indigenous peoples, and the solution has been within Indigenous teachings all along.

## RESOURCES



Climate Atlas of Canada

Incredible resource created by Indigenous peoples that discusses climate change from Indigenous perspectives.

Linked is a video that discusses Community-Based solutions to Climate Change rooted in Decolonization. **Watch it Here!**



National Collaborating Centre  
for Indigenous Health

Centre de collaboration nationale  
de la santé autochtone

Climate Change and Indigenous  
People's Health in Canada

The following textbook is an incredibly valuable resource for those on Turtle Island. This book breaks down the connection between Indigenous people and the land, as well as discusses the impact that climate change has on the Health of Indigenous peoples.

**Access it Here!**





## BMC Public Health

Land and Nature as Sources of Health and Resilience Among Indigenous Youth in an Urban Canadian Context: A Photovoice Exploration

This article outlines how important Mother Earth is to the wellness of Indigenous peoples. This will hopefully allow for a better understanding as to why climate change so deeply impacts and negatively affects Indigenous peoples. [\*\*Read it Here!\*\*](#)



Climate Change and Dermatology: An Introduction to a Special Topic, for this Special Issue

Focused from the lens of the American Academy of Dermatology, this article discusses the impact that climate change has on dermatologic conditions. In addition, this article discusses vulnerable populations that would be disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change on health. [\*\*Read it Here!\*\*](#)



Climate Change, Skin Health, and Dermatologic Disease: A Guide for the Dermatologist

This article discusses the skin conditions exacerbated by climate change and sun exposure. As well as provides strategies for dermatologic management. [\*\*Read it Here!\*\*](#)



Dermatology's Call to Emergency Action On Climate Change

Both an article and a podcast which discuss how climate affects the skin, as well as strategies to aid. An important conversation for dermatologists to have to understand the interconnections of Skin Health and Mother Earth. [\*\*Check them out Here!\*\*](#)