



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Environmental Sciences Seminar Series

FALL 2022

Name of guest speaker:	Keira Loukes
Current affiliation:	University of Ottawa/ Lakehead University
Seminar date:	October 20, 2022
Title of seminar:	Is food sovereignty the goal? A political ecology of traditional and alternative food harvesting in northern Ontario First Nations

Abstract:

“Food sovereignty,” a term popularized by peasant agriculturalists in South America, has become ubiquitous worldwide in academic and activist circles advocating for greater local control over local food. Indigenous food sovereignty has adapted the concept to move away from agriculture and towards traditional food harvesting practices. Yet, different ecological opportunities and constraints in different locations make its wide application and definition challenging. By discussing examples from community-led traditional and alternative food harvesting initiatives, this talk will highlight and complicate the various ways that Indigenous food sovereignty is defined and pursued in the boreal shield and Hudson Bay lowlands of northern Ontario.