



## Indigenous Women's Divestment Delegation To Europe

### Spokeswomen List - Spring 2018



#### **Charlene Aleck**

Elected councillor for Tsleil Waututh Nation, Charlene Aleck is of Tsleil Waututh and Sto'lo decent. Tsleil Waututh means people of the inlet and Sto'lo means people of the river. Charlene's ancestral name is Ts'simtelot and she is the daughter of the late Joe (Siyamelelexw) and Irene (Te-aktenaw) nee George, Aleck. She works with the Sacred Trust Initiative team to oppose the expansion of the Kinder Morgan pipeline and protect TWN lands and waters for future generations. Charlene is carrying on her family tradition as a member of the Children of Takaya dance group and has a great interest in reviving Henqeminem language. Her goals for the future are to uphold the integrity of her ancestors in practicing cultural traditions; being a strong, clear voice with respect and dignity; providing leadership for her people to be represented at all levels; and empowering her people's youth to be successful.



#### **Dr. Sara Jumping Eagle**

Dr. Sara Jumping Eagle is Oglala Lakota and Mdewakantonwan Dakota, originally from Kyle, South Dakota on the Pine Ridge Reservation. She is a pediatrician, living and working on the Standing Rock Reservation, North Dakota, and is a mother of three children. Dr. Jumping Eagle is active in raising awareness of environmental health issues, protection of sacred sites, and working to improve the health of Native American communities. She has been active in the fight against the Dakota Access oil Pipeline which threatens the Missouri River and the drinking water of Standing Rock communities and the 18 million people downstream.



#### **Michelle Cook**

Michelle Cook J.D. (Diné/Navajo) is an indigenous human rights lawyer and a commissioner on the Navajo Human Rights Commission. She is a current SJD candidate at the University of Arizona's Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy

Program. She is writing her dissertation on financial institutions, indigenous people's human rights, gender, and indigenous transnationalism. She is the founder of the Divest Invest Protect campaign and Co-Director of its projects. She has worked with the Water Protector Legal Collective, the on the ground legal team which provides legal services to those arrested at the Standing Rock encampment. She advocates for indigenous human rights internationally.



### **Wasté Win Yellowlodge Young**

Wasté Win Yellowlodge Young (Ihunktowanna/Hunkpapa) is an enrolled member the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. She graduated from the University of North Dakota in 2001 and worked for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Historic Preservation Office from 2003-2015 including seven years as the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer. Her family was camped at the Očeti Šakowin Camp during the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) protests from August 2017 until

February 22nd, when law enforcement and military forcibly removed water protectors. Wasté Win was one of 72 people arrested on February 1st at Crazy Horse's "Last Child Camp" at Očeti Šakowin for peacefully maintaining a physical and spiritual presence on Sioux treaty land. She currently faces criminal charges along with over 700 individuals who were arrested during the six month occupation. Wasté Win is married and has four children and currently resides in the Long Soldier Community on Standing Rock. Mni Wiconi! Water is Life.



### **Monique Verdin**

Monique Verdin is a member of south Louisiana's United Houma Nation Tribal Council and a part of the Another Gulf Is Possible Collaborative core leadership circle of brown (indigenous, latinx and desi) women, from Texas to Florida, working to envision just economies, vibrant communities and sustainable ecologies. Monique is also a member of the *L'eau et La Vie* (Water is Life) Bayou Bridge (ETP/Phillips66) pipeline resistance camp council. She has intimately documented the complex interconnectedness of environment, economics, culture,

climate and change in southeast Louisiana, for decades. Her indigenous Houma relatives and their lifeways at the ends of the bayous, in the heart of America's Mississippi River Delta, has been the primary focus of her storytelling practice. She is the subject/co-writer/co-producer of the documentary *My Louisiana Love*. Her interdisciplinary work has been included in an assortment of environmentally inspired projects, including the multiplatform/performance/ ecoexperience *Cry You One* as well as the publication *Unfathomable City : A New Orleans Atlas*. Monique is also the director of The *Land Memory Bank & Seed Exchange*. The *Land Memory Bank* is a series of southeast Louisiana activations sharing native seeds and local knowledge through citizen collaboration, attempting to building a community record of history and present, while seeking sustainable solutions.



## **Osprey Orielle Lake**

Osprey Orielle Lake is the Founder and Executive Director of the Women's Earth and Climate Action Network (WECAN) International. She works nationally and internationally with grassroots and Indigenous leaders, policy-makers and scientists to promote climate justice, resilient communities, and a just transition to a clean energy future. Osprey serves on the Executive Committee for the Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature and is the visionary behind the International Women's Earth and Climate Summit, which brought together 100 women leaders from around the world to draft and implement a Women's Climate Action Agenda. She is Co-Director of the Divest, Invest, Protect Campaign and oversees WECAN's advocacy work in areas such as Women for Forests, Rights of Nature and UN Forums. Osprey is the author of the award-winning book, *Uprisings for the Earth: Reconnecting Culture with Nature*.