

## **IISD-ELA Endowment Fund**

### "A unique facility! Nothing like it in the world." - Margaret Atwood

Lakes are an elemental part of who we are. We rely on them for drinking water, for nourishment. We live beside them and play in them. They are among our most important natural treasures—and they are in danger.

IISD Experimental Lakes Area (IISD-ELA) is a laboratory like no other. It is made up of 58 small lakes in a remote pocket of Canada, all set aside for use as natural, living labs for crucial scientific research. It is the only place on Earth where whole lakes and their watersheds are used to study the effects of climate change, invasive species, pollution, and other potential threats to the world's precious freshwater supply.

The freshwater data IISD-ELA generates is among the most valuable in the world. It has influenced key policy decisions in government and industry for more than half a century, including key findings on acid rain and the connection between phosphorus and algae blooms.

Our partners in learning include students, through our on-site tours and field courses, and communities from the Treaty 3 area, with whom we collaborate and share knowledge. IISD-ELA is dedicated to keeping our water—and the communities who depend on it—safe. To keep it running and help it grow over time, we need long-term financial sustainability.

To address this urgent need, we have established the **IISD Experimental Lakes Area Endowment Fund**. Managed in perpetuity by The Winnipeg Foundation, this fund will provide a sustainable lifeline and a steady heartbeat for our one-of-a-kind natural laboratory.

Help us raise **\$10** million to ensure we can continue to protect our fresh water through any uncertainties our shared future may bring.

For a limited time, every dollar donated will become \$3, thanks to a generous gift from Michael Paterson and the Gail Asper Family Foundation and from an anonymous donor.

Your gift will help support scientists and graduate students, fund research into emerging threats, and nurture the next generation of freshwater guardians.

The time to give is now.

# Because tomorrow needs YOU today.



# The Indigenous Social Media App

BY PINNGUAQ STAFF

iku is the Inuktitut word for "sea ice." It's also the name of a new app: an Inuit-led social media project, developed by the Arctic Eider Society, that is designed to help hunters and other community members navigate and share knowledge about a northern landscape in flux.

Available on both mobile and web platforms, SIKU provides tools and services to support ice safety, language preservation, knowledge exchange, safe travel and self-determination.

Joel Heath, Executive Director of the Arctic Eider Society, explains that Inuit were already using social media platforms like Facebook to trade knowledge—but that meant giving away their intellectual prop-

erty. Furthermore, limitations on those platforms made them inadequate for sharing knowledge over time.

"With SIKU, we can allow people to own their own data, develop a privacy policy,

and control how their data is shared." Users can post photos and share hunting stories, which are presented along with news feeds, satellite imagery

and climatic data on tides, marine forecasts and sea ice. [SIKU pulls some of its ice-thickness data from the SmartICE project; see page 18 for a feature on SmartICE –eds.] Privacy settings are tailored specifically for Indigenous knowledge, to ensure no one can use the data without permission.

The app features profiles of wildlife, sea ice and traditional place names, all of which can be tagged to create cumulative knowledge banks—as SIKU's website puts it, "Living wikis of Indigenous knowledge."

### "It's time for the computer and the harpoon to work together."

"The classic approach was that elders would share knowledge [of what they saw happening on the land] with scientists," says Heath, "and then the scientists would say, 'That's cool,' and then spend five years trying to do a study to prove what the Inuit had already told them was true." With SIKU, the continuous data stream coming from hunters in the field—which, until recently, was only shared orally—can be recorded, added to and owned by Inuit.

This approach is reflected in the app's guiding principles: respect, self-determination, ownership of intellectual property, and integrity—all centred on protecting and mobilizing Inuit knowledge.

One of the early stewards of SIKU was the late Piita Kattuk, an elder from Sanikiluaq. He passed away in November 2019, but his words continue to inspire SIKU's mission to bring together tools and technologies from both traditional Inuit culture and the contemporary digital world: "It's time for the computer and the harpoon to work together."



Visit **siku.org** to learn how to use **SIKU** in classrooms and workshops.





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CBP One app faces lawsuit from rights organizations

Jul 28, 2023, 4:14 pm EDT | <u>Joel R.</u> <u>McConvey</u>

**CATEGORIES** Biometrics News | Border and Port Security | Mobile Biometrics



The U.S. government's policy of requiring asylum seekers to book an appointment through the <u>CBP One</u> <u>biometric smartphone app</u> is facing a court challenge from two immigrants' rights groups.

The Associated Press reports that Al Otro Lado and the Haitian Bridge Alliance, along with ten individuals from countries including Mexico, Haiti, Nicaragua and Russia, on Friday filed a class action lawsuit against the Biden administration arguing that the

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app cuts off access for a wide swath of migrants and asylum seekers.

Under the current policy those who do not have an appointment are turned away and restricted from further pursuit of the U.S. asylum process. A federal court recently blocked the practice after <u>ruling it to be illegal</u>, but delayed their ruling from taking effect for 14 days.

Meanwhile, border agents continue to unlawfully tell asylum seekers, "there's an app for that."

"CBP One essentially creates an electronic waitlist that restricts access to the U.S. asylum process to a limited number of privileged migrants," say the litigants in the lawsuit, who are represented by the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies, the American Immigration Council (AIC), the Center for Constitutional Rights, and lawyers Mayer Brown LLP. The suit contends that many migrants and asylum seekers have difficulties accessing an internet connection, and that those who can have trouble navigating the app in a foreign language.

A press release from AIC says that "even in the best of circumstances, CBP One is notoriously glitchy, and its discriminatory <u>facial recognition</u> <u>technology</u> has prevented many darker-skinned and Black migrants from obtaining an appointment." It claims some asylum seekers have spent months trying to secure a booking through the app, suffering in violent and unstable border encampments while they wait.

"This lawsuit argues that the government's policy of turning back

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asylum seekers who do not have a CBP One appointment violates U.S. law, the government's own guidance, asylum seekers' due process rights, and the United States' obligations under international law, which prohibit the government from returning refugees to countries where they face persecution or torture," it says.

## Illegal process works to limit immigration, but lawsuits dog progress

For the Biden administration, the limitation on asylum imposed by the biometric requirements is a doubleedged sword. One the one hand, the system has been decreed as unlawful, and thus adds to the larger legal tangle the government faces over immigration policy. On the other hand, it has proved effective. A recent update from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) showed "a significant and continuing decline in migrant encounters along the Southwest border." According to a report from NPR, the number of migrants crossing into the U.S. from Mexico illegally is lower than it has been since early 2021.

But while the government says they are merely trying to implement safe and orderly pathways to asylum in the wake of the Trump administration's rigid policies, frustrated rights groups see a tool that dissuades people from claiming a legal right.

Nicole Elizabeth Ramos, the director of <u>Al Otro Lado's</u> border rights team,

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College Park, MD: Aug 2 - Aug 3, 2023

#### Cyber DSA 2023

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said in a release, "I find it difficult to explain to asylum seekers and our staff, many of whom have been impacted by illegal U.S. border policies themselves, how despite the fact that a federal court ruled almost two years ago that turning asylum seekers away from U.S. ports of entry is illegal, we must re-litigate this issue today."

A <u>report</u> from the International Rescue Committee, a refugee and humanitarian aid organization, put it bluntly: "Hinging access to seek and enjoy asylum on whether people fleeing for their lives can book an appointment on a smartphone app is neither right nor practical." A <u>biometric asylum app</u>, it says, "should never be the only means to effectively request protection at a U.S. port of entry."

Furthermore, the app presents significant risk for privacy violations. In a May policy briefing, Erika Guevara-Rosas of Amnesty International said that "asylumseekers are forced to install the application on their mobile devices, which enables U.S. Customs and Border Protection to collect data about their location by 'pinging' their phones."

"The U.S. must ensure that asylumseekers have due process rights regarding refugee status determination procedures," she said, "and that they are not returned to places where they may be at risk of harm."

## **Article Topics**

# **EWALRUS**

SOCIETY (/CATEGORY/SOCIETY/)

#### **Bugging You**

An Ontario company puts insects on the menu

BY J. R. MCCONVEY (/AUTHOR/JOEL-MCCONVEY/)
ILLUSTRATION BY ASHLEY MACKENZIE (/AUTHOR/ASHLEY-MACKENZIE/)
Apr. 16, 2015



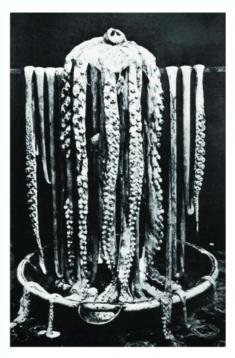
DARREN GOLDIN'S FAMILY used to make candy. His grandfather owned Manhattan Sweets, a historic South African brand that sells gum babies and sour worms.

"So there's a food background," Goldin says, as he strolls through the humid central growing room at Next Millennium Farms, in Campbellford, Ontario. He has come to check on rows of white wooden bins stacked three tiers high, each teeming with hundreds of thousands of crickets. In relative terms, these specimens of *Gryllodes sigillatus* are destined for exotic new territory: the tables, mouths, and stomachs of North American consumers.

Goldin, who sports a tidy black goatee and speaks in a lingering Johannesburg accent, draws a cardboard rack from a lower bin and shakes a twittering avalanche of bugs into a blue storage container. They hop and flit and scrabble across the bottom. Chirps fill the air.

"This building's output is about 2,200 pounds a week," he says.

# CANADA'S HISTORY



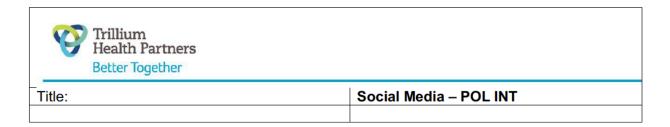
The Architeuthis carcass obtained by Rev. Moses Harvey in 1873. This is the first known photo of a giant squid.

One day in October of 1873, Rev. Moses Harvey opened his front door in St. John's,
Newfoundland, to discover that monsters exist.

Before him was a six-metre length of ropy tentacle, severed from a living giant squid. Dusky red and tough as leather, it was about the thickness of a man's wrist.

As a man of science, Harvey knew the value of his prize. He would later describe it as "the veritable arm of the hitherto mythical devilfish."

Stories of gigantic sea monsters had been around for centuries, but they were difficult to verify. What had come into Harvey's possession was apparently the first conclusive evidence of the existence of *Architeuthis* — the giant squid.



#### 1.0 PURPOSE AND APPLICATION

Purpose: This policy outlines rules pertaining to use of social media in a professional context by Individuals affiliated with Trillium Health Partners (THP), including THP's Communications and Public Affairs (CPA) team and the Trillium Health Partners Foundation (THPF) digital team, in their role as administrators of the hospital's social media accounts and those accounts shared between THP and THPF. It is not intended to curtail the ability of Individuals affiliated with THP to use social media in a private capacity, but rather to enable them to participate in social media in a professional capacity in a way that is consistent with our policies, mission and values, supports our priorities and maintains our positive reputation.