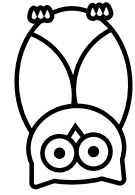




Carbon Culture Consent

Reimagining New Environmental & Climate Futures in
the Pacific Northwest

Illustrations: Sylvia King, Whitman College
Photographs: Denise Fernandes, Whitman College
Community Project in collaboration with CTUIR & Whitman College

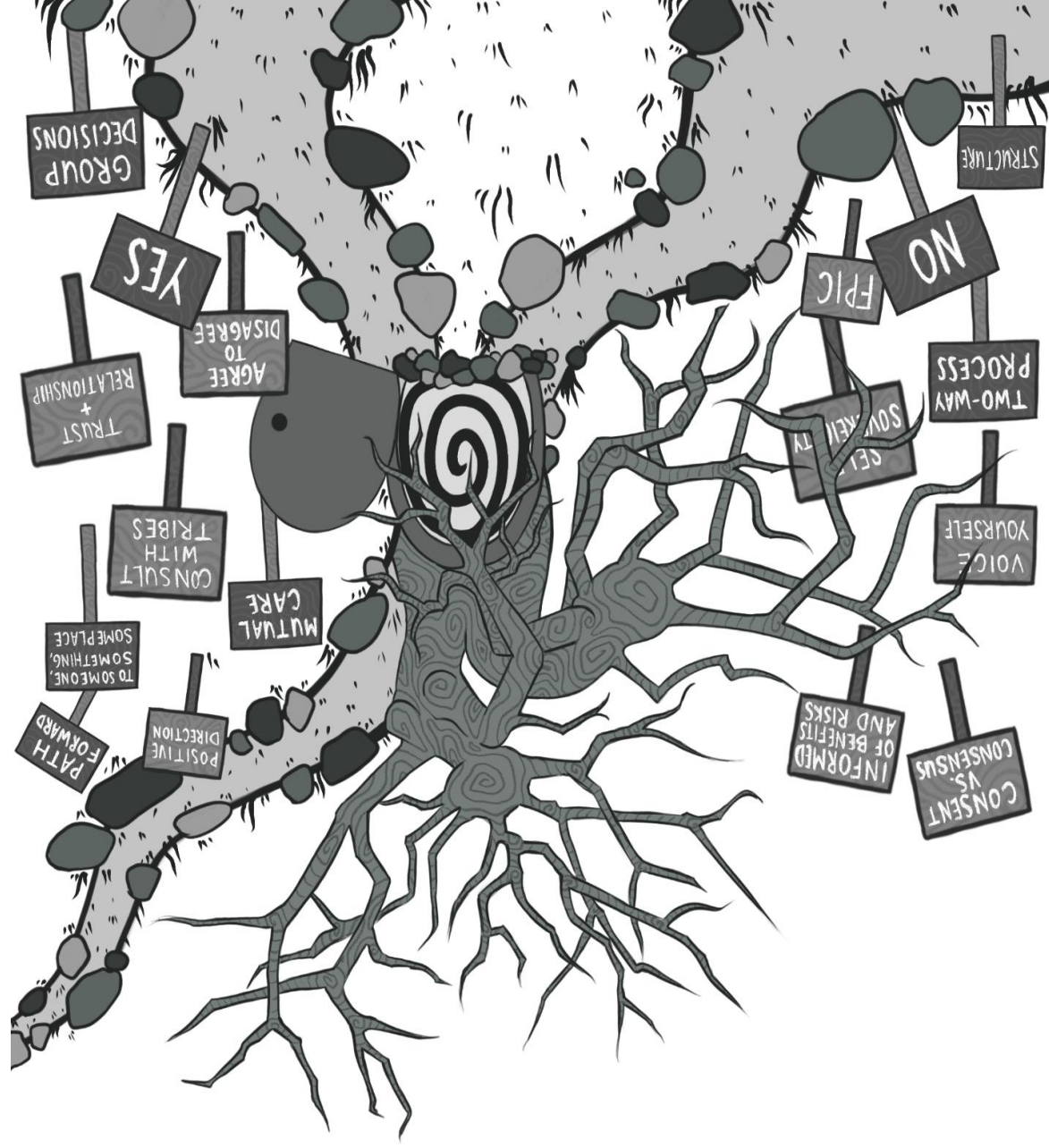
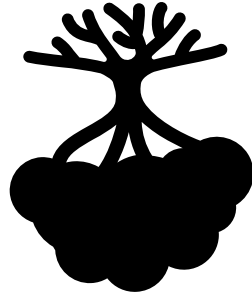
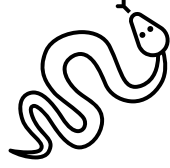


The more-than-human

Bottom-up & Grassroot Decision Making



Community & Tribal engagement before project planning and discussions





Consent as a concept means diverse things to different communities and in varied contexts.

For implementing climate change solutions like renewable energy or carbon capture & sequestration projects, “consent” could relate to “*consensus*”, “*consultation*”, “*permission*”, “*agreement*”, “*opinion*” or “*approval*”.

Consent involves unequal and unjust power hierarchies in the process and final project outcome for historically discriminated and disenfranchised communities.

Consent is related to the international legal definition of Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) or the American legal tradition based on settler-colonial narratives.

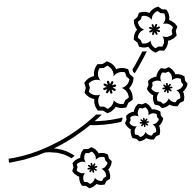
Consent is a *process or a dialogue or relationship* between different communities and agencies involved in carbon mitigation projects like solar/wind/hydro pump storage, or carbon capture and sequestration.

Consent is NOT a market-based transaction.

Consent is *community decision-making and involves access to credible information.*

Consent is *mutual care* for community and the environment

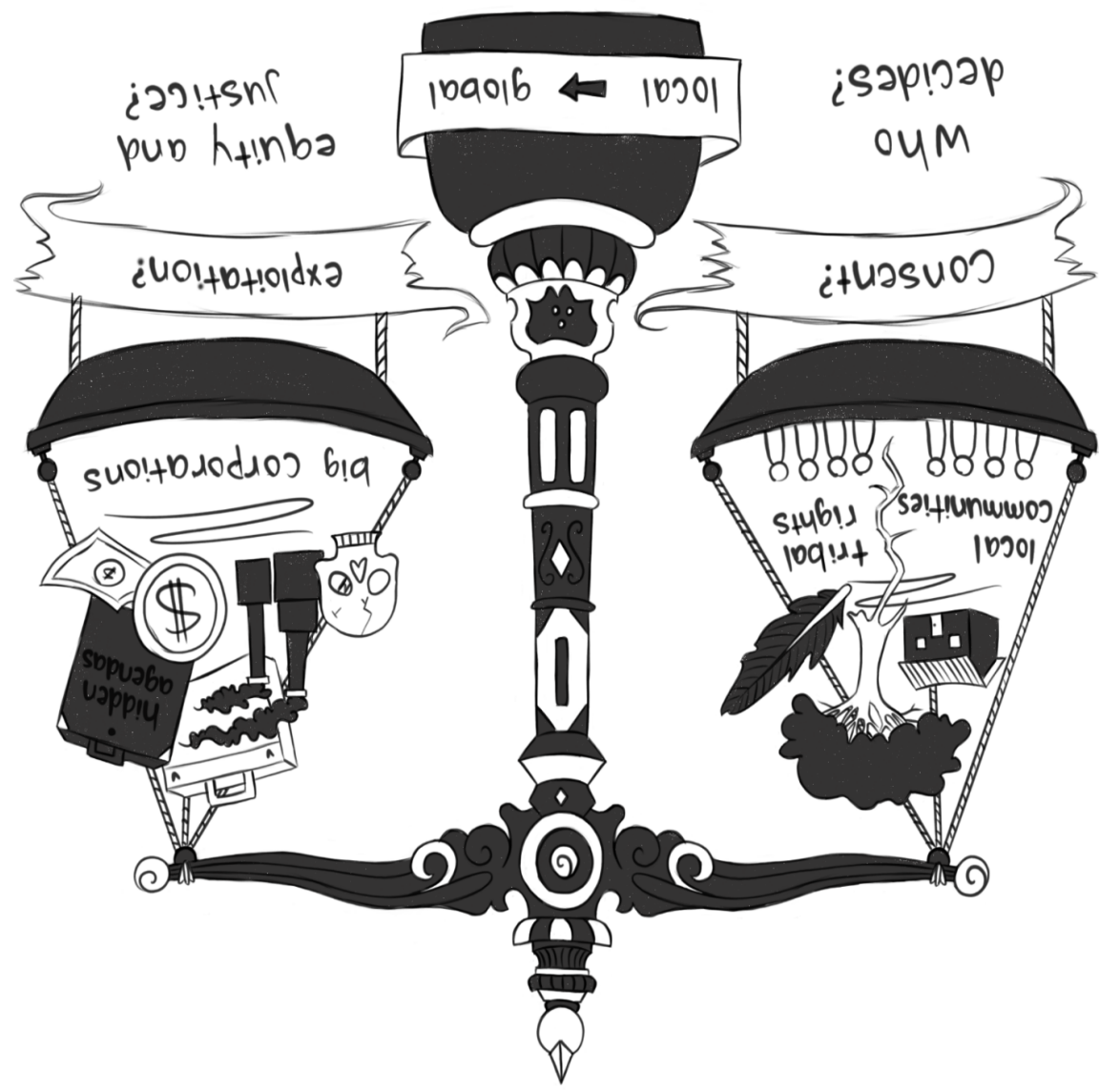
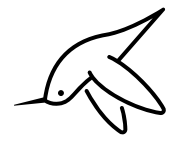
Consent NOT Coercion



Honoring Tribal Treaties and Inputs



Access to more public knowledge



Indigenous Sovereignty



Community holds the power!



Consent as a continuous process
and mutually beneficial

There are multiple concerns with the idea of “consent” in carbon mitigation projects like solar/wind/hydropower/storage or carbon capture projects. These are:

- (1) *Scale and the different bureaucratic bodies* involved at the global/national/local level, and the *role of Indigenous communities* in the decision-making process.
- (2) *Interpretation* of the term “consent”, and “who” defines it in the process of siting projects.
- (3) *Market/transactional nature of consent* for climate change solutions.
- (4) *Corruption and manipulation* by project developers
- (5) *Abuse of power* by implementing agencies
- (6) Logics of *Finance Capital* used to guide decision making rather than *community led initiatives*.
- (7) *Compromise* in the decision-making process and *settler-colonial narratives*.
- (8) *Cultural dispossession* and harm caused to the *more-than-human* like plants, animals, and local ecosystems.
- (9) *Transparency and Inclusivity* in the process and *access to credible information*

New Environmental & Climate Futures

