

cando

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CONNECT *magazine*

Moving Aboriginal Economies Forward

**Joint Economic Developer
Planning**

**23rd Annual Conference
& AGM**

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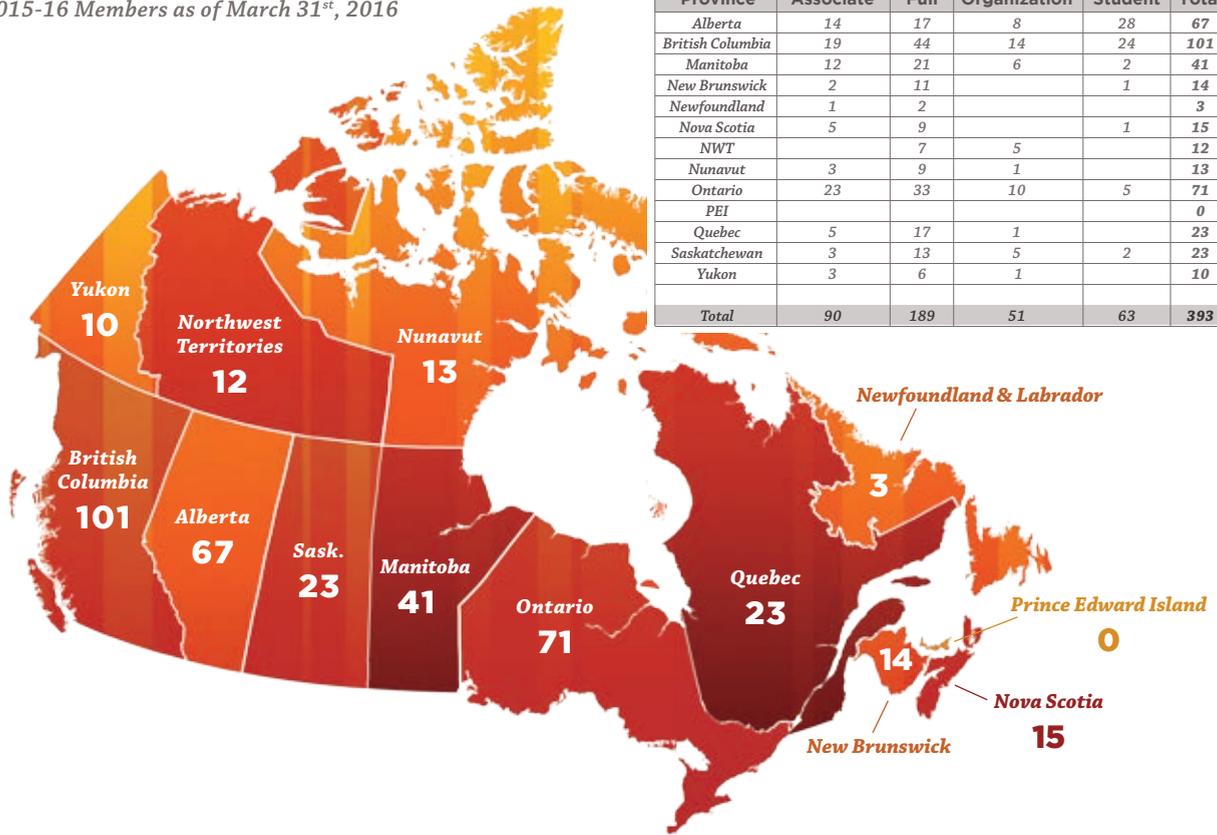
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2015-16 Members as of March 31st, 2016



JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

by Colleen Hamilton and William Trousdale, EcoPlan International

William and Colleen recently worked on a joint economic development strategy with the 'Namgis First Nation and the Village of Alert Bay

It's surprising that more joint economic development planning hasn't happened between First Nations and local governments until recently. This article outlines 5 of the many reasons why it's high time that we take a closer look at partnering with our neighbors for economic development.

Generally speaking, First Nations and local governments create their own economic development plans. This is understandable as there is often a need to get one's own house in order before exploring the opportunities of collaboration. And collaboration takes effort. It takes patience. It can be hard. It often means moving beyond the distrust, prejudices, abuses, bad experiences and stereotypes of the past. It requires building on the positive events, earning mutual trust, communicating in new ways and understanding what each party has to offer in this dynamic economy and emerging legal landscape.

Is collaborative planning worth it? Poor collaboration can lead to stalled developments, underutilized or inefficient services, missed market niches, and go-nowhere lobbying efforts among other pitfalls. But taking the long view, it is almost certainly worth it. Aligning economic development to take advantage of market opportunities, creating greater capital inflow, and generating more efficient servicing arrangements can all flow from cooperating on a common strategy.

More and more First Nations and local governments are seeing that it pays to work together (though true joint planning efforts are still few and far between, with only a handful of examples across the country). Here are five reasons why joint economic development is worth the effort.

1. Accessing resources

First Nations and local governments have access to different financial resources: grants, loans, bond opportunities and other funding streams. By partnering, you open up whole new worlds of funding. Also, funders like partnerships. More and more funders are interested in funding projects that involve partnerships.

Partnerships allow you to access human resources within each organization that might complement each other. For example, maybe your neighbor has a great GIS technician who can help map out economic opportunities.

2. Avoiding duplication of efforts

The planning (and implementation) process can be more efficient overall when groups work together rather than separately. For example, you don't have multiple groups doing the same research on the local economy, and there are economies of scale with conducting public engagement with a larger population base. When it comes to implementation, savings can come from a joint EDO, shared office space, a single monitoring and evaluation program, etc.

(Continued on Pg. 5)

RECOGNIZE! CELEBRATE! HONOR!

Sharing our stories and celebrating our successes will ensure that economic development initiatives continue to grow. In 1995, the **Cando Economic Developer of the Year** was created to recognize and promote recent or long-standing Aboriginal economic development initiatives throughout Canada.

Each year, Cando awards three categories:

1. Individual EDO
2. Community
3. Aboriginal Private Sector Business



The nomination deadline is June 30th, 2016

Please visit the Cando website to nominate, and for more information.

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3. A stronger regional voice

Implementing your economic development plan often requires liaising with various levels of government (e.g., with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for better road access to your town). Partnerships between local governments and First Nations present a stronger, united front in these discussions, and represent more voters!

4. Strategic alignment – Moving in the same direction

Not all actions will be joint actions. Each First Nation and local government can and should have their own economic actions to take advantage of their unique opportunities. The joint planning process ensures that individual actions are part of a larger regional strategy (and don't contradict each other!).

To aid in this coordination, the Village of Alert Bay and the 'Namgis First Nation in BC have recently set up a joint economic steering committee that will oversee the implementation of their recently completed 2015 Joint Economic Development Plan. The group will also have ongoing discussions about each governments' individual actions and how these support the joint strategy. When needed, discussions can be brought up to a joint Council level.

5. Lasting partnerships

Ultimately, the future is partnerships. Businesses, governments and First Nations are realizing that each brings a unique mix of resources to the table (expertise, money, land, legal rights, relationships, the ears of politicians etc.), and are looking to see how these pieces can fit together. As an example, in BC, Musqueam recently opened a marina in conjunction with Bastion Development Corp. Bastion is an experienced marina developer, and Musqueam had access to traditional lands, capital and local connections.

Working together has many benefits, but requires trust to keep relationships strong. In places where trust is low but a priority, communities can start with small, simple actions that have tangible benefits to both communities and build from there. As an example, almost a dozen First Nations and local governments in the Squamish Lillooet Regional District (BC) came together to evaluate economic opportunities in their region. The group chose to prioritize joint actions in order to build trust, rather than (potentially) higher impact actions that favored one group or another.

And finally, why stop at economic development planning? Working together on economic development plans and implementation can lead to "speed dial" relationships, and any number of potential collaborations. Some neighbors have joint infrastructure, shared service agreements, and joint celebrations (e.g. Canada Day, Aboriginal Day) that bring community members (and not just governments) closer.

Nominate your Role Model for the National Youth Panel!

Each year Cando selects six Aboriginal youth participants to form the National Youth Panel, a signature event at the annual national Cando conference that will be held this year in Whitehorse, YK from October 6-9, 2016. The selections for the National Youth Panel are based on their strengths, initiatives, accomplishments, entrepreneurial spirit, and participation within their communities. Do you know a role model deserving of special recognition? Nominate today!

Award recipients will enjoy:

- Recognition for their achievements
- Networking with Aboriginal leaders and peers
- Free trip to Toronto, complimentary conference registration and accommodations

Eligibility:

- Must have not been part of the youth panel before
- Must be between 18-30 years of age
- Must be of Aboriginal descent (Inuit, Métis, First Nation)



2015 National Youth Panelists

Be sure to visit our website to learn more and nominate today!

Deadline for nominations is June 30th, 2016


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Excellence in Aboriginal Economic Development

23RD ANNUAL CANDO CONFERENCE & AGM

A National Platform Exclusively Focused on Excellence in Aboriginal Economic Development

Cando is pleased to announce its 23rd Annual National Conference to be held on October 3-6, 2016 in Whitehorse, Yukon.

This year's conference will be co-hosted by dāna Näye Ventures, Kwanlin Dün First Nation, Ta'an Kwach'an Council and Council of Yukon First Nations.

The Cando National Conference is the only platform that focuses exclusively on topics and trends related to the advancement of Aboriginal Economic Development in Canada.

It is an important venue for economic developers and related stakeholders to come together, create new business contacts, share best practices, address obstacles and reveal existing trends in our dynamic economy. Through a program of top speakers, cutting-edge topics and training opportunities, conference attendees will not only see the region's innovative energy, but leave with fresh strategies and tools to take their organizations and communities to the next level.



What can I expect from the Cando Conference?

The Cando Conference offers many highlights, including:

- Pre-Conference Professional Development Workshops
- Conference Icebreaker Reception
- Cultural Tours
- Economic Developer of the Year Awards
- Trade Show & Artisan Show & Sale
- National Youth Panel
- Women in Business Panel
- Interactive workshops, keynote presentations & informative plenary sessions
- President's Reception, Dinner & Dance

(Continued on Pg. 9)



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Who attends the Cando Conference?

The Cando conference attracts hundreds of delegates from across the country, from a broad cross section of the corporate sector, government institutions, Aboriginal communities & development corporations, academics and young people interested in pursuing a career in the field of Aboriginal Economic Development. Specifically:

- Economic Development Officers working in First Nation, Métis & Inuit communities & organizations
- Program Managers, Band Administrators & Finance Officers
- Aboriginal business owners and consultants working with Aboriginal communities
- Elected leaders and senior executives
- Academic leaders and students presenting and pursuing the latest research
- Senior Executives from Financial Institutions, the Mining and Energy Sector, Trust & Investment Firms, Law Firms, and many other corporate sector representatives

Who are the Benefits of Attending?

Bolster Your Professional Network. This is your chance to mingle with the best and brightest in your field. Check out the latest progress from industry innovators, engage with like-minded people and exchange ideas, and develop friendships with people from all over Canada.

Build Your Knowledge Base. The conference is a hotbed of interesting seminars and workshops - attending some great presentations during the conference will allow you to learn about all of the new things that are developing in other regions of the country while expanding your current knowledge within a specific area of expertise.

Catch Up With Trends. Attending the Cando conference is a great way to stay on the cutting edge. Learn about the most recent trends in Aboriginal economic development and bring the leading best practices back home for the benefit of your community or organization.

Expand Your Resources. The conference is full of people promoting new ideas, vendors selling new products and consultants teaching new methodologies. Take advantage of this opportunity to fill your toolbox with new techniques for greater success.

Get Inspired. The Cando conference offers Canada's most inspirational showcase of Aboriginal youth role models, and economic developers. With so many successful members of your industry present, chances are good that you could bump into your next mentor or role model at the Cando conference.

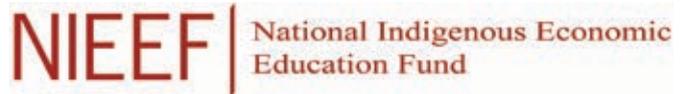
Don't miss this excellent opportunity to learn more about Aboriginal community economic development & speak with the people directly involved in improving the economic viability of Canada's Aboriginal communities!

Conference Early Bird Registration Deadline is August 15, 2016

To learn more about the upcoming conference or to register, please visit our web site at www.edo.ca/conference/2016, e-mail Svitlana Konoval at skonoval@edo.ca, or call the Cando office at **1-800-463-9300** or **(780) 990-0303**.

CONNECTING YOUR POST SECONDARY EDUCATION TO THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES YOU NEED

The National Indigenous Economic Education Foundation (NIEEF) is a charitable organization of Cando providing scholarships, training and research funding to students involved in Aboriginal community economic development.



Apply Today!

The NIEEF Aboriginal Scholarships (\$2,000 each) will be awarded to 3 successful applicants at Cando's upcoming **Annual National Conference & AGM. Deadline to apply is June 30, 2016.**

Please visit www.edo.ca/youth/nieef-scholarships to download a copy of the application form and for more information.

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The advertisement features a dark blue background with a silhouette of a large, ancient stone cross on the right side. The text is in white and yellow, with the company name in a serif font.

FIRST NATIONS - MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

The First Nations – Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) Program is a joint initiative of FCM and Cando, with the overall aim to enhance the capacity of participating First Nations and adjacent municipalities to develop and implement joint economic development plans and initiatives.

The program will achieve this by: 1) Creating opportunities between participating First Nations and adjacent municipalities to enhance their understanding of each other’s community economic development context, as well as governance structures, social customs and cultural practices; and 2) supporting participating First Nations and adjacent municipalities to engage in joint economic development planning processes in order to formulate long-term economic development plans, including a shared vision and goals, strategies and priorities, and detailed work plans and performance measuring mechanisms.



Chief Wilton Littlechild (centre), FCM - CEDI Team, Cando Board of Director's & Staff and INAC representatives

From the original project proposal in February 2013, CEDI was designed to work with a total of five (5) to seven (7) First Nation/municipal pairings, and employ a number of capacity-building mechanisms to support partner communities, including: a) the development of a CEDI toolkit and solution sheets; b) relationship-building and strategic planning workshops; c) peer mentorship, drawn from FCM’s current pool of interested municipal practitioners and a possible pool of First Nation candidates from within Cando’s networks; d) study tours; and e) community capacity-building grants.

CEDI has moved away from the concept of solution sheets in the Toolkit design while the other supports have been carried out.

(Continued on Pg. 12)

During Phase I, the CEDI team worked with six partnerships of two to three adjacent First Nations and municipalities across the country, and offered the supports identified in the program design. CEDI worked directly with a total of 7 First Nations and 9 rural and small urban municipalities. All 6 partnerships developed joint economic development strategies and processes to sustain their on-going work. **Stronger Together**, the CEDI Toolkit, was completed in English and French and was shared with First Nation and municipal elected officials and economic development staff and other interested groups across the country. An evaluation was carried out in the final months of the project to measure results and collect lessons learned.

FCM and Cando have launched Phase 2 of their successful Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) for First Nations and nearby municipal partners. Between now and 2021, as many as 30 new communities will create joint economic development and land management partnerships based on their shared desire for a better future. From the start, these new CEDI partners will be able to learn from Phase 1's participating communities and from CEDI resources that apply not just to our formal CEDI partners but to other First Nations and municipalities across Canada who choose the path of collaboration.

For more information please visit the CEDI website:

www.fcm.ca/home/programs/community-economic-development-initiative.htm

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WELCOME NEW CANDO BOARD MEMBER!



Elaine Chambers

General Manager - dāna Nāye Ventures, has been elected as a Cando Board Member for Yukon

Elaine Chambers was born and raised in Whitehorse, Yukon, and currently resides in Champagne, Yukon. She is a member of the Champagne & Aishihik First Nation and of the Crow Clan. Over the past twenty-nine years Elaine has been employed with dāna Nāye Ventures and since 1996 has been the General Manager. dāna Nāye Ventures is an Aboriginal Financial Institution.

From 1997 to 2015, Ms. Chambers has represented the Yukon on the National Aboriginal Capital Corporation Association (NACCA). She has served in the position of Chair and Treasurer.

Also, from 1996 to current, Ms. Chambers has represented dāna Nāye Ventures on the RAB Energy Group Inc. (Northern) Board of Directors. She is currently Treasurer.

In 2009 Ms. Chambers was appointed by dāna Nāye Ventures to the Board of Directors of Kilrich Industries and is currently Chair.

From 1996 to 2009, Ms. Chambers has represented the Yukon on the Cando Board of Directors. She has served in both, the positions of Vice President and Secretary Treasurer.

Elaine is the proud mother of two grown children, Odessa and Tina and has 3 Grandchildren.

Please visit Cando's web site at www.edo.ca/about-cando/board to view Cando Board members' biographies.



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WELCOME CANDO STAFF & SUMMER STUDENTS!



Quintine Kootenay

Quintine Kootenay is from the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation. He has been involved in the areas of First Nations governance and administration for many years. He possesses a strong background in the areas of policy development, program administration, and stakeholder engagement. His understanding of the historic and contemporary relationships between First Nation communities and all levels of government are reflected in his professional experiences and academic pursuits.

Quintine's is a "lifelong learner" who values education and is looking to continue this through the attainment of a Master's of Business Administration graduate degree through Athabasca University.

Quintine has sat on the boards of private and non-profit organizations. He has coordinated various meetings, gatherings and functions that dealt with a variety of issues relating to the interests and concerns of the First Nations and Aboriginal communities.



Megan Arcand

Hello, my name is Megan Arcand. I'm a Metis student at the University of Alberta, obtaining a Bachelors of Arts in Native Studies. My family is from Northern Saskatchewan (Big River specifically) but I grew up in Whitecourt, Alberta. My favorite things include: watching movies in the theatre, saskatoon berry jam on fry bread, and anything that spurs up a good laugh between my friends and I.

Short term, my main goal is to finish my degree as soon as possible. I came to university straight out of high school, so I'm anxious to finish. Long term is harder to visualize because for the first time the future does not have to include education. I'm not sure where the wind will take me, but I plan on using my degree for the betterment of Indigenous people somehow someday.

I'm very excited to be gaining some hands on experience with Cando, and look forward to what new knowledge lies ahead for me in this endeavor.



Tammy Houle

Tansi (Hello), my name is Tammy Houle from Goodfish Lake, AB. I am from the Plains Cree Tribe as well as I have roots stemming from Metis lineage.

My educational background is that I graduated from Grant MacEwan University's Social Work Diploma Program while in school at that time I contributed to the Aboriginal Education Center as the event planner for the Aboriginal Student Club. In this upcoming fall term, I will be commencing into my 4th year working towards my Bachelor of Child and Youth Care Degree at Grant MacEwan University.

During that time I will be participating in a Aboriginal women's panel to provide my story and feedback on the current systematic issues that Aboriginal women endure coupled with partaking in a Aboriginal writing project highlighting my perspective on being Aboriginal.

I am a former graduate of Edmonton's YOUCAN's (Youth Organizing to Understand Conflict and Advocate Non-violence) first Peacebuilders Program where I learned many valuable tools and skills such as Peacebuilding, Conflict Resolution, Negotiating, Meditation, Peer Building, and so on. My aspiration is to help children and youth to reach their fullest potential.

I have a strong passion to help others in need especially Aboriginal peoples. I had the honour to work within my own community as a summer student as well as I was able to work with Aboriginal youth, children and seniors in Edmonton providing support, resources and connecting to community services.

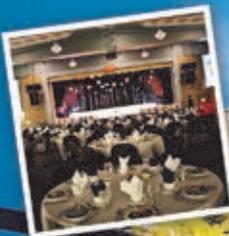
My goals and ambitions are to work with Aboriginal children, youth, families and communities to help foster change, hope, personal and professional development, community engagement and etc. In addition, I inspire and hope to one day own my own Aboriginal business that specializes in assisting Aboriginal peoples to accomplish their dreams, desires and aspirations in life.

I am very fortunate and blessed to get this excellent learning opportunity to work with CANDO's incredible team.

Ay, Ay (Thank you),
Tammy Houle



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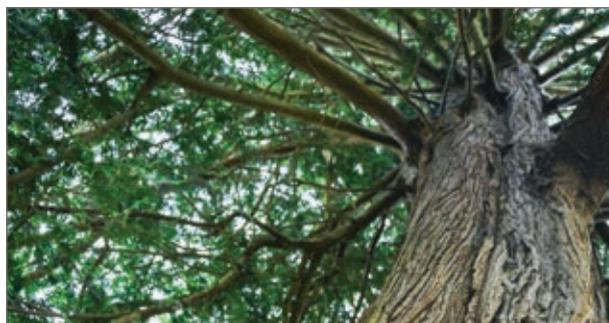
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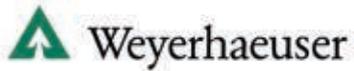
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