

cando

# CONNECT

MAY/JUNE 2018 | Vol. 5 No. 1

magazine

Moving Indigenous Economies Forward

## Indigenous Local Government Partnership Forum Report

Enoch Cree  
Nation &  
Edmonton  
Celebrate MOU

CEDI  
Partnership  
highlight:  
BATC &  
North Battleford



# Economic Development Youth Summit

July 22-26, 2018  
River Cree Resort – Enoch, AB

## Summit Includes:

- Blanket Exercise
- Cultural showcase
- Entertainment provided by:  
Tenille Campbell, Indian Love Poems
- Lands Panel- Land Use, ATR,  
Environment
- Group Challenge

Open to Indigenous (First Nation, Métis, Inuit) and Non-Indigenous Youth ages 18-30 across Canada.

Promote economic development as a career choice for youth and showcase the positive impact Indigenous EDOs can have on communities.

Travel and accommodations will be covered for selected applicants! Limited space available.

## Economic Development Panel



Dustin Fiddler  
Waterhen Lake  
First Nation, SK



Dalyn Bear  
Whitecap Dakota  
First Nation, SK



Keshia Moffat  
Eel River Bar  
First Nation, NB



MC Stan Wesley

For more information or to register, please contact:  
Danielle Stanley  
phone: 780.990.0303 ext 229  
or email:  
danielle.stanley@edo.ca

## Entrepreneur Panel



Dylan Tootoosis  
Cree Coffee Company



Heather Abbey  
Indig Inc.



Jenn Harper  
Cheekbone Beauty



Eugene Whiskeyjack  
WJ Consulting Inc.

[www.edo.ca/youth/economic-development-youth-summit-2018](http://www.edo.ca/youth/economic-development-youth-summit-2018)

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Cover image: Chief Billy Morin of Enoch Cree Nation and Mayor Don Iveson of the City of Edmonton celebrate the one year anniversary of their signing an MOU. The public celebration took place April 7th in Ford Hall at Rogers Place. More event photos are on pages 18 & 19. Photo: Paul Macedo

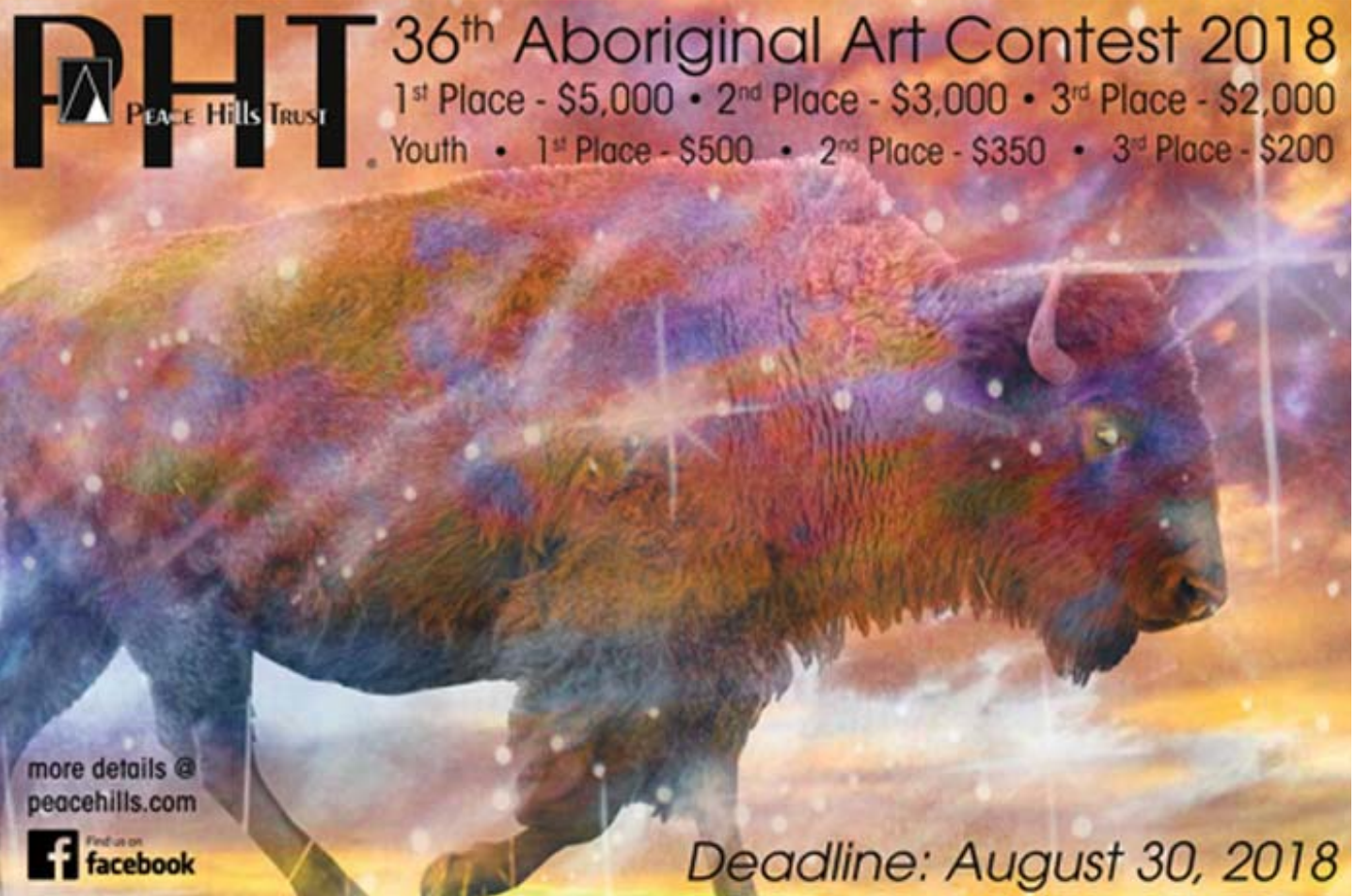
*Cando Connect Magazine* is produced by Cando under the direction of Paul Macedo, Communications Officer. If you have any story ideas and/or suggestions for improving *Cando Connect* please contact Paul directly at:  
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# Peace Hills Trust

36th Annual Aboriginal Art Show  
in conjunction with the  
25th Annual Cando Conference Icebreaker  
Edmonton Marriott at River Cree Resort  
October 23, 2018!




**PHT** PEACE HILLS TRUST

## 36<sup>th</sup> Aboriginal Art Contest 2018

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$5,000 • 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$3,000 • 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$2,000  
Youth • 1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$500 • 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$350 • 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$200

more details @  
[peacehills.com](http://peacehills.com)

 Find us on  
**facebook**

*Deadline: August 30, 2018*

# HERE COMES SUMMER

Cando is very busy continuing the work of building capacity and forging relations in the communities. Cando continues to develop the First Nations / Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative in partnership for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. This is evidenced by turning to pages 14 to 19 in this issue.

You will find information on the growing partnerships between Battleford Agency Tribal Council and the City of North Battleford as well as between Enoch Cree Nation and the City of Edmonton. In addition the Summary Report of the Indigenous - Local Government Partnership Forum that took place in February in Winnipeg has now been completed and is available to the public.

Speaking of partnerships... the Indigenous – Local Government Partnership Forum that took place February 21-22, in Winnipeg was a joint initiative planned and delivered by Cando, the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). The Summary Report has now been produced and is being distributed. You may access the report at [www.edo.ca/cedi](http://www.edo.ca/cedi)

Cando is also developing a new event focused on youth - the Economic Development Youth Summit will be held July 22-26, 2018 at the River Cree Resort at Enoch, Alberta. This inaugural event will bring more than 50 Indigenous (First Nation, Métis, Inuit) and non-Indigenous youth (18-30 years) together from communities across Canada. Those who participate will network, work together in teams to explore Indigenous economic development issues, propose solutions, have fun and, perhaps, also discover economic development as a possible career path.

Alberta Links to Learning will now be incorporated as part of the 25th Annual Cando Conference and AGM to be held from October 22-25, 2018 at River Cree Resort in Enoch, Alberta (just west of Edmonton) on Treaty 6 Territory.

Links to Learning Saskatchewan will be in Saskatoon at the beginning of September. BC Links to Learning will be held in Vancouver from November 19-21. Cando is also working to add at least one more Links to Learning event on the fall schedule - we will share more on that when details become finalized. All of these initiatives and additional learning/training opportunities are designed to meet the growing needs of Cando members.

Speaking of membership... have you renewed your Cando membership yet? Please do. Your membership enables Cando to provide needed information, training, workshops, certification and support to assist EDOs in their careers and in their communities.

We hope to see you all at Enoch and/or one of the many regional events we have planned for 2018! See you soon!

## Cando Board of Directors

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## CANDO 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE & AGM

*A National Platform Exclusively Focused on Excellence in Indigenous Economic Development*

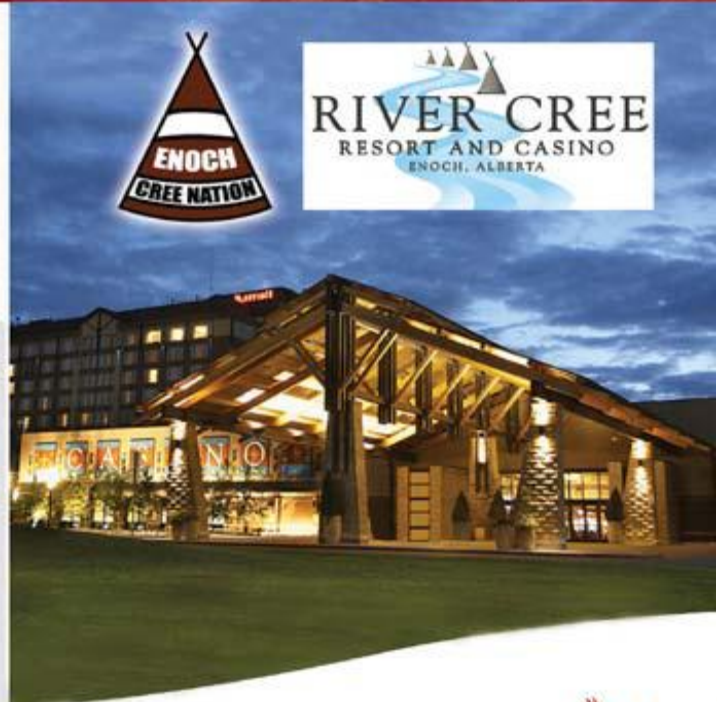
### Save the Date!

**October 22 – 25, 2018**

Edmonton Marriott at River Cree Resort  
Enoch, Alberta  
Treaty 6 Territory

- Professional Development Workshops
- Economic Developer of the Year Awards
- Trade Show & Artisan Show & Sale
- Annual National Youth Panel
- Women in Business Panel
- Community Cultural Tours
- Keynote Presentations
- President's Reception, Dinner & Dance

*Please visit the Cando website to register and for more information*

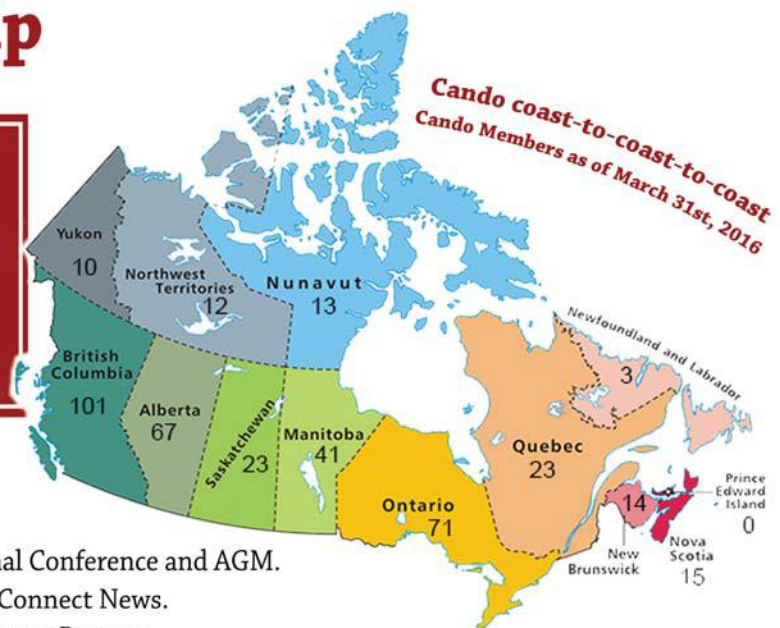


# Renew your Membership today!

Please renew your Cando membership so that you can continue to receive your membership benefits throughout 2018!

## Cando Membership

Full Individual Membership - \$105  
Associate Membership - \$89.25  
Student Membership - \$26.25  
Organization Membership - \$315



### Cando Membership Benefits:

- Discount registration at the Cando Annual National Conference and AGM.
- Subscription to Cando Connect Magazine and (e) Connect News.
- Access to the Certified Aboriginal Economic Developer Process.
- Discount subscription to Cando's Journal of Aboriginal Economic Development, the only journal of its kind in Canada.
- Opportunity to advertise events and services through Cando's nation-wide network.
- Voting privileges at Cando's national and regional meetings (Full Members only).
- Access to Cando's bookstore and resources.

To learn more about becoming a member OR to join visit:  
[www.edo.ca/about-cando/membership](http://www.edo.ca/about-cando/membership)

  
cando  
Inspiring Success

# Trans Mountain pipeline could build “stronger economy” for many BC First Nations

By Shari Narine  
Cando Contributor



Photo: File

Keith Matthew, Cando President.

Cando President Keith Matthew was among the 100 or so delegates to make the trip from British Columbia to Alberta on May 17 in support of Kinder Morgan Inc.’s Trans Mountain expansion pipeline project.

The one day event, dubbed the “Federation Flight,” was organized by the Edmonton and Calgary chambers

of commerce and the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade. Indigenous delegates, business leaders, a youth contingent, and labour representatives boarded the early morning flight.

“It’s important to have an Indigenous delegation here because in the past we’ve been left out of the discussions on the economy and we have a vested interest in making sure our viewpoints are heard,” said Matthew, a small business owner and former chief of Simpcw First Nation. “We want to make sure we protect our jobs and our budding economy in our communities. We need to build a stronger economy.”

He also pointed out that First Nations are finding themselves in a unique position.

“The reason we want to make sure this project goes forward is because we’re being recognized as the rights and title holders of our territories,” he said.

Matthew, who sat as part of a four-member panel for the luncheon, highlighted the benefits his First Nation saw when it signed an agreement with Kinder Morgan in 2007 for the original Trans Mountain pipeline. That project brought construction jobs and other related work opportunities, as well as a small share of the revenues to Simpcw First Nation. The Trans

**It’s important to have an Indigenous delegation here because in the past we’ve been left out of the discussions on the economy and we have a vested interest in making sure our viewpoints are heard.**



Mountain expansion pipeline project will add approximately 980 km of new pipeline and reactivate 193 km of existing pipeline. The majority of the new pipeline will travel the existing route.

"If this pipeline doesn't go through, all those opportunities, including the guaranteed work ... it impacts on us as well. We understand the economics, we understand the fact that we're all in this together," said Matthew.

While benefits garnered by First Nations along the pipeline route are obvious, Matthew pointed out that benefits could also be realized by coastal First Nations.

Haida Gwaii Hereditary Chief Roy Jones, Jr., who also made the trip, agreed, saying benefits could be negotiated that could see his

community operate tug boats and run a lease for the Coast Guard for Canada.

"We've got to be involved to ensure that those things happen and we capitalize on the opportunity," he said.

Jones said pipeline support seemed to be split between interior First Nations pushing for the project and coastal First Nations opposed to it. Coastal First Nations are concerned, he said, because Kinder Morgan has set aside \$100 million for coastal protection while the cancelled Northern Gateway had budgeted \$213 million. Jones said more money has to come from either Kinder Morgan or the federal or provincial governments.

He holds that further support from the Indigenous population for the project will come with education.

Matthew said Indigenous leadership is ramping up its support now becoming more vocal and overtaking the voices of interest groups lobbying against the pipeline.

It's important that Indigenous voices be heard in this push for the pipeline, said Val Litwin, president and CEO for the BC Chamber of Commerce.

"We often forget in the daily public discourse what this means in terms of future opportunities for Indigenous communities all along the route of the pipeline. For some of them this is a generational opportunity to move out of poverty and move toward self-governance," he said.

To date, Kinder Morgan has signed 43 benefit agreements with Aboriginal groups in BC and Alberta for its \$7.4 billion Trans Mountain pipeline.

**NIEEF** | National Indigenous Economic Education Fund

**YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES**

## National Indigenous Economic Education Fund (NIEEF) Scholarships

NIEEF is Cando's charitable organization, which grants annual scholarships to Indigenous students studying in a field related to economic development. To be eligible, students must be attending or currently enrolled in a program at a post-secondary institution, and must be a Cando student member.

This year, NIEEF will be granting three scholarships each worth \$2,000. **The deadline to apply for a NIEEF scholarship is on June 30, 2018.**



**Kandice Charlie**

**2017  
NIEEF  
SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENTS**



**Quinn Meawasige**

**2017  
NIEEF  
SCHOLARSHIP  
RECIPIENTS**



**Sheila Peter-Paul**

## National Youth Panel

The National Youth Panel is an inspiring showcase of the achievements of six highly motivated Indigenous youth from across Canada who have been nominated by their peers and recognized as national role models. All selected panelists are invited to the Annual National Cando Conference & AGM where they will share their inspiring stories to a National audience.

**Do you know someone who should be on the Youth Panel? Cando is now accepting nominations until June 30, 2018**

# Co-operatives First Continues to Offer Online Governance Course

By Sam Laskaris  
Cando Contributor



Photo: Supplied

Kyle White, the Education and Engagement Lead for Co-operatives First

About 500 people from around the world have taken a free online governance course since it was launched this past October.

The course, titled Governance In Co-operatives, is offered by Co-operatives First, a Saskatoon-based organization whose mandate includes to help Indigenous and rural communities not only to grow but also thrive.

Those who sign up for the course will have the opportunity to learn about vital concepts in the governance of organizations. Case studies of co-operations and corporations will be offered throughout the course.

The course was developed in partnership with the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives at the University of Saskatchewan.

Kyle White, the Education and Engagement Lead for Co-operatives

First, said the centre at the Saskatchewan university has a solid reputation globally.

“When it was offered it made sense folks around the world heard about it,” White said. “We had people from Europe, Asia, Africa and all across Canada take the course.”

Co-operatives First has a mission focused on increasing awareness of its ventures in Canada’s four westernmost provinces.

But since it is an online course, Governance In Co-operatives is offered to anyone, regardless of what country they are in.

Those who are interested in enrolling and taking the course can do so at any time. There are three ways to be a participant with the course.

Individuals can sign up whenever they wish and audit the course at their leisure. Or those who are keen to review the materials and also take tests on what they have learned can earn a virtual badge.

**Continued on page 12.**



Photo: Supplied

Paul Thompson, a research officer at the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives at the University of Saskatchewan

# GOOD GOVERNANCE

*MATTERS*

An online governance course for community leaders.

**LEARN**  
BEST PRACTICES FOR RUNNING AN ORGANIZATION

**CUSTOMIZE**  
YOUR OWN PATHWAY THROUGH THE COURSE

**REWARD**  
YOURSELF WITH A BADGE OR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

**REGISTER NOW**

GAIN THE TOOLS YOU NEED TO MAKE AN IMPACT. LEARN MORE AT [CooperativesFirst.com/Governance](https://CooperativesFirst.com/Governance)

 **co-operatives first**

**Continued from page 10.**

Those who want to earn a certificate, however, must wait until this coming October when the course will be offered once again with a teacher-monitored segment.

The course instructor is Paul Thompson, a research officer at the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives at the University of Saskatchewan.

To earn a certificate individuals will not only have to complete various tests in the course but they must also take part in various discussion forums.

Those who work towards a certificate in the course will have modules made available weekly. White said about three hours of work is required (which includes listening to the modules) per week during the six-week program.

“The feedback we’ve received so far has been extremely positive,” White said of the course. “The content for this course is fairly directed to the specific topic of governance.”

White believes anyone interested in governance – or those looking to boost their leadership skills or knowledge – should consider taking the course.

That includes community leaders, elected officials, board members or those on steering committees.

Three key concepts will be looked at during the course. They are:

- 1) ensuring people work well together
- 2) creating a successful view of the future
- 3) building legitimacy

By providing actual case studies, the course aims to teach individuals how they can utilize similar circumstances when it comes time for decision-making processes in their own lives.

For more information on the Governance In Co-operatives course or to sign up for it follow the link here [www.cooperativesfirst.com/governance/](http://www.cooperativesfirst.com/governance/)

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPER OF THE YEAR AWARD



2017 Economic Developer of the Year Award recipients - Fredericton, NB



### Recognize! Celebrate! Honour!

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 Indigenous economic development initiatives throughout Canada.

#### Each year, Cando awards three categories:

- Individual EDO
- Community
- Indigenous Private Sector Business

#### The nomination deadline is June 30th, 2018

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

## Nominate your Role Model for the National Youth Panel!

Each year Cando selects six Indigenous youth participants to form the National Youth Panel, a signature event at the annual national conference that will be held this year in Enoch, Alberta from October 22–25, 2018. The selections for the National Youth Panel are based on their strengths, initiatives, accomplishments, entrepreneurial spirit, and participation within their communities. Do you know of a role model deserving of special recognition? Nominate them today!

### Award recipients will enjoy:

- Recognition for their achievements
- Networking with Indigenous leaders and peers
- Free trip to Edmonton, AB - plus complimentary conference registration and accommodations
- The opportunity to have one year of intensive mentorship by CESO's experienced and highly skilled Volunteer Advisors

### Eligibility:

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



*Be sure to visit our website to learn more and nominate today!*  
**Deadline for nominations is June 30, 2018**



Photo: supplied

Left to right: Mayor Ryan Bater, City of North Battleford, Councillor Lux Benson, Red Pheasant First Nation, Chief Larry Ahenakew, Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation, Chief (past) Lorie Whitecalf, Sweetgrass First Nation, and Senator Don Pooyak visioning for the JIES.

# **CEDI Partnership Highlight: Battlefords Agency Tribal Chiefs & City of North Battleford Joint Indigenous Employment Strategy**

**Written by CEDI team members:  
Marissa Lawrence and Tanya Tourangeau**

CEDI is a national program delivered jointly by Cando and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). The CEDI program delivers up to six facilitated workshops over

three years, and provides technical and financial supports for each of the ten CEDI community partnerships. The program uses the 'Stronger Together' approach, a four-stage planning strategy, which incorporates relationship building and capacity building throughout the process.

Battlefords Agency Tribal Chiefs (BATC) and City of North Battleford began with the CEDI program in 2016, and in early 2017 passed resolutions with their respective governing

[www.edo.ca/cedi](http://www.edo.ca/cedi)

**Cando Connect**

**14**

**May/June 2018**

The CEDI program facilitated in developing a partnership between our agency (BATC) and the City of North Battleford. From this partnership we created a Joint Indigenous Employment Strategy and the end result was the placement of 8 indigenous youth with work experience at the City of North Battleford. My belief is that this is just the beginning ...

**Kerry Sasakamoose, Director of Employment & Training**

bodies (tribal council and municipal council) to establish a working group to focus on joint community economic development. Over the course of three CEDI workshops, the community partners identified a joint interest to build upon BATC's current Employment and Training programs, and the City's interest in a workforce that is representative of the regional Indigenous population.

By the end of 2017, the community partners had designed the beginnings of the Joint Indigenous Employment Strategy (JIES) which focuses on '*creating an inclusive and representative work force for the Battleford Region for the mutual benefit of all*'. The JIES includes a number of strategic priorities; currently the partners are working on the following priority: *Increase Indigenous representation in City of North Battleford workforce*.

This priority resulted in a Work Experience Initiative that placed 8 BATC members in a six-week work experience position (April – May 2018) at the City. The City of North Battleford intends to offer the opportunity to continue into a seasonal employment opportunity, for those who were successful and interested, with the City's Parks Department (May – August). BATC and City of North Battleford are discussing additional City placements for the fall, broader engagement with the Battlefords Chamber of Commerce and local business owners, as well as a community JIES workshop and event.

With this, the BATC Tribal Council and City of North Battleford Council respectively passed a motion to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalize the understanding and intention of the Joint Indigenous Employment Strategy. The MOU will be signed as part of a larger celebration in June during Aboriginal Day celebrations.

For their collaborative work on JIES, BATC and City of North Battleford were awarded the 2018 Affinity Credit Union Economic Partnership Award for their partnership and steps

towards reconciliation and economic development. Both communities were presented with the Award at the Saskatchewan Economic Development Association/ Saskatchewan First Nations Economic Development Network Conference in Saskatoon.

The CEDI team is so incredibly excited by the collaborative work that BATC and City of North Battleford have embarked on; they are truly raising the bar for other First Nation – Municipal collaboration across Canada.

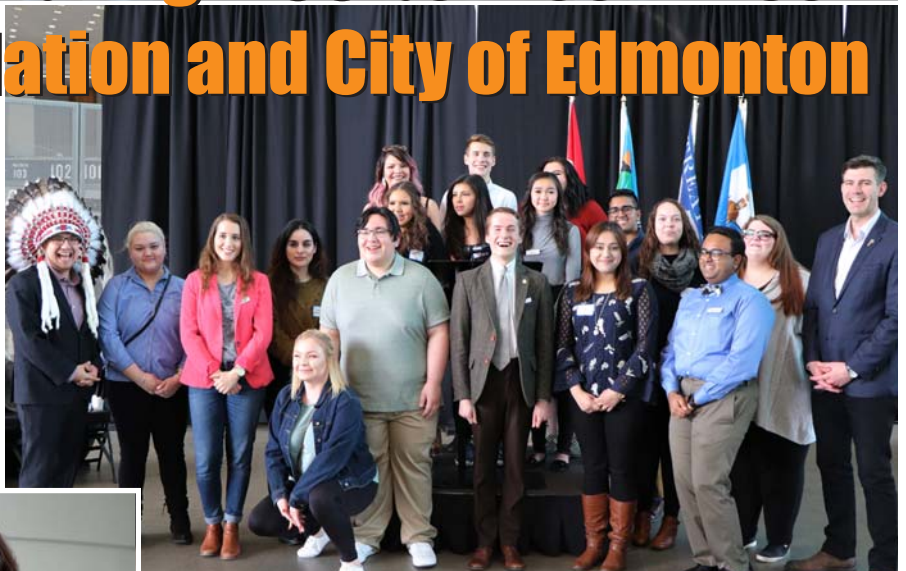
Look for a CEDI update in every edition as we share stories and lessons learned from CEDI partnerships across Canada.

**More info.: [www.edo.ca/cedi](http://www.edo.ca/cedi)**

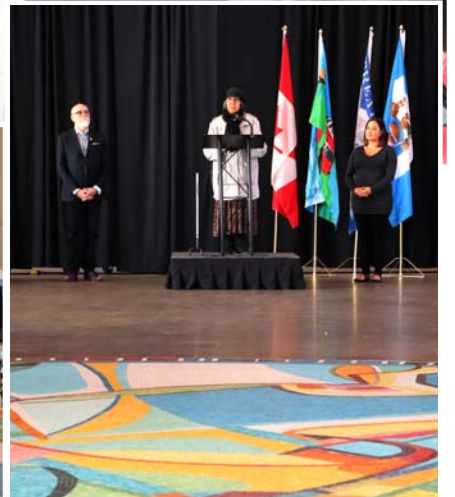
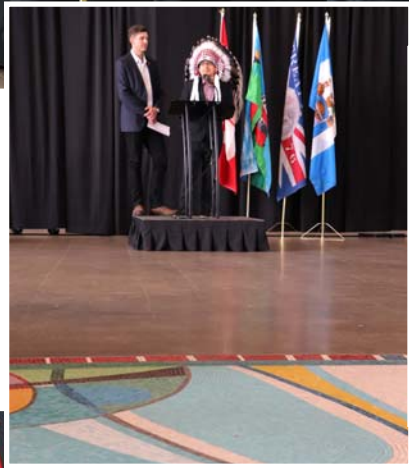




# Celebrating MOU between Enoch Cree Nation and City of Edmonton







All Photos: Paul Macedo



On Saturday, April 7 a public celebration of the relationship between Enoch Cree Nation and the City of Edmonton was held at Ford Hall in Rogers Place.

Chief Billy Morin, Mayor Don Iveson, Enoch Cree Nation Council, Edmonton City Council, and the Youth Councils of the Enoch Cree Nation and City of Edmonton plus members of the public were in attendance.

In March 2017, Enoch Cree Nation and the City of Edmonton formalized their relationship as neighbours with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The City of Edmonton Youth Council and Enoch Cree Nation Youth Council are working together in this same spirit of collaboration.

This celebration was about recommitting to the principles of the MOU, celebrating the past year and looking to the future.

[www.edo.ca/cedi/](http://www.edo.ca/cedi/)

# National Indigenous & Local Government Partnership Forum Summary Report

The first ever Indigenous & Local Government Partnership Forum took place February 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Today, we are so excited to share that the Final Report is available to download!

The Partnership Forum was a joint initiative planned and delivered by Cando (Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers), the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).

The Forum invited Indigenous and local government representatives across Canada to engage in valuable discussions on the future direction of Indigenous – local government collaboration, and on programming provided in this area. In this special edition of our First Nation-Municipal CEDI update, we are hopeful that you will be inspired by some of the exclusive insights and wisdom captured during this landmark Forum.

Forum participants reflected on four key objectives:

- What are the keys to successful Indigenous – local government collaboration;
- What are barriers/gaps and how do we collectively overcome them;
- What tools currently exist to support Indigenous – local government collaboration and are others required; and
- How does Indigenous – local government collaboration contribute to reconciliation and how can the Government of Canada and other organizations assist.

Following two days of networking, learning from peer case study presentations and discussion, the Forum concluded with reflection on a number of priority areas for Indigenous – local government ongoing collaboration.

Be sure to download your copy of the Indigenous & Local Government Partnership Forum Report (PDF) today at [www.edo.ca/cedi/partnership-forum](http://www.edo.ca/cedi/partnership-forum)



Photo: Paul Macedo

[www.edo.ca/cedi](http://www.edo.ca/cedi)



# SUMMARY REPORT

*of the 2018 National Indigenous-Local Government* PARTNERSHIP FORUM

March 2018  
Alderhill Planning Inc.

Canada

FCM

cando  
Inspiring Success

CIER

**download the report here: [www.edo.ca/cedi/partnership-forum](http://www.edo.ca/cedi/partnership-forum)**

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



On February 21-22, 2018, nearly eighty participants gathered in Winnipeg, Manitoba for the National Indigenous-Local Government Partnership Forum. With a mix of elected officials and staff, attendees represented local governments, First Nations communities and government, and Métis Nations & settlements as well as partners including the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Cando (the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers), the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources (CIER), the Department of Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA).

The forum brought together partners in Indigenous-Local Government collaboration who had taken part in the Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) and/or the Community Infrastructure Partnership Program (CIPP), to seek their input on the following questions:

- What are the key components of strong, sustainable and equitable First Nation or Métis – Local Government partnerships?
- What are the gaps that exist in support of strong, sustainable and equitable First Nation or Métis – Local Government partnerships, and what are the solutions to these shortcomings?
- What are the barriers to collaboration for First Nation or Métis – Local Government partnerships, and what are the solutions to these barriers?
- What is the role that government and support organizations should play in support of First Nation or Métis – Local Government partnerships?

Participants engaged in a variety of networking and participatory activities such as story harvesting, small group dialogue, open space, and dotmocracy based on an agenda designed with community input and facilitated by Jessie Hemphill of Alderhill Planning Inc. Kevin Lamoureux, Education Lead for the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, shared stories and talked about the importance of reconciliation during a moving keynote speech during an evening that also featured a local drum group. Five case study presentations provided real-life examples of successful collaboration, and visioning activities on both days allowed participants to share their vision and ideas for moving forward the important work of joint economic development, solid waste management, reconciliation and relationship building.

One key point emerged from all of the dialogue and activities: establishing respectful communications and building trust and common understanding via in-person gatherings are the necessary precursors to working together well.

Additional participant feedback included:

- It is important for all parties to show willingness to engage in the long-term work of relationship building and collaboration, even when the outcomes are uncertain
- Communities and support organizations need to share more success stories, templates, and other tools to help each other develop and improve partnerships
- Local governments need to focus on learning more about Indigenous history, rights, current issues, and governance structures while overcoming racism and structural inequities
- Indigenous governments and communities need to reach out more often to local governments
- FCM should engage more Indigenous peoples as FCM members, conference speakers and event participants
- FCM, CIER and Cando should all continue to develop tools and resources and operate as hubs of information and support for Indigenous-Local Government collaboration
- The voices of youth, folks from the North and very remote communities, and others who are not typically part of these programs need to be included
- Communities need tools and support to address racism

At the end of day two, suggested action items were collated from breakout groups, and the following **seven priorities** were identified by participants:

1. Develop regional centres of excellence to promote Indigenous-Local Government collaboration
2. Hold joint provincial, territorial and regional Economic Development Officer forums
3. Provide more information to Indigenous Governments and Local Governments on each others' administrative and governance structures
4. Increase funding caps for CIPP and CEDI, especially for remote communities or others with a higher cost of participation
5. Engage youth and develop youth programs
6. Engage provinces and corporate Canada in the future of the CIPP and CEDI programs
7. Provide more training for Indigenous and Local Government staff, especially on each others' history and how to work together respectfully



ISC and CIRNA will use the feedback from forum participants to help guide them in supporting Indigenous - Local Government partnership building.

The forum was rated “excellent” by those who attended. Participants particularly enjoyed the networking opportunities and case studies. If this forum happens again, suggestions include inviting representatives from provincial governments, other national, provincial and regional Indigenous organizations, and youth.

# INTRODUCTION



The Department of Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs (CIRNA) enable partnerships between First Nations and Métis and local governments including by funding the Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI) and the Community Infrastructure Partnership Project (CIPP). CEDI is delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Cando (Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers). CIPP is delivered by FCM

and Centre for Indigenous Environmental Research (CIER). These initiatives aim to connect Indigenous communities and adjacent local governments to develop joint economic plans and joint service agreements.

In 2017 FCM and Cando were asked by ISC and CIRNA to deliver a two-day forum with representatives from Indigenous communities and their neighbouring local governments as well as staff from the federal and provincial government and the partner organizations themselves. The goal of the forum was to talk about each community's experiences with the CIPP and CEDI programs, and to share different perspectives and suggestions for how ISC and CIRNA could support future relationship building and collaboration between Indigenous and Local Governments, what types of tools and resources should be made available to support that work, how gaps and barriers can be overcome and finally, how we can collectively foster a path of reconciliation going forward.

The forum was organized by a steering committee of staff from FCM, Cando, CIER and ISC. The forum's project manager was Peigi Wilson, CIPP Manager at FCM, while Cando led the logistics. Jessie Hemphill of Alderhill Planning Inc. was contracted to develop the agenda, facilitate the forum and write the final report. The forum was held in Treaty 1 territory in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Nearly eighty participants attended, including elected officials and staff, with a mix of levels of experience in Indigenous-Local Government collaboration.

*"This forum was exactly what I needed to know more about methods of communications, sharing of resources, networking with reps from across the country."*

*Participant Quote*

# FINDINGS: Summary

*“Canada will be a much better country if we reclaim/embrace our First Nations heritage/history/culture - we need more community-to-community engagement and dialogue and real change starts at the grassroots level!”*

*Participant Quote*

The findings, collated from all of the data collection methods, are organized around four guiding questions:

1. What are the key components of strong, sustainable and equitable First Nation or Métis – Municipal partnerships?
2. What are the gaps that exist in support of strong, sustainable and equitable Indigenous – Local Government partnerships, and what are solutions to these shortcomings?
3. What are the barriers to collaboration for Indigenous– Local Government partnerships, and what are solutions to these barriers?
4. What role(s) should government and support organizations play in support of Indigenous – Local Government partnerships?

The results are ranked according to how often they occurred in participant responses, with the top items in any list being the most common responses. Responses specific to **solid waste** and **economic development** are noted in addition to general comments and themes.

*One key point emerged as an overarching theme:*

***Establishing respectful communications and building trust and common understanding via in-person gatherings are the necessary precursors to working together well.***



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