

AGENDA

April 30 - May 2, 2024



Indigenous Economic Development Conference

Westin Bayshore Hotel | Vancouver, BC

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President's Reception Sponsor



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Securities Commission

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Indigenous Services
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Tuesday, April 30, 2024

9:00 AM -
4:00 PM

Pre-Conference Workshop: Indigenous Procurement **Sara Monture, Indigenous Procurement Navigator, CANDO**

Join Cando's Procurement Navigator, Sara Monture, in our pre-conference workshop designed to take you through the procurement process: what is procurement – the role of the Economic Development Officer and key federal partners; finding opportunities – a review of the key websites and how to use them; how to market to the federal government and how to prepare and submit a bid.

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

8:00 AM

Conference Registration
Full Breakfast
Exhibitor Displays

9:00 AM

Introduction & Traditional Welcome
Opening Comments: Barbara Joe, President, AFOA BC
Traditional Welcome: Bob Baker, Squamish Nation

9:15 AM

Setting your Community for Success
Geena Jackson, Executive Producer, The Bears' Lair TV

Join Geena as she discusses how to create economic prosperity for your nation. Learn to take advantage of opportunities now and into the future, creating economies through your community. She will also discuss what progressive mutual partnerships look like, drawing from her experience working as an Economic Development officer as well as her personal experience working with over 200 nations in BC.

10:15 AM

Refreshment Break and Exhibitor Introductions

10:45 AM

HR for Entrepreneurs
Cori Maedel, Partner, Jouta Performance Group (recently merged with MNP)

In this session, Cori will share insights drawn from her own entrepreneurial journey—from overcoming initial hurdles to navigating the complexities of scaling to eventual sale—and provide actionable takeaways for those embarking on their own path to entrepreneurial success.

12:00 PM

Lunch and Networking/Exhibitors

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- 1:00 PM** **Financial Literacy as a Foundation for Growth**
Kear Porttris, Owner, Indigenous Professional, Porttris Consulting Group Ltd.
David Delisle, Author, Tkemlups Nation/The Awesome Stuff
- Financial literacy creates a foundation for companies to grow and provide generational wealth for their communities. David and Kear will discuss concepts of financial literacy, from children to executives, and how to incorporate it into your work.
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- 2:15 PM** **Refreshment Break and Exhibitor Introductions**
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- 2:30 PM** **Navigating the Future: Data-Driven Strategies for the Modern Workforce**
Gord Penner, Account Executive, Employee Benefits, HUB International
- Today's workforce is evolving. Shouldn't your benefits strategy? Understanding who your employees really are and what they value most is essential for developing a benefits strategy that helps you contain costs, stay current, and move people, revenue, and culture forward. Join us and explore how data driven insights can support impactful benefit plans and balance employee wellness with economic realities, so your organization is ready for tomorrow.
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- 3:30 PM** **The Co-operative Business Model: Supporting Economic Development in Your Community**
Jenna Pullen, Manager of Engagement, Cooperatives First
- Rural and Indigenous communities have found great success using the co-operative business model, and it continues to be a strong fit with communities that are looking inward to build solutions. In this presentation you'll hear success stories of our clients who have built co-ops that impacted their communities, and an overview of the support services and resources Co-operatives First provides to help people create co-operatives.
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- 4:15 PM** **Closing Remarks/Adjournment**
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- 4:15 PM-6:00 PM** **President's Reception - Ballroom Foyer**
Presented by British Columbia Securities Commission
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Thursday, May 2, 2024

- 8:00 AM** Conference Registration
Full Breakfast
Exhibitor Displays
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- 8:50 AM** **Opening Comments**
Wendy Ham, Executive Director, AFOA BC
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9:00 AM Resources for Economic Development and Entrepreneurs

Caledonia Glendale, Inisa Consulting & Training Services

Caledonia will provide useful research resources and tools for financing as she discusses current opportunities and best practices for economic development in your community.

10:00 AM Refreshment Break and Exhibitor Displays

10:30 AM Capital Raising for a Small Business & Entrepreneurs

Melody Chen, Senior Legal Counsel, CF Legal Services, BCSC
Pamela McDonald, Director, Communications & Education, BCSC
Elliott Mak, Senior Legal Counsel, CF Legal Services, BCSC

Companies of every size frequently need access to capital. This presentation will give you an overview of how securities rules apply to Indigenous businesses looking to raise capital in a variety of ways. The BC Securities Commission is the independent provincial government agency that enforces BC's Securities Act, which regulates how businesses raise money and how securities, such as stocks, bonds, are bought and sold.

11:30 AM Rebuilding Indigenous Economies

Amanda Calla, Senior Manager Group Retirement, Eagle Bay Financial

Inspired by the research of Assistant Professor, Business and Society, Dr. Dara Kelly (Leq'á:mel First Nation) and Simon Fraser University's "Rebuilding Indigenous Economies" course, this presentation shares insights on how Indigenous values can influence and shape Indigenous business and economic development. Amanda will also share findings on Indigenous income inequality, alternative wellbeing and wealth indicators for Indigenous communities and the concepts of economic freedom.

12:00 PM Lunch and Exhibitor Draws

1:15 PM Panel Discussion: Closing the Infrastructure Gap/ Improving Indigenous Infrastructure Outcomes

Moderator: Wendy Ham, Executive Director, AFOA BC
Scott Munro, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, FMB
Jason Calla, Technical Team, First Nations Infrastructure Institute
Booker Cornea, First Nations Bank of Canada

This panel will delve into resources and financing available for infrastructure projects as well as how the FNII can support Indigenous communities to plan, procure, own, and manage their infrastructure assets on their lands. The discussion will highlight how all three organizations are prepared to work in synergy to move nations forward.

2:45 PM Closing remarks, AFOA BC Draw Prizes, Conference Adjournment
