

## Part 2: Federal Initiatives

### NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA

#### 1.0 EXPANDING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

1.1 ACCESS TO CAPITAL (GENERAL PURPOSE—FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.2 ACCESS TO MARKETS (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business</b>	<p>This activity is a government-wide strategy to promote Aboriginal business development. The strategy included departmental performance objectives for increasing the total value of procurements awarded to Aboriginal suppliers.</p> <p>NRCAN's performance objectives, under this strategy, were established in concert with INAC. They are 1997 (\$720K); 1998 (\$1,450K); 1999 (\$2,155K)</p>	Access is to all Aboriginal businesses including sole proprietorships, limited companies, co-operatives, partnerships, and not-for-profit organizations.	N/A	The target was met for 1997.

1.3 BUSINESS SERVICES (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.4 INNOVATION (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

## 2.0 INCREASING SELF-RELIANCE

2.1 LANDS AND RESOURCES				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>First Nations Forestry Program</b>	The First Nations Forestry Program was implemented to improve economic conditions in status Indian communities by assisting First Nations <b>to enhance their capacity to operate and participate in forest-based businesses and to sustainably manage reserve forests.</b> The program is a five-year program (1996/97 - 2000/01) ending on March 31, 2001.	Eligible recipients for contributions are duly elected First Nations Band councils, First Nations organizations and any other First Nations group, or company involved in improving economic conditions in status Indian communities.	Provinces Forest Industry Federal Departments	In 1996/97, 329 proposals valued at \$51 million were received against \$5.9 in available federal funding. 175 proposals were approved.  Early estimates for 1997/98 reveal that 262 proposals were received valued at \$27.3 million against \$5.5 in available federal funding. Approximately 180 proposals were approved.

2.2 WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

2.3 SOCIAL ASSISTANCE REFORM				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

### 3.0 SUPPORTIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

3.1 COMMUNITY ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

3.2 CONNECTEDNESS INITIATIVES				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

3.3 BUSINESS CLIMATE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

## CANADA MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

### 1.0 EXPANDING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

1.1 ACCESS TO CAPITAL (GENERAL PURPOSE—FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.2 ACCESS TO MARKETS (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.3 BUSINESS SERVICES (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>Property Management Agreements</b>	CMHC has contracted with Aboriginal-owned businesses to provide property management services on a fee-for-service basis for subsidized housing units. <b>To help build the capacity</b> of these Aboriginal firms, CMHC funds training in housing management skills.	Aboriginal-owned property management firms.	In some provinces, the contract with the Aboriginal firm is with the provincial housing agency, acting as CMHC's representative. In these cases, the provinces share a portion of the fee paid.	To date, agreements have been signed with 26 Aboriginal firms.

1.4 INNOVATION (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

## 2.0 INCREASING SELF-RELIANCE

2.1 LANDS AND RESOURCES				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

2.2 WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>Housing Internship Initiative for First Nations and Inuit Youth</b>	This is a two-year initiative, ending March 31, 1999, <b>to provide work experience and on-the-job training</b> for First Nations and Inuit youth to assist them in pursuing long term employment in the housing industry. CMHC has a budget in 1998/99 of \$1 million.	Youths living on First Nations reserves and in Inuit communities who are between the ages of 17 and 29; and are out-of-school, unemployed and have not worked during the past six months.	Sponsors must be able to offer work experience and on the job training related to housing. Several sponsors augment the financial contribution from CMHC.	In 1997/98, CMHC funded 90 internship positions with 56 different sponsors.
<b>Native Inspection Services</b>	CMHC has contracted with Aboriginal-owned businesses to provide housing inspection services for units constructed under CMHC and DIAND housing programs. CMHC <b>funds technical training courses</b> to help individuals obtain the necessary level of skills.	Aboriginal-owned inspections services, which are then hired by Indian bands.	DIAND, community colleges	To date, agreements have been signed with 35 Aboriginal firms.

2.3 SOCIAL ASSISTANCE REFORM				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

**3.0 SUPPORTIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT**

<b>3.1 COMMUNITY ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE</b>				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Clients</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Aboriginal Take-up</b>

<b>3.2 CONNECTEDNESS INITIATIVES</b>				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Clients</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Aboriginal Take-up</b>

<b>3.3 BUSINESS CLIMATE</b>				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Clients</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Aboriginal Take-up</b>

## DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS

### 1.0 EXPANDING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

1.1 ACCESS TO CAPITAL (GENERAL PURPOSE—FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.2 ACCESS TO MARKETS (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.3 BUSINESS SERVICES (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.4 INNOVATION (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

## 2.0 INCREASING SELF-RELIANCE

2.1 LANDS AND RESOURCES				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

2.2 WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<p><b>Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy</b></p>	<p>The Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy was developed in response to a 1990 Supreme Court case (<i>Sparrow</i>), which found that the Aboriginal right to fish for food, social and ceremonial purposes has priority, after conservation, over other users of fisheries resources, and that right is communal. It is a comprehensive strategy which includes consultation on food, social and ceremonial requirements, development of fishing plans, <b>economic development and fisheries management</b> and stewardship activities. The program is an interim measure until the settlement of treaties with First Nations.</p> <p>Objectives include: co-operative fish management programs, enforcement, monitoring and training. The reallocation of commercial fishing licences to Aboriginal communities and a pilot project on the sale of fish are being funded.</p>	<p>The strategy is accessible to Aboriginal groups in areas of Canada where Fisheries and Oceans Canada manages the fishery and where land claim settlements have not already put a fisheries management regime in place.</p>	<p>Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development</p>	<p><b>124 Agreements signed with Aboriginal groups in 1997/98.</b></p>

2.3 SOCIAL ASSISTANCE REFORM				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

### 3.0 SUPPORTIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

3.1 COMMUNITY ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

3.2 CONNECTEDNESS INITIATIVES				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

3.3 BUSINESS CLIMATE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

## INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA

### 1.0 EXPANDING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

1.1 ACCESS TO CAPITAL (GENERAL PURPOSE—FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.2 ACCESS TO MARKETS (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>Federal Aboriginal Business Procurement Initiative</b>	The purpose of the initiative is to <b>increase the number of Aboriginal firms competing for and winning federal contracts</b> . Revenue Canada has also developed an initiative to assist in this area.	All Aboriginal groups and businesses who meet the bidding criteria.		A minimum of 3% of the total federal contracts are to benefit this initiative.
<b>Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business</b>	<p>The Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business is designed to <b>increase the participation of Aboriginal businesses in bidding for federal government contracts</b>. It helps to ensure that Aboriginal businesses are better informed about government procurement needs and that government procurement officers are better informed about the capacities of Aboriginal businesses.</p> <p>Under this strategy, all federal government departments with a contracting budget over \$1 million are required to establish performance objectives for contracting with Aboriginal suppliers. Aboriginal firms are given first opportunity to supply good and services, and construction contracts servicing Aboriginal communities and populations. All procurement over \$5,000, for which Aboriginal populations are the primary recipients, are restricted to qualified Aboriginal firms.</p>	<p>A business applying under this strategy will be required to certify on each bid document that it qualifies as an Aboriginal firm. Qualification is based on the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 51% ownership and control of the firm is by Aboriginal people;</li> <li>2. 33% of full-time employees must be Aboriginal, for firms that employ six or more full-time people; and</li> <li>3. Joint ventures of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal businesses must be at least 51% Aboriginal owned and controlled.</li> </ol>		

1.3 BUSINESS SERVICES (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>Canadian Inuit Art Information Centre</b>	<p>The Canadian Inuit Art Information Centre <b>collects and distributes information to support and promote Inuit visual arts.</b></p> <p>Activities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Maintaining a data base on Inuit artists;</li> <li>2. Collecting histories of Inuit artists through personal interviews;</li> <li>3. Promoting the work of new and established artists by publishing their biographies;</li> <li>4. Producing and distributing educational and promotional publications and videos on Inuit art;</li> <li>5. Providing an artist identification service for collectors;</li> <li>6. Providing advice on copyright legislation and referrals; and</li> <li>7. Providing an information and referral service to Inuit artists who need assistance with portfolios and marketing.</li> </ol>	Any Canadian Inuit artist may be eligible.		
<b>Indian Art Centre</b>	<p>The Indian Art Centre of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada <b>supports the development of Aboriginal artists</b> working in the traditional and contemporary visual arts.</p> <p>The Indian Art Centre provides the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An annual purchase jury for the National Indian Art Collection open to new and established Aboriginal artists;</li> <li>2. A loan program for works from the National Indian Art Collection available to Aboriginal cultural centres and museums, and to regional and national art institutions for a variety of exhibitions;</li> <li>3. A Research and Documentation Centre for the general public with information on artists, exhibition catalogues, reports and studies, archival photographs, art magazines and periodicals, video and audio tapes, and slides and photographs of the National Indian Art Collection;</li> <li>4. A referral service to art dealers, collectors, researchers, scholars, writers, auction houses and the general public on the diversity and availability of Aboriginal art in Canada; and</li> <li>5. Curatorial opportunities for new and established Aboriginal curators to work with the National Indian Art Collection.</li> </ol>	The annual jury and curatorial opportunities are accessible to all Aboriginal artists living in Canada.	Individual artists, the cultural community and artist's groups, such as the Society of Canadian Artists of Native Ancestry.	

1.4 INNOVATION (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

## 2.0 INCREASING SELF-RELIANCE

2.1 LANDS AND RESOURCES				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>Environmental Protection and Natural Resources</b>	<p>Under the National Environmental Issues Project, the B.C. Region may provide assistance to the Aboriginal communities requiring intervention or assessment pertaining to environmental issues.</p> <p>The B.C. Region, under the Environmental Issues Inventory and Remediation Program, may provide funding to cover costs associated with conducting site investigations, assessments, investigations, and remediations pertaining to contamination.</p> <p>The Indian Environmental Assistance Fund may provide funding to address <b>major environmental issues affecting reserve land, air or water</b>, or to allow participation in the preparatory stages of, or environmental assessment processes for, activities off-reserve.</p>	First Nations Organizations.		
<b>Land Stewardship Training Initiative</b>	<p>A provincially accredited Land Stewardship Management Certificate Program.</p> <p>This program is aimed at developing community level expertise related to an integrated and holistic approach to <b>First Nations Land Stewardship</b>.</p>	First Nations people.		Currently, \$375,000 has been approved for this project.
<b>Lands Devolution Program</b>	<p>DIAND'S Lands Devolution Program allows for First Nations to assume responsibility for the administration and/or management of land activities through either the Regional Land Management Program (RLAP) or through delegated authorities under sections 53 and 60 of the Indian Act.</p> <p>Funding for both RLAP and delegated authorities is calculated annually based on the existing interests in a Nation's reserve lands. Funding allows the Nation to <b>perform land management activities</b> as defined within the terms and conditions of either the RLAP program description or the applicable delegation instrument. The responsibilities associated with having delegated authorities are greater than under RLAP so funding levels are higher.</p>	All First Nations can apply. However, there are program criteria which must be met prior to entering the program.		
<b>Resource Access Negotiations (RAN)</b>	RAN funding assists First Nations to <b>negotiate access to resources needed to pursue business and employment opportunities</b> .	Open to First Nations organizations pursuing business ventures related to natural resources.		

2.2 WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
Aboriginal Postsecondary Graduate Program	The Postsecondary Education Program supports the increased participation and success of Status Indian and Inuit students in recognized postsecondary courses of study, thereby <b>improving participant employability</b> .	This program is available to eligible Status Indian and Inuit postsecondary students who have resided in Canada for a period of 12 consecutive months prior to applying and who have been accepted in a recognized postsecondary education course or program in Canada.		

2.3 SOCIAL ASSISTANCE REFORM				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

### 3.0 SUPPORTIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

3.1 COMMUNITY ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>Bill C-79 Indian Act Modification</b>	<p>Bill C-79 received first reading in the House of Commons, offering a package of modifications to the <i>Indian Act</i> which could be subscribed to by any Band.</p> <p>This is based on project-specific funding.</p>	All Aboriginal people within the definition of the <i>Act</i> .		
<b>Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (Caeds)</b>	<p>The Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS) contributes to meeting Aboriginal peoples' <b>economic and employment development needs</b>. The strategy streamlines the delivery of community development, business, and employment programs from three departments: Indian and Northern Affairs, Industry Canada, Human Resources Development.</p> <p>Indian and Northern Affairs provides funding to First Nations via the Community Economic Development Program which assists First Nations communities to develop plans and acquire staff to build community economic development organizations capable of assisting individuals to pursue their business and employment goals.</p>	First Nations people.		
<b>Federal Infra-Structure Initiative</b>	<p>The program was established in 1994 to enhance economic growth and prosperity by funding First Nations <b>infrastructure projects</b> on reserve.</p> <p>Projects relating to infrastructure on reserves.</p>	All First Nations bands and communities.		To date, contributions have produced \$27 million worth of projects and 315 jobs.
<b>Economic Development—Wealth Creation</b>	In partnership with First Nations, other federal departments, the province and private sector, <b>develop a co-ordinated approach to support sustainable employment, investment and wealth creation</b> in First Nations communities.	First Nations peoples and communities.	Other federal departments, the province and private sector	As an on-going commitment \$6.7 million annually has been contributed to enhance economic growth and prosperity.

<b>3.2 CONNECTEDNESS INITIATIVES</b>				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Clients</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Aboriginal Take-up</b>

<b>3.3 BUSINESS CLIMATE</b>				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Clients</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Aboriginal Take-up</b>

## HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT CANADA (HRDC)

### 1.0 EXPANDING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

1.1 ACCESS TO CAPITAL (GENERAL PURPOSE—FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.2 ACCESS TO MARKETS (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.3 BUSINESS SERVICES (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.4 INNOVATION (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

## 2.0 INCREASING SELF-RELIANCE

2.1 LANDS AND RESOURCES				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
2.2 WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>Aboriginal Employment Program (Aep)</b>	<p>This program is <b>to increase employment and opportunities</b> for Aboriginal people by encouraging hiring.</p> <p>Funds can be made available to managers normally cost sharing at 50%.</p>	All federal departments participating in hiring Aboriginal candidates for employment.		
<b>Aboriginal Strategic Initiatives</b>	<p>Aboriginal Strategic Initiatives (ASI) act as a catalyst for innovative projects initiated and managed by Aboriginal communities.</p> <p>Potential projects include <b>labour market training</b>, social services, education, building partnerships and strengthening transitions between welfare to work.</p>	Organizations representing all segments of the Aboriginal population, including off-reserve and urban Aboriginal groups, may apply.		<p>An amount of \$25 million has been set aside over five years.</p> <p>Initiative ends March 31, 1999.</p>
<b>Regional Bilateral Agreements</b>	<p>This initiative facilitates regional agreements between HRDC and Aboriginal organizations by transferring federal funding and responsibility for the approval and delivery of labour market programming, services and other labour market interventions.</p> <p>These agreements have negotiated and contracted sustainable job targets as part of the accountability requirement of Regional Bilateral Agreements.</p> <p>Regional Bilateral Agreements are contracted under the "Aboriginal Flexible Funding Arrangement" (AFFA). The AFFA permits a wide range of flexibilities for Aboriginal program design, as well as a fiscal year carry-over clause for</p>	Regional Bilateral Agreements serve Aboriginal clients, which may include individuals, organizations and businesses.	The holders of Regional Bilateral Agreements work closely with federal departments, Provincial/ Territorial Governments and business.	<p>Funding of \$200 million per year has been set aside. Existing agreements last up to three years, ending March 31, 1999.</p> <p>Total funding is a combination of Consolidated Revenue Funding (CRF) and Employment Insurance Part II Funding (EI Part II).</p>

	Consolidated Revenue Funding (CRF).			
<b>Urban Aboriginal Employment Initiative</b>	<p>This initiative has been contracted with the National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC), Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC) and the Congress of Aboriginal People (CAP). The regional affiliates of these organizations facilitates the delivery of labour market programming, services and other labour market interventions to urban Aboriginal clientele. Funding is approved and contracted by the national organization.</p> <p>Emphasis is directed toward the <b>creation of jobs and training that leads to increase Aboriginal people's employability.</b></p> <p>These agreements have negotiated and contracted sustainable job targets as part of the accountability requirement of the Urban Aboriginal Employment Initiative.</p> <p>Urban Aboriginal Employment Initiative is contracted under the "Aboriginal Flexible Funding Arrangement" (AFFA). The AFFA permits a wide range of flexibilities for Aboriginal program design, as well as a fiscal year carry-over clause for Consolidated Revenue Funding (CRF).</p>	Urban Aboriginal Employment Initiatives serves urban Aboriginal clients through the regional affiliates of NAFC, NWAC, and CAP.	The holders of the Urban Aboriginal Employment Initiatives agreements and their regional affiliates, work closely with federal departments, Provincial/Territorial Governments and business.	Funding in the amount of \$20 million has been committed over three years, ending March 31, 1999.
<b>Heightened Awareness Leading to Opportunities</b>	<p>A pilot program to <b>pull together existing employment-related services</b> to better serve Aboriginal people with disabilities.</p> <p>This project will be ending in June 1998.</p>	Aboriginal people with disabilities.		One million dollars has been allocated to co-ordinate existing services within the Lower Mainland, Northern British Columbia and Vancouver Island.
<b>Youth Service Canada Program</b>	<p>This strategy is intended to help Aboriginal youth make the <b>transition from school to work</b> by obtaining first work experience and build careers.</p>	Urban and off-reserve Aboriginal youth are targeted by such programs as Youth Service Canada and Youth Internship Canada. Aboriginal Youth Intervener organizations are receiving funding to identify and help prepare proposals for Aboriginal youth projects.		

<b>2.3 SOCIAL ASSISTANCE REFORM</b>				
<b>Program</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Clients</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Aboriginal Take-up</b>

### 3.0 SUPPORTIVE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

3.1 COMMUNITY ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

3.2 CONNECTEDNESS INITIATIVES				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

3.3 BUSINESS CLIMATE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up