

WORKING TOGETHER FOR JOBS & YOUTH

Aboriginal leaders and governments met in Ottawa in December to talk about working together on important issues like Aboriginal youth careers, education and training.

After much discussion, the federal, provincial and territorial ministers responsible for Aboriginal affairs and leaders of the national Aboriginal organizations decided to work together on a plan called *Strengthening Aboriginal Participation in the Economy*.

The leaders agreed to create a working group, involving Aboriginal youth, which is to come up with practical ideas to help young people find success in business. There's also to be a national meeting of government, Aboriginal groups and businesses to talk further.

Leaders and ministers agreed to meet again in May or June of 2002 in Iqaluit.

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

Governments and Aboriginal leaders (Assembly of First Nations, Congress of Aboriginal Peoples, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Métis National Council, Native Women's Association of Canada) are working to get more businesses actively involved in Aboriginal economies. This group is called FPTA, which is short for Federal, Provincial/Territorial and Aboriginal leaders. FPTA is particularly interested in helping Aboriginal women and young people who want to find jobs or to start their own businesses.

For background information on FPTA or for copies of the National Aboriginal Youth Strategy, contact the Kiosk at Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, or log on to the Aboriginal Canada Portal at www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca.



FPO



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WE'RE INTERESTED IN HEARING FROM YOU!

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Government of Canada

update

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Developments of interest to Aboriginal people



You SURE Told Us! A FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE SURVEY

FIRST ISSUE

The Government of Canada is pleased to introduce the *Update* – a newsletter which will be in your mailbox four times a year, with information about government programs, plans and priorities of particular interest to Aboriginal people. A First Nations survey, held last August, revealed that First Nations communities want to receive more information from the Government of Canada. In December, we held dialogue circles for this newsletter with First Nations people in Squamish, British Columbia, St. Mary's, New Brunswick and Wendake, Québec. We took great care to make this bulletin appealing and informative. We hope you'll like what we've done. Please let us know what you think and what you would like to read in future editions of the *Update*.

Last August, for the first time ever, the Government of Canada surveyed over 1,400 First Nations people living on-reserve for your opinions on many issues affecting life in your communities. We heard that while there are concerns about the low standard of living on reserves, you are optimistic about your future. Quality of life on reserves is important and the government should focus on day-to-day issues like the well-being of your children, education, and health care. Treaty rights are also a priority.

Through the public opinion survey, we were told that you want more opportunities to make a difference in shaping safe, well-run communities. Your community is important to you.

Interesting ...

The survey showed that First Nations people would like to receive more information from the Government of Canada. Make this bulletin yours! Tell us what you want to read.

You can read the highlights of the survey at:
www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nr/prs/s-d2001/01244bk_e.html

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