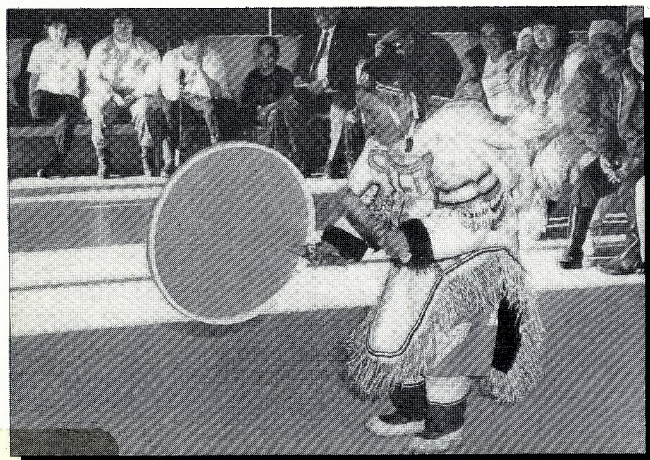


A Guide to the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program

**IN THE
NORTHWEST
TERRITORIES**



E78.N6
G85



Department of Indian Affairs
and Northern Development



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes et du
Nord Canada

Len Griffore

Director, Intergovernmental
Relations
Indian and Inuit Affairs
Program, N.W.T. Region

Directeur des relations
inter-gouvernementales
indiennes et Inuit
Région des T.N.O.

Canada



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes et du
Nord Canada

Frank A.E. Cserepy

Director
Community Affairs

Directeur
Affaires communautaires

Canada



Indian and Northern
Affairs Canada

Affaires indiennes et du Nord
Canada

John W.R. Metcalfe

Director
Resource Economic &
Employment Development
Indian & Inuit Affairs

Directeur
Développement économique
et création d'emplois
Affaires indiennes et Inuit

Canada



Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada

LIBRARY – BIBLIOTHÈQUE

E78.N6 G85
Indian and Inuit Affairs Pro
A guide to the Indian and
Inuit Affairs Program in the

10-482 (1-88)

A Guide to the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Published under the Authority of the
Hon. Tom Siddon, P.C., M.P.,
Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development,
Ottawa, 1990

QS-Y070-000-EE-A1
Catalogue No. R32-101/1990E
ISBN 0-662-17982-X

© Minister of Supply and Services, Canada

Titre

Guide to the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program in the N.W.T.

Indian and Inuit Affairs Program: An Overview



The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) was established in its present form in 1966. It fulfills responsibilities for status Indians and Inuit people arising from the Constitution Act, protects the special relationships which exist between the Federal government and the Indian and Inuit of Canada, and carries out the administration of Indian treaties, the Indian Act, and other legislation.

DIAND is divided into two programs:

The *Indian and Inuit Affairs Program* (I&IA) which, *nationally*, administers the legal requirements defined in the Indian Act, including registration of Indian people as status Indians, matters concerning reserve lands and other Indian resources, and band elec-

tions. The I&IA Program also provides a wide range of services to status Indians and Inuit, directly and indirectly, in the areas of economic development, education, social services, policing, housing, and infrastructure.

The *Northern Affairs Program*, whose primary activity includes the administration of land and resources in the two territories, works with territorial governments to devolve greater program and political responsibilities, and promotes sustainable development in the north.

Status Indian and Inuit people have expressed a desire to deal with their own problems and with their own cultural, social, and economic development. The I&IA Program is working toward achieve-

ment of this goal by supporting the development of self-government by Indian and Inuit people, improving their economic prospects, better managing Indian lands and monies, supporting activities aimed at improving the quality of life in their communities, and protecting the special relationship that exists between the Federal government and the Indians and Inuit of Canada.

In the Northwest Territories Region, the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program carries out the Federal government's responsibilities contained in numbered treaties 8 and 11 and ensures that the legal requirements of the Indian Act are adhered to. It provides funds for band governments and economic development support. The regional program plays key coordination and liaison roles with the client group and other levels of government as well as with the private sector.

The program's operating philosophy reflects increased Indian and Inuit decision making and control and, as such, adopts an advocacy and facilitatory approach. Wherever possible, services and support are coordinated and cost shared with other agencies and levels of government.

Approximately 11,000 status Indians and 20,000 Inuit reside in some 67 communities. Indian bands benefit from band support (administration) funding and training support for council members and band staff, as well as funding for consultation and community-based planning. Economic development services available under the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS) are provided to both status Indians and Inuit of the NWT. As a result of transfers of responsibilities from the Federal to the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT), key services, including municipal, social, housing, health, and education, are provided by the GNWT on a universal basis.

Profile of the Northwest Territories Region

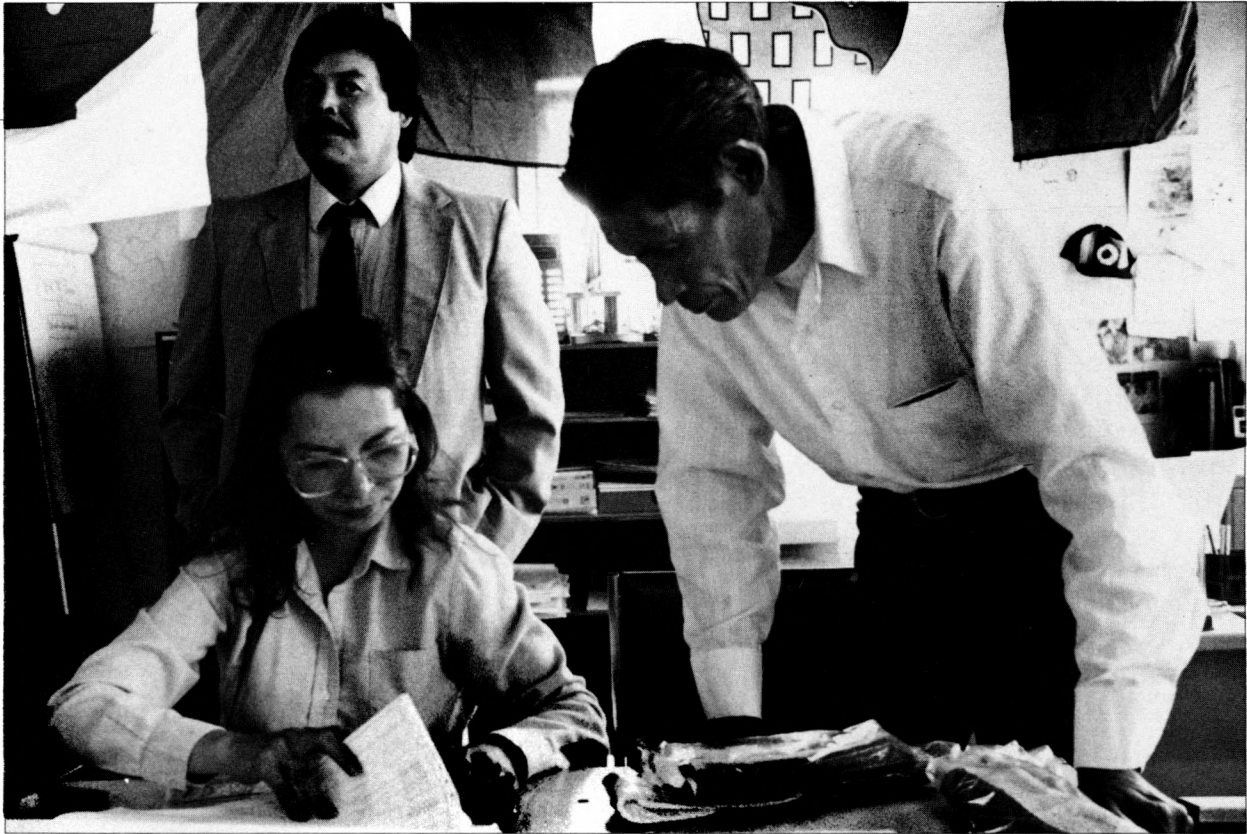


PHOTO CREDIT: NATIVE PRESS

DENE BANDS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

The following is the official list of NWT bands and affiliated communities, commonly referred to as sub-bands:

Aklavik Band
Arctic Red River Band
Dogrib Rae Band
Lac La Martre
Rae Lakes
Snare Lake
Fitz/Smith Native Band
Fort Fitzgerald
Fort Franklin Band
Fort Good Hope Band
Colville Lake
Fort Liard Band
Fort Norman Band
Fort Providence Band
Kakisa Lake

Fort Simpson Band
Jean Marie River
Fort Wrigley Dene Band
Hay River (Dene) Band*
Inuvik Native Band
Nahanni Butte Band
Resolution (Deninoo) Band
Sambaa K'e (Trout Lake) Band
Snowdrift (Lutsel K'e) Band
Fort Reliance
Tetlit Gwich'in (Fort McPherson) Band
Yellowknife "B" Band
Rainbow Valley (Lot 500)

* The Hay River Dene Band is the only band whose membership generally resides on a reserve (number 1 - established in 1974). This is one of two reserves established in the N.W.T. The other reserve, Salt Plains (number 195), was established in 1941.

DEMOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

Approximately 11,000 status Indian people form the membership of bands which reside in a geographical area encompassing approximately one million square kilometres referred to as the Western Arctic. Within this vast area, the Dene reside in mixed communities spread throughout the region. For the most part, communities are in remote locations and access, for many, is limited to air transportation. The Dene comprise approximately 16% of the total NWT population.

Approximately 20,000 Inuit/Inuvialuit are located in 33 communities in the Baffin, Keewatin, Kitikmeot, and Inuvik regions of the NWT, representing approximately 35% of the total NWT population. In the West, the Inuvialuit are represented by the Inuvialuit Regional Council and in the East by the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut.

According to 1986 census data, 62% of the NWT aboriginal population was under 25 years of age. Inuit comprise approximately 63% of this figure and Dene 25%.

Within the NWT there is an unintegrated "dual economy" containing both traditional and modern elements. The Dene have relatively low levels of participation

in the mainstream of the NWT economy due to their low participation in government and mining. There exist two distinct economic segments; the first being a largely non-native population located in major centres where government and resource extraction activities exist, and the second being concentrated in a number of smaller, widely scattered, remote communities where primarily native individuals live and where traditional pursuits predominate. Typically, the economic outlook and potential in the major centres is quite bright while the remote community-based economy appears to have limited growth prospects.

TREATIES

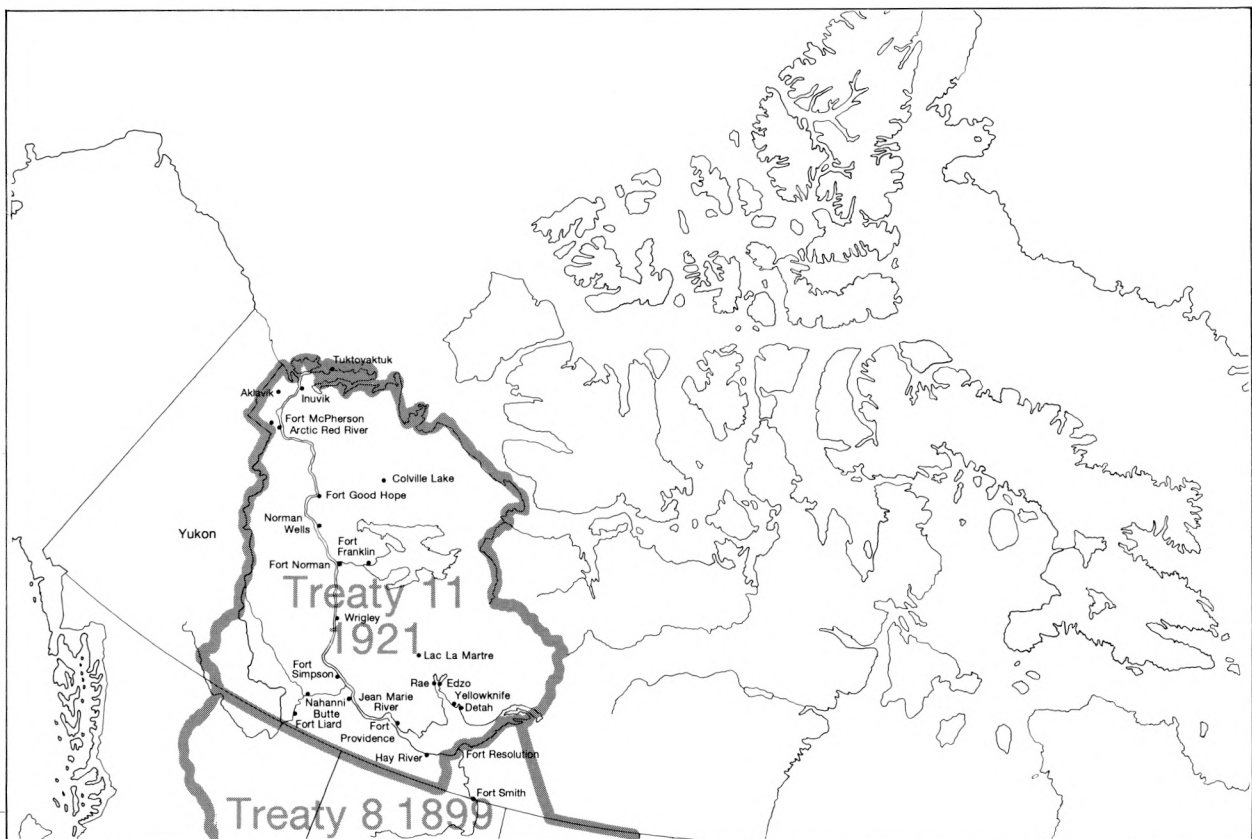
Treaty 8 - Negotiated in 1899, its boundaries encompass more than 800,000 square kilometres of land including the northern half of Alberta, a southern portion of the Mackenzie District in the Northwest Territories, the northwest corner of Saskatchewan, and the northeast portion of British Columbia.

Treaty 11 - Negotiated in 1921, the Slave, Dogrib, Hare, and Loucheux people are signatories to this treaty which covers approximately 930,000 square kilometres of land, all located north of the 60th parallel.

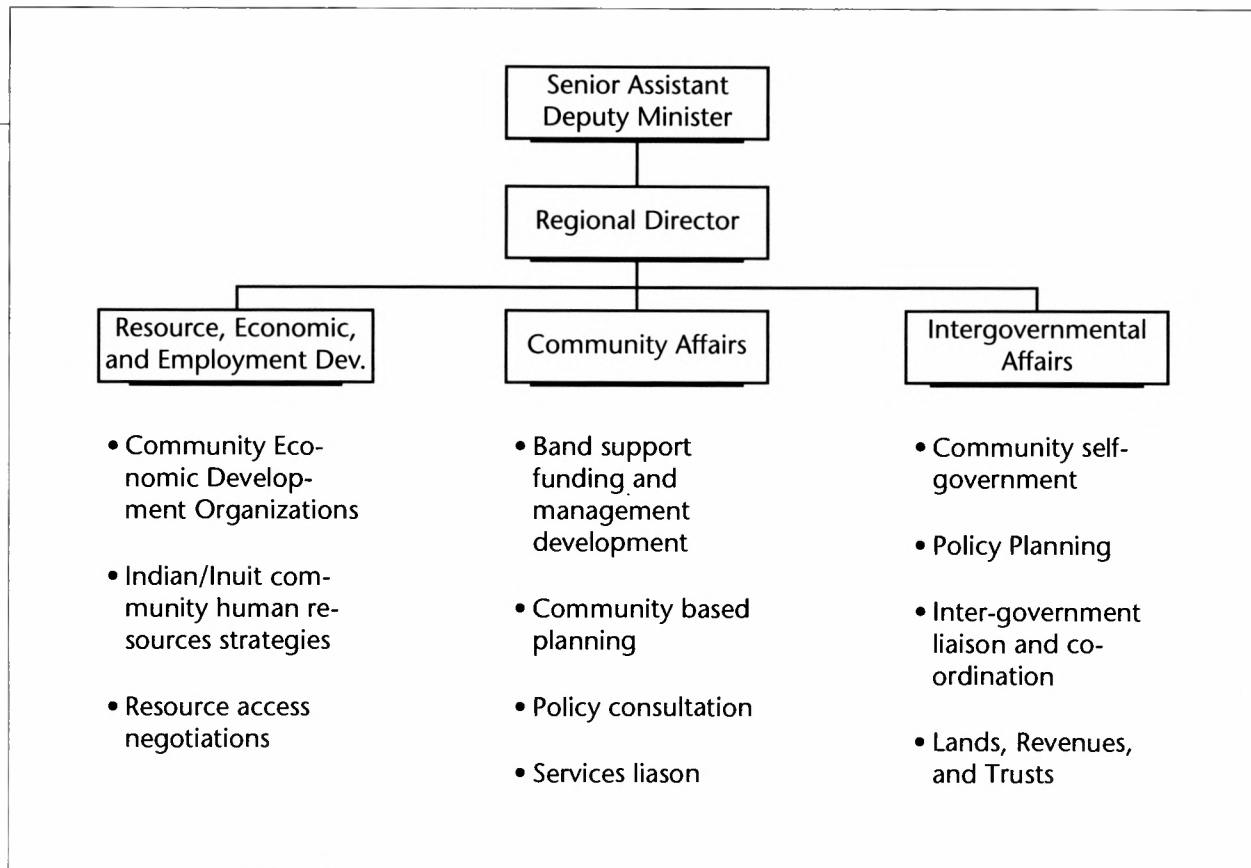


TREATY PAYMENT, 1948

PHOTO CREDIT: NWT ARCHIVES



Regional Office Profile



The structure of the Regional Office is similar to that of other regions in terms of design. The devolution of programs and services to the GNWT has resulted in a fully downsized organization with fewer direct service delivery responsibilities.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The Regional Director is the program's most senior regional representative in the NWT Region. The incumbent directs and supports the region's staff in carrying out the Department's mandate under the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program. The Regional Director maintains the most senior level liaison functions with representatives of the client group, other levels of government, and industry on matters

relating to the program's area of responsibilities. He/she reports directly to the Senior Assistant Deputy Minister North and serves as a member on the national policy committees of the Department.

DIRECTOR, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Director of Intergovernmental Affairs reports to the Regional Director and is considered to be the second most senior position within the regional program. The incumbent assumes responsibility for inter-agency coordination and assumes the lead role in the region on such major issues as community self-government. The position also provides internal support to the program by serving as the senior corporate planner/strategist and providing pol-

icy direction to the management of the Lands, Revenues, and Trusts sector.

DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

The Director of Community Affairs reports to the Regional Director and is responsible for delivering those programs/services in support of local band governments. These include Band Support Funding, Consultation and Policy Development, Indian Management Development, and Community Based Organizational Planning. Two Funding and Management Development officers, reporting directly to the Director, provide financial, administrative,

and management advice to bands. The incumbent is also responsible for effecting the necessary liaison with the GNWT on services issues to Indians and Inuit arising from the previous transfers of program responsibilities and/or other current service arrangements.

DIRECTOR, RESOURCE, ECONOMIC, AND EMPLOYMENT DIVISION

Reporting to the Regional Director, the incumbent is responsible for the administration and direction of the delivery of those programs and services designed to help Indians and Inuit participate in eco-



NISHI KHON CENTRE, FORT RAE, N.W.T. COMPLETED IN 1981, FIRST MAJOR COMMERCIAL COMPLEX UNDERTAKEN BY A BAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

PHOTO CREDIT: NATIVE PRESS

conomic opportunities and achieve economic self-sufficiency. Area Managers, reporting to the Director, are responsible for delivery of programs and services under this directorate.

The regional program's organization operates with a budget of approximately 17 person-years, excluding other operational support functions involving communication, personnel, finance, and administration which are shared with the Northern Affairs Program.

The regional program's **approach to staffing** places an emphasis on providing maximum opportunity for qualified aboriginal people to compete for positions as they become available. The program also, where practical, supports the creation of developmental positions and encourages interested aboriginals to seek employment within the civil service. Selection boards for positions of officer level and above normally include a representative of the aboriginal community.



N.W.T. NATIVE ARTS AND CRAFTS RETAIL OUTLET

TREELINE TRAPPINGS, YELLOWKNIFE
J. HALIC

Regional Program Profile



PHOTO CREDIT: NATIVE PRESS

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE

The Inter-Governmental Affairs Directorate assists in promoting the development of community self-governments, consults with agencies affected by program initiatives, and initiates appropriate policy and planning for the program.

Under this directorate, program integration is achieved in order to respond to the implementation of comprehensive land claims settlements.

Community Self-Government

This activity promotes and facilitates, throughout the region, the orderly de-

velopment of aboriginal community self-government in cooperation with the GNWT.

The assistance provided by the directorate is intended to support individual NWT communities in determining composition and scope of community self-government structures.

Inter-Agency Coordination

The directorate liaises with the private sector, Federal government departments, and the GNWT as well as community/band governments and aboriginal organizations. It also provides support in the advocacy of current native issues specific to the NWT region.

Policy Planning

The directorate coordinates the implementation of policies, short and longer term program activities, and operating procedures. The implementation of strategies by the directorate enables the program to achieve regional goals which are determined in consultation with the client group.

Under the guidance of this directorate, regional program activities are coordinated to ensure they achieve maximum effectiveness.

Lands, Revenues, and Trusts

The incumbent is responsible for providing policy direction to the management of the Lands, Revenues, and Trusts section which deals with the program's statutory and fiduciary responsibilities. Responsibilities of the regional program within this section are aimed at fulfilling the legal obligations of the Government of Canada in regard to status Indians.

(i) Lands

This activity includes responsibilities for administering land transactions on the two established reserves in the NWT, including administrative functions such as leases, permits, and certificates of possession.

(ii) Funds and estates

This activity involves responsibilities for administering funds held in trust for individuals and/or bands, includ-

ing the administrative responsibilities for the estates of deceased, mentally incompetent, and minor-registered Indian people. In the NWT, the responsibility for administering estates is contracted under formal agreement to the GNWT.

(iii) Membership and band governance

This activity administers the applicable provisions of the Indian Act which relate to status Indian and band membership entitlements, including the maintenance of Indian and band registers, assisting Indian people and bands who, under Bill C-31, wish to apply for reinstatement, and those bands who wish to establish their own membership rules. It also provides certificates of Indian status, pays treaty annuities, and fulfills other obligations established under treaties 8 and 11.

The directorate is also responsible for coordinating the department's Lands, Revenues, and Trusts Review within the NWT. Through this review, Dene bands and individuals are provided with the opportunity to participate in a national review of the Indian Act.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE

The Community Affairs directorate's primary objective is to provide support to band governments. Activities and services include the following:

Band Management

(i) Band Support Funding (B.S.F.)

Through this activity, funds are provided, in the form of a grant, to each band council for the purposes of representing the interests of band members and administering programs and services. Funds provided are intended to cover items such as office expenses, salaries, travel, and audit fees.

BSF is provided using a nationally-based formula which factors in band membership and population, band remoteness, the existence of sub-band offices located in affiliated communities, and the number and size of departmentally-supported initiatives administered by a band.

(ii) Consultation and policy development

This activity assists bands and their representative organizations to meet and discuss, and input into, policy or program management issues.

(iii) Indian management development

This activity is designed to strengthen the management capabilities of bands. Assistance is intended for assessments of their management development requirements and for the implementation of steps to improve management skills and procedures.

(iv) Community based planning

This activity helps bands to prepare

and implement short and long-range plans at the band and regional level, including organizational planning.

(v) Management support services

This service consists mainly of providing financial, administrative, and management advice to bands through the program's Funding and Management Development officers (FMOs).

FMOs are responsible for managing the transfer payment function, including the formulation of comprehensive funding arrangements and flexible transfer payments agreements.

Education

Education, including post-secondary education assistance, is provided by the GNWT on a universal basis. However, the following exceptions should be noted:

(a) Post-secondary student support program

Status Indians and Inuit who do not qualify for post-secondary education assistance from the GNWT may be provided assistance through the department's national post-secondary assistance program if they meet eligibility requirements.

(b) University College Entrance Preparation Program (UCEP)

The program assists mature status Indians and Inuit (20 years or older)

to meet the entry requirements of college or university. This program is currently delivered by the GNWT under an administrative agreement with the I&A program.

RESOURCE, ECONOMIC, AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

Helping status Indian and Inuit share in the benefits of economic development is the role of the Resource, Economic, and Employment Development (REED) directorate. Fundamental objectives are the removal of barriers and the facilitation of access to economic expertise, capital, markets, and the training and support necessary to develop their own human resources.

Indian and Inuit Affairs, through REED, is a major participant in the Canadian Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy (CAEDS), introduced in June of 1989. The strategy focuses on improving the level of economic self-reliance among Canada's aboriginal citizens by providing them with increased means to establish and effectively manage their own business enterprises, economic institutions, job training, and skill development. The strategy is jointly managed by the Federal departments of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND); Industry, Science and Technology (ISTC); and the Canadian Employment and Immigration Commission (CEIC) and incorporates a number of functional components which address planning, business development, and employment/training.

REED's role under CAEDS focuses on the following two major areas of responsibility:

1. Community Economic Planning and Development

a) Community Economic Services

This activity supports the planning for, and operation of, Community Economic Development Organizations (CEDOs) which, through planning, business development, and employment/training initiatives, will increase Indian and Inuit participation in, and control of, economic development programs and services.

b) Indian/Inuit Community Human Resource Strategy (ICHRS)

Supports community-based human resource development activities by augmenting, where necessary, other programs directed toward skills and employability enhancement and the delivery of training and placement services.

2. Resource Access Negotiations

RAN is designed to assist Indian and Inuit communities gain increased access to business and employment opportunities in the resource sectors. The program may assist with negotiations leading to the establishment of an agreement with resource project developers, government agencies, and other parties, where specific opportunities have been identified.

Additional Information



All staff of the Indian and Inuit Affairs Program are located on the main floor of the Bellanca Building in Yellowknife. For further information on the various programs and services offered to status Indians and Inuit in the Northwest Territories, please contact:

Indian and Inuit Affairs Program
Box 2760
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2R6
Phone: 920-8283
Fax: 873-5763