



THE FIRST NATIONS CAPACITY FUND

2018 Annual Report

OUR MEMBERS



BCT PROJECTS



OUR BOARD

President:

Chad Bentley,
PEI

Vice President & Secretary:

Leonard Jackson,
BCT Projects

Treasurer:

Tim Bell,
Arrow Transportation

WHEN WE CREATED THE FIRST NATIONS CAPACITY FUND TWO YEARS AGO, WE WANTED A WAY FOR COMPANIES TO BRING THE PRINCIPLES OF RECONCILIATION INTO THEIR BUSINESS IN A MEANINGFUL WAY. We didn't want a complicated or overwhelming solution; we wanted to provide a proactive starting point, with a focus on what we can do now to make a difference.

The Fund is a collective and practical approach to Indigenous Engagement that creates training and employment opportunities for Indigenous people in any vocation of their choosing. We seek to remove barriers to employment that can seem like no-big-deal to some, but that are significant to others.

Simply put, we deliver support where it's needed and, by pooling our investment, we can have a bigger impact.

We invest in programs that apply directly to the Fund for grants. And we partner with government-funded service organizations that use Fund investment to offer support to clients where government dollars can sometimes not be used.

To date, the Fund's six industry members have provided training dollars to 14 different Indigenous communities; dollars utilized for the purposes of drivers licensing, work gear and equipment purchases, chainsaw safety, plumbing, pipefitting, legal administration, solar installation and wage subsidies.

There's no prescribed right way to approach reconciliation. The First Nations Capacity Fund offers a way. I want to personally thank the companies who are members today for their generous support of the Fund and invite other to join us.

Chad Bentley

President, First Nations Capacity Fund

2018 HIGHLIGHTS



HOW CAN YOU JOIN THE FUND?

Becoming a FNCF member is a modest investment with a significant return. To join us in this innovative approach to creating genuine community partnerships and engagement, contact Leonard Jackson at 250.571.4339.

TRANSITIONING INTO FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

- ☑ Funded Class 1 driver training for a young member of the Sto:lo Nation who'd be working part-time as a delivery driver. He passed his Class 1 test on the first try and now drives haul trucks full-time.

BUILDING A CAREER PATH

- ☑ Provided financial support for class fees, books, tools, and certification for a young Leq'amel Band member to complete Grade 12 and Plumbing/Pipefitting foundation training. He is on his way to a trades career right out of high school.
- ☑ Supported a young Indigenous woman from the Agassiz area who is pursuing her Legal Administrative Assistant Certificate at the University College of the Fraser Valley. She has a confirmed connection to employment in the field upon completion of the training. SASET through FNCF is covering 50% of her tuition; the participant is covering the remainder.

RETRAINING FOR A NEW CAREER

- ☑ Supported a woman from the Lower Mainland who had been working part-time in traffic control but needed to make a career shift for health reasons. After completing extensive career planning work, she has entered Douglas College's Career Development Practitioner Certificate Program.

GETTING A DRIVER'S LICENSE

- ☑ Provided funding for members of the Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation to complete Drivers' Training. Six students wrote their knowledge exams and three earned their Learners' permits. Two had never written the knowledge test before, so the experience was a first attempt at learning and a huge step.

TAKING CHAINSAW SAFETY TRAINING

- ☑ Funded a two-day, industry-recognized Chainsaw Safety Training Course for a group of 11 participants at Chawathil First Nation in Hope. Some participants required the training to retain their current employment, others used the course to help them transition into work. Everyone who completed the course received a certificate of completion from the Forest Safety Council of BC.

UNDERSTANDING GRID-CONNECTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS

- ☑ The Nicola Valley Institute of Technology course, funded by the FNCF in partnership with the Upper Nicola Band (UNB) and Riverside Energy Systems, delivered an introductory, five-day boot-camp training program to UNB members about grid connected solar PV systems. Twenty-one students successfully completed the intensive in-classroom and practical hands-on training.

SMALL INVESTMENT. **BIG RETURN.**