

PARTNER LETTER

Coping with COVID-19

We hope everyone is staying safe during this unprecedented crisis. It's been stressful for sure. As we start to get used to social distancing, working from home and apparently baking bread, it's going to be time soon to think about how our organizations come out of the crisis with a plan to recover. At Strategies North, our business model has always been highly decentralized; what has been working for our clients for the past several years also allows us to keep going during the COVID-19 crisis. In the coming days, we will be relaying how our organization is structured to work from home and we are hopeful that you all will get some ideas that will help with your organization. In addition, we are planning to host a webinar with our clients where they are able to talk with our staff about processes and applications that might help you prepare for after-COVID and keep your organization functioning.

Stay healthy and let's get through this together!



TRUSTED SOURCES FOR COVID-19 INFORMATION

Public Health Agency of Canada

@CPHO_Canada (Dr. Theresa Tam)

@GovCanHealth

@HealthyCdns

Government of Canada

@CanadianPM

@Canada

@PattyHajdu (Canada's Minister of Health)

@CanadaAndTheWorld

World Health Organization

@WHO

First Nations Health Authority (FNHA)

@fnha

@firstnationshealthauthority

COVID-19 DEVELOPMENT STIMULUS FUND

The **COVID-19 Development Stimulus Fund** aims to aid Indigenous communities who are involved in the tourism sector who have also been harmed by the current COVID-19 situation and the travel restrictions that are in place. The Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada (ITAC) will work collaboratively with Indigenous tourism businesses across Canada. This can include creating market awareness, learning to manage larger volumes of visitors, training staff, and designing sustainable business growth strategies. This fund would also apply to maintaining staff, diversifying their revenue streams, and strengthening their business. The project must be specific to helping your community's Indigenous tourism sector recover from COVID-19.

Funding is available up to a maximum of **\$25,000**

Applications are due **April 30, 2020**

WLIB HOUSING STRATEGY

In early March, CEO Anna Barley and Community Analysts Katie Robertson and Averi Willis visited Williams Lake Indian Band to do community engagement for the development of their upcoming Housing Strategy. They also participated in an Elders Circle to discuss the Strategy and receive feedback from the Nation's Elders. The Strategies North team facilitated engagement with the youth of WLIB to ask them questions about their homes and what elements they would like to see in the future. Anna, Katie, and Averi want to extend a big thank you to the community members, including Elders and youth, who provided valuable input for the development of the Strategy.



KEY DATES

April 10: Good Friday

Statutory Holiday

April 13: Easter Monday

Strategies North office is closed

April 24: FPCC FirstVoices Program

Application Deadline Extension

April 30: LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Fund

Deadline to apply

May 31: FN Clean Energy Business Fund

Deadline for BC First Nations to apply for this intake period

YUKON ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S COUNCIL

Our April client profile is the Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council (YAWC)!

The Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council (YAWC) is an organization that focuses on promoting and fostering Yukon women and gender diverse people to reach for roles of leadership and promote recognition and the preservation of Aboriginal culture. YAWC consistently advocates for the rights of Indigenous women and gender diverse people. YAWC has many outreach programs and healing circles that target Indigenous women and families who have been affected by violence, colonial structures, or residual effects of residential schools. YAWC was established in 1975 and has proceeded to grow since then. Now, they help Indigenous women, families, and gender diverse people all across the Yukon and northern BC. The YAWC website is currently under construction and will be available soon at www.yawc.ca



Photo: CEO Anna Barley visiting YAWC in January

NATIONFUND ACCESS CAPITAL CORPORATION

We want to welcome a new and exciting client this month, NationFUND Access Capital Corporation!

A letter from NationFUND Founder and CEO Frank Busch:

"NationFUND began with a simple question:

What do Indigenous communities need in order to be successful?

To answer that question, we must first define what success looks like, and how various Indigenous ways of knowing result in different definitions of "success". When this concept is boiled down, Indigenous communities need to be in control of their own destinies, self-sufficient, self-determining and self-governing in order to achieve "success". From a strictly financial perspective, success is achieved when you have assets generating revenue sufficient to cover all expenses. For an individual, this might mean having a retirement "nest egg" built up that is paying enough dividends to provide a comfortable lifestyle in one's golden years. For Indigenous communities, this means unlocking the value of their lands and citizens to generate enough wealth to create a vibrant, healthy and sustainable community for the next seven generations.

NationFUND exists to help Indigenous Communities identify the right economic opportunities, access the capital and expertise necessary to achieve their own measures of success. Indigenous Communities are inundated with proposals, joint-venture opportunities and unsolicited advice, often from less than reputable individuals and organizations. NationFUND filters out the good from the bad and provides Indigenous Communities with the analysis, research and due-diligence necessary to make the right decisions. It takes money to make money, and NationFUND's main purpose is to find the right money for the right opportunity and to not charge Indigenous Communities any fees while looking."

For more information about NationFUND, contact Frank at frank.busch@nationfund.ca

