

Editors' Comments

Welcome to the ninth issue of the *Journal of Aboriginal Economic Development* (JAED). In this issue we continue to celebrate the success of those individuals and communities involved in supporting and promoting effective and innovative projects and ventures in Aboriginal economic, community, and business development. Although the themes in this issue essentially reflect the same ones that have been highlighted and profiled over the previous eight issues, the additional stories featured in this issue remind us once again that positive change is occurring, and that individuals, communities and organizations are benefiting from the hard lessons and experiences shared by those involved in earlier projects and stories that we have published.

The interest in the *Journal of Aboriginal Economic Development* is growing as well as broadening. It now includes an urban, governmental and international following. The stories included in this issue of JAED reflect that growing interest, and other experiences further confirm this expansion. We are becoming referenced in academic work occurring around the world. For example, earlier in the year, a student studying at Cambridge University in England wrote to us for materials from our journal. As well, those of us involved in the generation and publication of this journal continue to receive enquiries about our publication, and authors are referencing our articles in their research more than ever before. The journal is being utilized in courses and programs across Canada that specialize in Aboriginal economic development and business, and organizations and individuals are now back-ordering previous issues and adding the entire set to their libraries. Front line economic development officers have also benefited from the useful information disseminated by the journal, which has become part of the registration package for all participants at CANDO's 11th, and 12th National Conference and Annual General Meeting. This issue will once again be included in the

conference package of this year's 13th National Conference, being held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, October 2–5, 2006.

It is important to reiterate that this is the only publication of its kind in the world. While it may seem like we are blowing our own horn, those of us involved in the journal are very proud of the success stories we have profiled in the journal, and we continue to celebrate the success of the journal and the important role that it plays in the dissemination of information regarding Aboriginal community and economic development in Canada and around the world.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the JAED, and that you find a way to participate and share in the success of the journal. We would like to take this opportunity to extend a big thank you to a number of people, including all of the authors that have submitted articles to our journal; all of the individuals and communities that have shared their stories with our writers; the voluntary members of our editorial board; those individuals at the CANDO head office and Captus Press that continue to support, publish, and promote the journal; the various advocates, companies, educational institutions, government departments, and individuals that assist in the funding of the publication; and last but certainly not least, all of the readers, students, and economic development practitioners that have made this unique and important publication a valuable addition to their libraries.