

Editors' Introduction

Warren Weir and Wanda Wuttunee

In this second section — Lessons from Research — budding and well-established professors and academic researchers contribute theoretical and peer-reviewed articles to assist with the ongoing description, analysis, and evaluation of various aspects of Aboriginal economic and business development in Canada. Over the years, we have also seen the discussion expanded geographically. We now receive and share research on Indigenous communities and their economic and business development and advancement from individuals researching and writing around the world. As globalization is an unstoppable economic phenomenon, we will present in this section content that will add to and inform the ideas presented in the Canadian context.

In this issue we find two intriguing pieces. The first, by Barnes and Wallin, not only provides an overview of developing and approving impact benefit agreements (IBAs) when formalizing partnership agreements between Aboriginal communities and corporate entities, but also highlights the importance of ensuring that the IBAs are sustained through community-based monitoring, consultation, evaluation, and — if need be — conflict resolution. The second paper, by Nikolakis, explores ways in which Indigenous communities can ensure, and predict, whether their enterprises are and will be successful or not. The author, based on extensive research in Northern Australia, identifies four categories of factors he believes are instrumental in the success of Indigenous enterprise development. He concludes that the development of successful Indigenous enterprise depends fundamentally on business survival supported by Indigenous community values.