

## Editors' Comments

Welcome to Volume 7, Number 1 of the *Journal of Aboriginal Economic Development*. This 13th issue of JAED marks another first for the journal. During this past year, the first eight issues of JAED were made available on-line, providing free access to readers, students, community change agents, EDOs, researchers, and writers. The on-line issues span a 10-year period from 1996 to 2005 and include many unique stories and research on Aboriginal economic development in Canada, and around the world.

The on-line issues are available through the Indigenous Studies Portal (iPortal) at the University of Saskatchewan. The Indigenous Studies Portal Research Tool, as it is also called, may be accessed through the following link: <<http://iportal.usask.ca/>>.

According to its site, the iPortal connects faculty, students, researchers, and members of the community with electronic resources: books, articles, theses, documents, photographs, archival resources, and maps. The Indigenous Studies Portal is an initiative of the University of Saskatchewan Library. As of March 2010, the iPortal had more than 21,000 records, including the "Our Legacy" archival records. This contains photos, anthropological field notes, diaries, correspondence, and other textual documents.

The iPortal website not only provides links to Indigenous programs and events at the University of Saskatchewan, it also offers specialized tools for teaching and scholarship for anyone interested in Indigenous studies in Canada. For our readers of JAED and members of CANDO, the iPortal website provides links to a vast array of resource materials related to business and community development.

The digitization of JAED, which will include additional issues over the next few years, is yet another way CANDO and Captus Press are attempting to better serve the needs of community EDOs, business leaders, government managers, researchers, and students. Of

course, this overarching task continues to be addressed in the content of our journals, in an attempt to serve all of our members. By gathering and publishing stories that are meaningful and useful to academic and pragmatic readers and members, CANDO remains mindful of the critical balance between academic knowledge and the practical day-to-day needs of practising EDOs, community leaders, and institutional managers.

In this issue we offer interviews with Indigenous leaders, a case study, an overview of training opportunities, and research on various business/social sectors. This issue concludes with the State of the Aboriginal Economy by examining the new Federal Framework on Aboriginal Economic Development (FFAED). The issue ends with the review of a recently published book on Aboriginal property rights.

On behalf of CANDO and Captus Press, and especially the editorial board, we hope you enjoy this issue of JAED, and you will consider becoming a contributor to the journal, sharing your research or stories with us in the months and years to come.