

Editor's Comments

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Welcome to the 14th issue of the *Journal of Aboriginal Economic Development*. Following the tradition of meeting the different needs of our readers, this issue contains community-based success stories and current research on the best practices in Aboriginal economic development. This is achieved by providing a critical analysis of the multi-faceted aspects of Aboriginal economies.

The stories and research papers examine many of the challenges and opportunities we face in this ever-changing global economy. The articles discuss the important and varied connections that the natural environment, culture, public and private institutions, civil society, and the social economy have with Aboriginal economies.

In our *Learning from Experience* section, we celebrate the success of individuals and communities including the 2010 Economic Developer of the Year Award Winners—Chippewa Industrial Developments Ltd., Tribal Wi-Chi-Way-Win Capital Corporation, and Rodney W. Hester. We also illustrate an example of an effective Aboriginal community economic development initiative by featuring Neechi Foods, a Winnipeg co-operative.

Next, the *Lessons from Research* section offers six research papers. The papers deal with several aspects of sustainable economic development, reflecting the need to foster a set of attitudes and values that builds on economic and community development with Indigenous Knowledge and theory. In this section we are able to better understand how Aboriginal economies relate to corporate activities and government policy. These articles also remind us of the importance of women, children, the natural environment,

Traditional Indigenous Knowledge (TIK) and culture when discussing, planning, and promoting strategic Aboriginal community and economic development activities.

In our concluding section, *The State of the Aboriginal Economy*, we offer four papers that address critical economic issues that affect the well-being of Aboriginal communities across Canada. Through an examination of current economic ideas, statistics, and issues facing community development officers and change agents, the authors seek to identify opportunities for the enhancement of Aboriginal economies.

Through this journal, we seek to bring together ideas, research, and experience in ways that can inform and guide future Aboriginal economic development activities. On behalf of Cando, Captus Press and the editorial board, we hope you enjoy this issue of JAED. We also encourage you to become a contributor to the journal by sharing your own stories and research with us in the months and years to come.