

Introduction



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The readings in this section are meant to reach the heart of the front-line economic/community development workers in Indigenous communities across this country. It may be shared stories that inspire new friendships and mentoring opportunities, or articles that influence knowledge or strategic plans.

This edition opens with the CANDO winners chosen at the last conference. Tom Many Heads, member of Siksika in Alberta, is the driving force behind bringing Petro Canada and Subway to the community. Investments in B.C. hotels and a medical marijuana project are securing equity positions and employment opportunities for the winner of the individual category. Madawaska Maliseet First Nation in New Brunswick, winner of the community award, is proud of its Grey Rock Power centre that houses a multi-purpose entertainment centre, including a casino and bingo halls, with the largest truck stop in Atlantic Canada. For 12 years, the Yukon Motel and Restaurant has been growing into a successful business and employing many of the local residents in Teslin, Yukon. The hard work of the Kremer husband and wife team earned them recognition as winners of the private sector business category.

If you have ever wondered what is happening in Manitoba's Indigenous economy, the article by Ryan Johnson, entitled "Manitoba Indigenous Economic Development", shines a light on a variety of ventures in the north and south of the province. Urban reserves, partnership in hydro and plans for Northern development are only some of the initiatives that are explored.

Recognizing the tension produced by western influence on Indigenous worldviews, authors Kwantes and Stonefish focus on leadership and acknowledge this tension. What type of leadership is recognized as effective? What will more influence over time by mainstream business have on

Indigenous people who join the workforce? Check out this article for an interesting study that answers some questions and raises more.

Ekosi.