

The Artist's Statement

The Cando 25th Silver Anniversary Logo

Kassia Ward

NATIVE ARTIST

The traditional art elements that I have combined to create this logo are the dreamcatcher, four stones (beads), and the eagle. The dreamcatcher represents the ideas and dreams of the communities Cando provides programs and services to. The stones, or beads, represent the four directions, but they also symbolize communication, trust, balance, and confidence. The stones are placed within the dreamcatcher to guard against the negative influences that might try to affect the dreams of the communities. The eagle, which is the focus of the piece, represents empowerment, for the eagle is the messenger that moves the dream from the spiritual/dream world to the physical/real world — the world in which communities are empowered by the support Cando provides.

It is my privilege and honour to present to you the 22nd issue of the Journal of Aboriginal Economic Development (JAED), co-published by the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (Cando) and Captus Press. I am happy to report that this issue highlights and clarifies new takes and updates on the state of Indigenous economic development and the thinking that goes into it, and on the leadership and followership (in all of their forms) that are required to implement, support, and sustain those effective and successful economic development activities and projects that further promote and enhance Aboriginal economic development and governance across Canada and around the world.

In this issue the primary topic that has emerged, as the focus for at least three of the submissions, is one that relates to Indigenous leadership. Other articles continue the discussion about provincial economic development activities (in this case Manitoba), in addition to the ongoing profiles of our Cando's Economic Developer of the Year Award Winners. We also provide information about international business, trade, and culture, which offers comparative insights (in this case between New Zealand and Alaska); and, finally, about the economic impact of Indigenous language revitalization (a new topic for our Journal). The issue ends with our ongoing and longitudinal coverage and analysis of Aboriginal unemployment, employment, and wage rates in Canada.

Enjoy, and happy reading! And *Huy tseep q'u Siiem nu Siye 'yu* — thank you respected friends and colleagues — for contributing to the Journal, for helping to edit the Journal, and for continuing to be an active member of the Cando family. *Huy ch q'u*.

Warren Weir