

# Introduction

-----

David Newhouse

In this issue, we present two articles that illustrate on the creativity and innovation that Indigenous nations and communities demonstrate as they build economies in the 21st century.

*The Economic Benefits of a Major Canadian Forestry Contribution Program for Indigenous Peoples* (Dieter Kuhnke, Canada Forest Service and Ian Cahill (Canada Forest Service, retired) analyses the impact of the First Nations Forestry Program on the well-being of those who participated in the program. The program had a significantly positive outcome on the well-being of Indigenous peoples in terms of a conventional measure of economic outcomes, i.e. income. An important caveat is income represents only one component of overall well-being and further work is necessary to determine the role and extent of other components.

*Moving at the Speed of Business: A Possible Path to First Nation Prosperity Starts with Efficiency* (Andre Le Dressay, Jason Reeves, and Normand Lavallee of the Tulo Centre of Indigenous Economics) examines how federal legislation such as the First Nations Fiscal Management Act and the Framework Agreement on First Nations Land Management and a new set of First Nation institutions such as the First Nations Tax Commission, First Nations Financial Management Board, First Nations Land Management Resource Centre, First Nations Finance Authority, and First Nations Infrastructure Institute reduce the transaction costs and jurisdiction switching costs involved in Indigenous-led on-reserve economic development.