

YES-BC 2011

On November 30th and December 1st, 2011, 50 young First Nations leaders gathered at the Renaissance Hotel in Vancouver for YES-BC – the first ever Young Entrepreneurs Symposium targeted exclusively at First Nations entrepreneurs from BC.



YES winning team with Minister Polak and Chief Louie

YES-BC delegates heard from inspirational business leaders, including J.R. LaRose, Safety for the BC Lions Grey Cup Champions football team, and Chief Clarence Louie of the Osoyoos Indian Band. In addition, the delegates worked together in teams, competing in three businessrelated challenges:

1. Advertising/Promotion:

Teams drew a product/service from a hat and had to put together a 45 second "live" commercial targeting BC First Nations. With just over 24 hours to put their ads together, the results were amazing, each one reflecting the unique personalities of the team members.

2. Venture Challenge:

Teams 'raced' through downtown Vancouver, stopping at eight checkpoints, each with a specific task to be accomplished. Event sponsors BC Hydro, MNP, Ch'nook, and Fortis BC took part by in the challenge, having representatives to assist at each of the checkpoints.

3. Creative Challenge:

Here, teams were given a blank t-shirt, coloured sharpies and one hour to come up with an inspirational business slogan with which to decorate the shirt. They then presented their shirts to the full delegation group.

The winning team won the opportunity to attend the 2011 BC Aboriginal Business Awards gala and present the award for Lifetime Individual Achievement to Chief Clarence Louie.

NRT is proud to sponsor the YES event and help build capacity amongst the young leaders of the future. We are already working on the 2012 YES-BC!

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Message from the CEO

Spring is a time of renewal, new beginnings and an important time for NRT and the First Nations communities we serve. In April, we publish our annually-updated Strategic Plan, and with it we announce our year's budget and funding allocations.

This year, we will continue to support initiatives in five areas: Governance Capacity, Economic Development, Language & Culture, Education, and Youth & Elders. Each of these priority areas has been identified as needing capacity support. This year, we are allocating additional funds to Direct Support to assist communities with capacity-building projects.

We will also be streamlining in certain areas to make the NRT Fund last longer. Education support – such as Scholarships and Bursaries – will be managed through the newly created New Relationship Trust Foundation.

2012 promises to be a busy and exciting year for NRT. We have a number of events to look forward to, including the second annual NRT Golf Tournament this summer and YES-BC in the fall. We also have another round of regional engagement sessions planned for Fall 2012. Once again, we will visit communities around BC to share our progress and gather feedback about our future direction. On behalf of all of us at NRT, I sincerely hope to see as many of you as possible when we travel to a community near you later this year. Until then, watch the NRT website for updates and feel free to keep in touch via the 'Feedback' feature on our site.

Respectfully,

Cliff Fregin, CEO

2012 Support

Scholarships and Bursaries

NRT Scholarships and Bursaries support First Nations students as they work toward completing post-secondary degrees, diplomas and certificates. This is one of our most popular initiatives; to date we have awarded more than \$3,499,000 to scholarships and bursaries.

This year, we have allocated a total of \$500,000 for Scholarships and Bursaries. Awards are available in four categories, as follows:

- 75 Bursaries for Certificate, Diploma and/or Trades @ \$2,000 each
- 30 Undergraduate degree Scholarships @ \$5,000 each
- 10 Masters degree Scholarships @ \$10,000 each
- 5 Doctorate degree Scholarships @ \$20,000 each

Eligibility: First Nations students from BC who are attending a recognized post-secondary institution.

Scholarships

Funding Announced: April 30, 2012 Deadline: June 15, 2012

Bursaries

Funding Announced: April 16, 2012 **Deadline:** Until funds are exhausted

Youth & Elders Grants

Youth and Elders Grants provide funds at the community level so that these two important groups can build capacity from within.

Youth Grants

In 2012, we are making \$250,000 available to assist BC First Nations youth in their communities. A maximum of \$2,000 is available per project and priority is given to groups and projects that demonstrate capacity building, leadership or mentorship for BC First Nations youth.

Eligibility: First Nations youth groups and organizations in BC **Funding Announced:** April 2, 2012 **Deadline:** June 29, 2012



Elders Grants

A total of \$250,000 is available for Elders Grants this year. Projects will be funded to a maximum of \$2,500, and priority will be given to projects that benefit Elders and/or Elders groups at the community or Nation level.

Eligibility: Elders groups and organizations; BC First Nations communities and organizations representing Elders **Funding Announced:** April 2, 2012

Deadline: May 24, 2012

Direct Support

Direct Support funding helps First Nations communities build capacity in the areas that they need it most. A total of \$1.5 million has been allocated for Direct Support in 2012-2013. Funding is available in two streams:

- A maximum of \$25,000 per project is available to individual First Nations
- A maximum of \$50,000 per project is available to groups of three First Nations who are collaborating on a capacity building initiative.

Eligibility: Two streams: Individual First Nations communities; and Collaborations of three or more First Nations communities.

Funding Announced: April 2, 2012 Deadline: May 15, 2012

Policy Development

This funding stream supports projects that advance policy development for the benefit of BC First Nations communities and citizens. This year, we have allocated \$250,000 in funding for Policy Development initiatives. NRT supports up to \$50,000 or 75% of eligible project costs. Proponents must be able to show they are prepared to contribute the other 25%.

Eligibility: First Nations organizations with a BC province-wide mandate Funding Announced: April 2, 2012 Deadline: Until funds are exhausted



Previous Scholarship and Bursary Recipients

Partner Funding

NRT provides additional funding through our partners. Eligibility criteria and application guidelines can be found on partner websites.

Language & Culture

We support numerous initiatives for language and cultural revitalization through the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council. **Visit:** fphlcc.ca.

First Nations Equity Fund

NRT supports First Nations communities with low-interest loans so they can participate in viable economic development opportunities. The fund is administered by the Nuu-chah-nuulth Economic Development Corporation. **Visit:** nedc.info

Entrepreneur Equity Matching Initiative

This initiative supports new or expanding First Nations businesses in BC by providing matching equity through five BC Aboriginal Capital Corporations (ACCs). First Nations entrepreneurs and communities are eligible. **Visit:** http://www.newrelationshiptrust.ca/ funding/partner-funding/entrepreneur-equity-matching for a full list of partner ACCs.

2012 Golf Tourney!

NRT's second annual fundraising Golf Tournament will be held on August 2nd at the UBC Golf Course. All proceed will support Education Bursaries.

Last year we raised more than \$16,400. Help us top this number in 2012 to provide even more support for BC First Nations students. For information, visit our website. Details and registration forms will be posted soon.



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