# **Community Development** Initiative

Saskatchewan Region

Collaborating for Success - CANDO March 30, 2017







## What Decision Makers are Saying

"History has shown that a top-down approach gets us nowhere when it comes to closing that gap. What we need is a collaborative approach [...]. A process that respects the experiences of Aboriginal Peoples and gives you a real say in setting priorities and developing solutions to the challenges their communities face every day.

That last part bears repeating: if the federal government sets priorities and devises solutions without the input of Aboriginal communities, those solutions will fail."

-The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

"It is clear that Comprehensive Community Planning is essential to building stronger, healthier and more sustainable communities. By bringing youth and elders and all members of the community together to establish their priorities, First Nations are better able to identify their needs, build on their strengths and prepare for the future."

-The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs

"That [INAC] ensure that adequate funding be provided to First Nations for the development of comprehensive community plans [...]."

-Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples



#### **How INAC Can Support Community Development**

- The Indigenous Community Development National Strategy was developed in 2016 by a national working group with representatives from First Nations, Indigenous organizations and INAC. It includes 4 key pillars which INAC can support:
  - Community-driven, Nation-based planning initiatives;
  - Indigenous Nation-to-Nation learning;
  - Collaboration and integration within and across government departments (to support implementation); and
  - Strengthening government's awareness of cultural diversity.
- Saskatchewan Region released it's regional Community Development Strategy in 2015, which aligns with the national pillars listed above.
  - This Strategy was developed with the support of a regional advisory team, which included representatives from First Nations, Indigenous organizations, educational institutions, INAC directorates, federal departments and provincial ministries.
  - Updated regional Strategy expected in March 2017.
- Reconcilia(c)tion: Investments and partnerships through the lens of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action.



## **Community Development Guiding Principles**

Indigenous Community Development can be effective and sustainable by ensuring:

- Initiatives are Community-driven, Nation-based;
- Recognition and respect for Indigenous cultures;
- Indigenous Nation-to-Nation learning is promoted;
- Investments are made in capacity building, planning and implementation; and
- Government and partners are flexible, integrated and responsive to the needs expressed by Indigenous communities.



#### Saskatchewan Region's Community Development Strategy



• Led by a community member;



#### First Nations who have joined Community Development in SK:

- There are 18 First Nations who have joined Community Development so far, with more joining in 2017-2018.
- Each participating First Nation is provided funding for up to three years;
- List of First Nations interested in joining continues to grow (currently 17);
- First Nations are invited as funding becomes available.

#### 2015-2016

Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation Black Lake First Nation Flying Dust First Nation Makwa Sahgaiehacan First Nation Muskoday First Nation Pasqua First Nation

#### 2016-2017

Fishing Lake First Nation Mistawasis Nehiyawak Nation Pheasant Rump Nakota Nation **Okanese First Nation** Sakimay First Nations **Big River First Nation** Piapot Cree Nation Keeseekoose First Nation Cote First Nation The Key First Nation Birch Narrows First Nation



## **Comprehensive Community Planning (CCP)**

- A CCP is "comprehensive" because it includes planning for all aspects of the community. It is for the "community" because it is a process that is driven and owned by everyone in the community
- Community Navigators are supported with CCP 101 training, workshops and a CCP Handbook
- Mentorship plays an important role in connecting new and experienced Navigators and community planners. Navigators gather on a quarterly basis to share best practices and develop partnerships
- A "Repository" has been created to track known planning documents for First Nations in SK. This helps INAC staff in supporting First Nations in addressing their self identified priorities and needs
- The "First Nation Planning Diagram and Guide" was developed to summarize plans, tools, documents, policies and more, that First Nations can develop to build capacity



Several First Nations in SK are developing videos to showcase their CCP work.

Here is a sample from a BC community:

<u>https://vimeo.com</u> /16901516



#### **Partnerships and Implementation**

- Partnerships are an integral part of implementing First Nation priorities. INAC has limited funding authorities and many other partners are required.
- Three "Community Development Officer" positions were created as part of Budget 2016 to support First Nations through Community Development – especially the Partnerships and Implementation phase.
- INAC has been meeting with potential partners to discuss Community Development and connect them with First Nations as required.
- A regional "Compendium" was created as a list of funding and resources available to First Nations in Saskatchewan to support CCP implementation. The database includes the agency, program, description, link to application, due date, and contact person.
- "Implementation Support Teams" are created once a CCP is developed and/or community priorities are identified. Partnerships are selected by the First Nation and are supported by Community Development Officers. Each Implementation Team composition will differ depending on which priorities or project the First Nation wishes to implement.
- Indigenous Community Development Training available to partners.



## **Partnerships and Implementation**

Informal partnerships are ongoing and include:

- Federal Government
  - Canada Revenue Agency
  - Health Canada (including FNIHB and NITHA)
  - Employment and Social Development Canada / Service Canada
  - Public Safety Canada
  - Western Economic Diversification
  - Statistics Canada
  - Public Health Agency of Canada
- Universities
  - University of Saskatchewan
  - University of Regina
  - First Nations University of Canada

- Government of Saskatchewan
- Office of the Treaty Commissioner
- Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations
- Keewatin Career Development Corporation
- Many others

#### TRC Recommendation #57:

We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal–Crown relations. This will require skills based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and antiracism.



## **Indicators Dashboards**

- Importance of OCAP; training provided
- Regional Dashboard (skfn.ca):
  - Overall or average data for all Saskatchewan First Nations
  - 83 indicators so far, selected by First Nations, tracked over multiple years. Additional indicators being researched.
- First Nation Dashboards
  - Sample dashboard: test2.skfn.ca
  - Private or public access for individual First Nations, decided by First Nations
  - WordPress easy for FNs to update
- Regional Data Governance Centre
  - Supporting the engagement of First Nations to determine long term regional strategy for data governance and the creation of a data governance centre
  - Regional data centre may become steward of the dashboards



#### **TRC Recommendation #55:**

We call upon all levels of government to provide annual reports or any current data requested by the National Council for Reconciliation so that it can report on the progress towards reconciliation. The reports or data would include, but not be limited to [...] children-in care [...], Comparative funding for the education of First Nations children on and off reserves, [...] educational and income attainments of Aboriginal peoples in Canada compared with non-Aboriginal people, [...] health indicators such as: infant mortality, maternal health, suicide, mental health, addictions, life expectancy, birth rates, infant and child health issues, chronic diseases, illness and injury incidence, and the availability of appropriate health services, [...] overrepresentation of Aboriginal children in youth custody, [...] homicide and family violence victimization and other crimes, [...]. overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in the justice and correctional systems.



## **Budget and Funding**

- Not an established INAC program (yet)
  - Several programs are supporting the initiative, including the national First Nation Infrastructure Fund (Planning) / Building Canada.
  - HQ leading discussions for stable, long-term funding.
- Cost of Community Development in SK:
  - Typical investment is \$85,000 per First Nation,
    per year, for up to 3 years
- Target: At least 75% of Community Development funding stays in the community to build capacity.
- Implementation costs not included; each individual program uses established process to make Implementation funding decisions.



## **Find Out More**

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