

JOURNEY TO ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE: *BC First Nations' Perspectives*

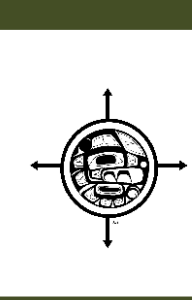
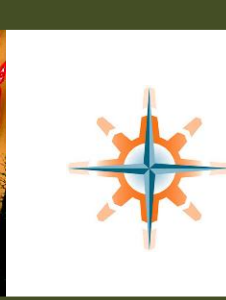
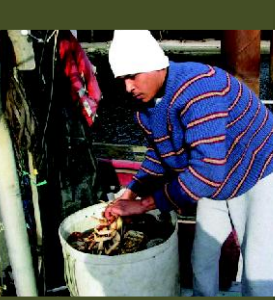
Overview Presentation

REVERSING THE TIDE

Strategies for Successful Rural Revitalization

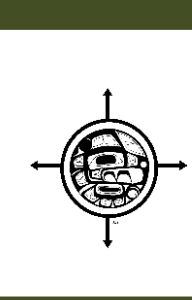
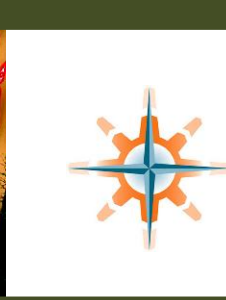
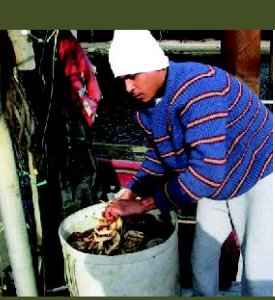
October 6 - 8, 2008

Prince George, British Columbia



FNED Project

- First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) and Ministry of Economic Development (MEcDev) endorsed project - Fall 2006
- FN Economic Development Forum in Richmond, BC – January 2007
- First Nation community tour (11 First Nations) – Spring 2007
- Workshop to confirm findings with participant FNs – August 2007
- Report jointly released by FNLC and MEcDev - February 13, 2008



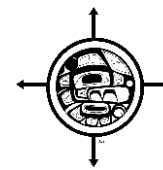
Purpose/Objectives

Purpose:

- Conduct a first-hand examination of the successes and struggles in economic development within a cross-section of B.C. First Nations and shed light on the journey of participant First Nations as they move toward building sustainable economies.

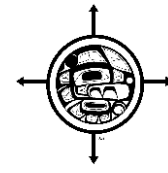
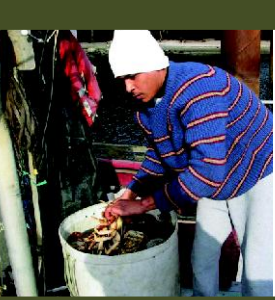
Tour of the Nations

- Meet with senior First Nations representatives of 11 communities from different regions in BC and collect information that would help us understand the history of the individual First Nation's economic development activities.



Tour of the Nations

- Beecher Bay First Nation
- Fort Nelson First Nation
- Hupacasath First Nation
- Kamloops Indian Band
- Ktunaxa Tribal Council
- Lake Babine Nation
- McLeod Lake Indian Band
- Osoyoos Indian Band
- Squamish Nation
- Tsleil Waututh Nation
- Westbank First Nation



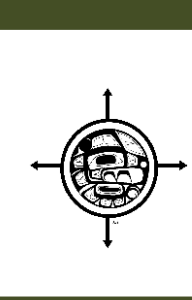
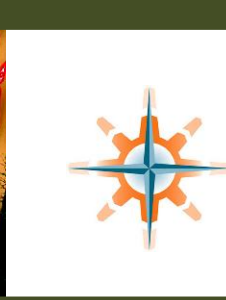
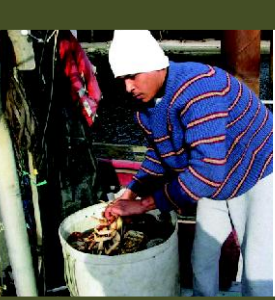
Two Economic Development Approaches in Participant First Nations

Osoyoos Indian Band

- Create First Nations-owned and operated enterprises;
- Designated First Nations Lands on reserve;
- Training for employees;
- Attract partners for on reserve business development;
- Have had consistent political and economic development leadership;
- Brought external business and economic development expertise to the community.

Westbank First Nation

- Create and support entrepreneurs;
- Enable land development through Certificate of Possession land owners;
- Attract local, national and international investors;
- Have Self-Government legislation and *Land Management Act* powers;
- Brought external business and economic development expertise to the community.



Three Areas of Revenue Generation

Development of Lands, Resources and Water

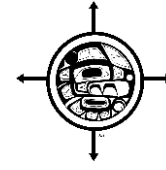
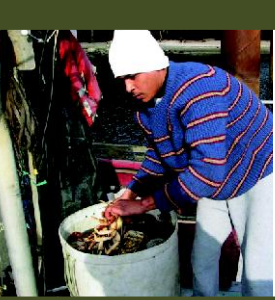
- The Lake Babine Nation has numerous waste water treatment plants, freshwater wells and pump stations on their reserve lands.

Benefit and Revenue Sharing Agreements

- The Fort Nelson First Nation has revenue sharing agreements with the B.C. Government on several gas wells.

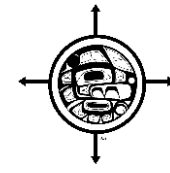
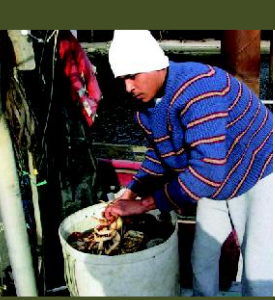
Partnerships

- The Kamloops Indian Band has entered into partnerships with the B.C. Government, municipalities and businesses.



Seven Themes

1. Understanding the First Nation Communities
2. Understanding the Lands, Resources and Water Opportunities
3. Planning (EDP and CCP)
4. Leadership, Corporate Governance, and Capacity
5. Benefit & Revenue Sharing Agreements
6. Partnerships
7. Access to Capital

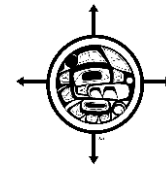
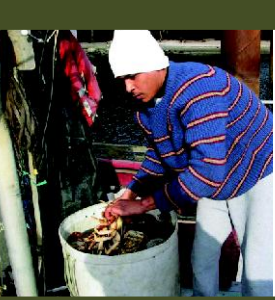


Understanding the First Nations Communities

- Policies and laws have constrained economic development.
- First Nations effectively lost control over their governance and traditional trade practices.
- These historical events are crucial to understanding First Nations communities.

Looking Ahead:

- Enabling First Nations to meaningfully participate in the B.C. economy and move forward to build relationships built on trust and mutual respect



Understanding the Lands, Resources and Water

Lands:

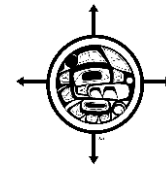
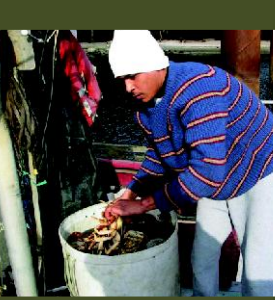
- Reserve Land (CP Lands, Band Lands)– Crown Land – Traditional Territory

Resources:

- Sand and Gravel, Oil and Gas, Timber etc. renewable and non-renewable resources.

Waters:

- Access to tenures/licences for Aquaculture, Power Production etc.



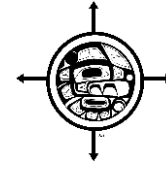
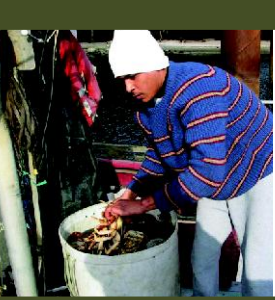
Planning

Two types of plans:

Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) & Economic Development Plan (EDP)

Benefits of having a plan:

- Engages the whole community;
- Creates accountability and achievable outcomes; and,
- Points toward a set of clear and community supported directions.

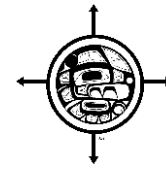
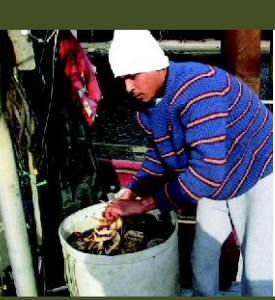


Leadership, Corporate Governance and Capacity

- Financial accountability, human resource expertise and clear process for land/resource management are key.

Examples:

- Chief Financial Officer and record keepers;
- Chief Operating Officer; and,
- A Board of Directors or Business Advisory Council made up of business experts.



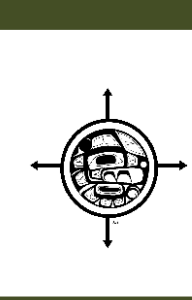
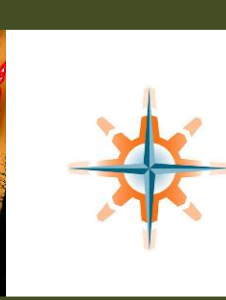
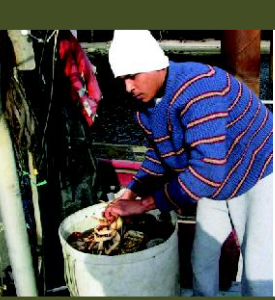
Benefit & Revenue Sharing Agreements

Benefit agreements

- Agreements between industry proponents and First Nations communities, which bring economic value to the community.

Revenue sharing agreements

- Sharing arrangements between the federal or provincial government and First Nations communities.

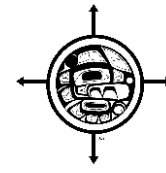
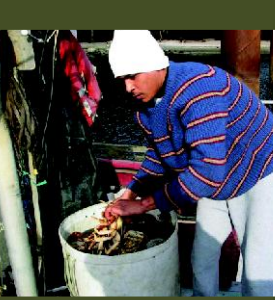


Partnerships

- Industry, Governments and First Nations

Benefits of Partnership arrangements:

- Project/business specific expertise
- Access to capital
- Transfer of capacity

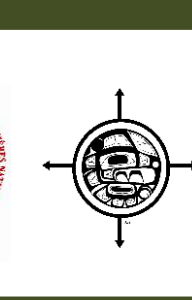
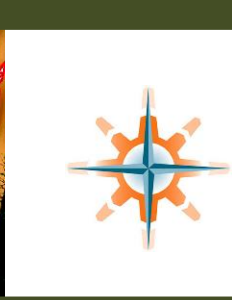
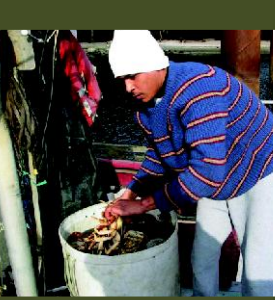


Access to Capital

- Sources of capital for economic ventures are limited, unaffordable, restrictive and insufficient.

Barriers identified by participant First Nations:

- Limited conventional sources of capital;
- Lack of information for investors and First Nations on potential partners; and,
- Limited opportunity for First Nations and potential investors to communicate with each other.



Thank you