

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – FEBRUARY 21th, 2014

Media Advisory

AFOA CANADA CELEBRATES ITS 15TH ANNIVERSARY BY INVITING GEORGE LAFOND, TREATY COMMISSIONER, TO ADDRESS OVER 800 ABORIGINAL LEADERS AT AFOA CANADA'S 14TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN HALIFAX, FEBRUARY 25-27, 2014

On February 25 -27 AFOA Canada (formerly the Aboriginal Financial Officer Association of Canada) is hosting its 14th National Conference, assembling over 800 of Canada's most prominent Aboriginal business and elected leaders at Halifax's Marriott Harbourfront Hotel and World Trade Convention Centre. The Association will also be celebrating its 15th Anniversary. In a time where Aboriginal communities are seeing rapid changes within our existing traditional territories and beyond our borders - both nationally and internationally, it is important to reflect on our common destination and discuss how we can work together to align our collective efforts so that our work goes even further.

AFOA Canada is a membership-driven centre for excellence, information and certification in Aboriginal finance, management and leadership. AFOA Canada will be hosting two main conference plenaries:

Wednesday Plenary – Guest Speakers Mike DeGagné, President and Vice Chancellor, Nipissing University, Peter Dinsdale, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Assembly of First Nations, Wiwini Hakaraia, Manager, Maori Business Services, BDO Auckland, New Zealand, George Lafond, Treaty Commissioner, Office of the Treaty Commissioner and member of the Muskeg Lake (Treaty 6) Cree Nation, SK, and; Mike McIntyre, Chief Financial Officer, Membertou First Nation, NS: *“Aligning towards a Common Destination”*

Event details are as follows:

Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2014
Time: 8:30am to 10:30am
Location: Room 200, 2nd Level, World Trade Convention Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia

Thursday Plenary: Guest speaker Robert Bernard, President and Chief Executive Officer, Diversity Management Group, to speak on *“Developing Aboriginal Business Growth Through Key Partnership Development, Procurement Initiatives & Sustainable Investments.”* This followed by *“Indigenous Financial Literacy”* with guest speakers, Simon Brascoupé, CAPA, Consultant and Main Contractor on the Study, Darren Googoo, Director of Education, Membertou First Nation, NS, Elizabeth Mulholland, CEO, Social Enterprise Development Innovations (SEDI) and; Dr. Paulette Tremblay, Ph.D., M.A., B.Ed., B.A., I.C.D.D, CAPA, Director, Education and Training, AFOA Canada

Event details are as follows:

Date: Thursday, February 27, 2014
Time: 8:30am to 10:00am
Location: Room 200, 2nd Level, World Trade Convention Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia

A media release with further details on the National Conference will be available at the event.

-30-

For further information and interview requests please contact:
Jody Warnes, Manager, Public Relations, AFOA Canada (613) 722-5543, Cell: (613)-297-5998,