

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AFOA CANADA ANNOUNCES FIRST NATIONS BANK OF CANADA AS THE LEAD SPONSOR FOR THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY AFOA CANADA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Ottawa, Ontario-October 1, 2014 – AFOA Canada (formerly the Aboriginal Financial Officer Association of Canada) is pleased to announce that First Nations Bank of Canada has been named as the Lead Sponsor for the 15th Anniversary AFOA Canada National Conference, which is to be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, February 17-19, 2015 assembling over 1,000 of Canada's most prominent Aboriginal business and elected leaders at the RBC Convention Centre Winnipeg.

In a time of economic change and challenges, the AFOA Canada 2015 National Conference theme is ***Business Development-Capitalizing on Opportunities that Lead to Self-Reliance and Economic Prosperity.***

"We are extremely proud to have First Nations Bank of Canada as the Lead Sponsor for our 15th Anniversary National Conference, it just makes sense" states Terry Goodtrack, President and CEO of AFOA Canada *"First Nations Bank of Canada has supported AFOA Canada, its efforts and its membership since before the organization was even incorporated. The very mandate of First Nations Bank focuses on the success and development of the Aboriginal economy and directly compliments AFOA Canada's mandate to our membership and the individuals we serve"*

"First Nations Bank of Canada is proud to take on the role as Lead Sponsor for the 15th Anniversary National Conference and to support the work of AFOA Canada." said Keith Martell, Chairman and CEO of First Nations Bank of Canada. *"The association and its members have played a vital role in the advancement of the Aboriginal Finance and Management profession, a role that has positively impacted economic growth, and wealth creation for Aboriginal communities and organizations across this country."*

About AFOA Canada

AFOA Canada (formerly Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of Canada) is a membership-driven organization and was founded as a not-for-profit association in 1999. The organization helps Aboriginal professionals better manage and govern their communities and organizations through a focus on enhancing finance, management and leadership practices and skills.

AFOA Canada's premise is that one of the keys to successful self-determination, creating a better life for Canada's Aboriginal people and a better future for the next generation lies in improving the management skills of those responsible for the stewardship of Aboriginal resources.

AFOA Canada has become the centre for excellence and innovation in Aboriginal finance, management and leadership. It is the largest and only organization in Canada that focuses on the capacity development and day-to-day needs of those Aboriginal professionals who are working in all areas of finance, management, band administration, leadership and program management.

First Nations Bank of Canada

First Nations Bank of Canada is a Canadian chartered bank primarily focused on providing financial services to the Aboriginal marketplace in Canada.

The Bank offers Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, corporations and governments a full range of personal and business banking services including deposits, term loans, mortgages and lines of credit.

The Bank's specialty is financing projects and operations for Aboriginal Governments, Aboriginal owned enterprise and non-Aboriginal enterprises that are doing business with these groups. The Bank, together with its strategic partners, offers access to structured financing for larger resource development, power generation and infrastructure projects. A large percentage of the Bank's business is in northern and remote markets.

First Nations Bank was founded in 1996 and today 80% of the Bank's shares are owned by Aboriginal groups from Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Yukon, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec. The Bank's Aboriginal shareholders are progressive, like-minded organizations, culturally and linguistically diverse and all respected leaders in their regional economies.

With the support of its Aboriginal shareholders, the Bank has demonstrated consistent growth and profitability during each of the past fifteen years. Bank services are available through a network of eight full service branches (three on reserve) and four community banking centres and through electronic banking channels.

-30-

Contact:

AFOA Canada
Jody Warnes
613-297-5998
jwarnes@afoa.ca

First Nations Bank of Canada
Mark Soloway
306-955-6795
mark.soloway@fnbc.ca