

**PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**AFOA CANADA AND CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY SIGN AGREEMENT ON BUILDING RELATIONS THAT CREATE ABORIGINAL POST SECONDARY PATHWAYS**

**February 19, 2016 (Montréal)** – Aboriginal access to post-secondary education matters. Building Aboriginal learning pathways matters. AFOA Canada and Cape Breton University (CBU) are pleased to announce their agreement to work together to support academic opportunities for Aboriginal learners.

The Certified Aboriginal Professional Administrator (CAPA) Program designed and delivered by AFOA Canada provides a diploma for the completion of 16 administration courses for those working in Aboriginal communities.

AFOA Canada and CBU signed two articulation agreements that support CAPA graduates in pursuing degrees in the BBA Program and the MBA-Community Economic Development (CED) Program. These two agreements create career paths that enable CAPA graduates who meet certain requirements to receive transfer credits towards the BBA Program and MBA-CED Programs at CBU.

Terry Goodtrack, President and CEO of AFOA Canada states that *“This is a very significant step for AFOA Canada since these are the first articulation agreements signed for the CAPA Program. It opens up new possibilities for the continued development of CAPA graduates. It will enable them to make a very positive contribution in providing quality service in their home communities. It will make a difference”*.

Dr. Keith Brown, Vice President, International and Aboriginal Affairs, CBU, indicated *“this is a continuation of CBU’s commitment to broaden access for Indigenous students as we have done for 40 years. AFOA and CBU’s In.Business Program are clearly aligned with similar goals whether the students be in high school or practicing professionals in community”*

**About AFOA Canada**

AFOA Canada is a membership driven organization and was founded as a not-for-profit association in 1999. The organization supports Aboriginal professionals in managing and governing their communities and organizations through a focus on enhancing finance, management and leadership practices and skills. AFOA Canada’s premise is that the key to economic prosperity and creating a better life for Canada’s Aboriginal people is in improving the management skills of those responsible for the stewardship of Aboriginal resources.

AFOA Canada has become the centre of 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 of these areas. Our products and programs are developed by Aboriginal professionals for Aboriginal Professionals.

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For further information and interview requests, please contact:

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