

**PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DOIG RIVER FIRST NATION FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA ANNOUNCED AS THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE  
MNP-AFOA CANADA ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE AWARD.**

**Ottawa, ON-September 12, 2017** – AFOA Canada (formerly the *Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of Canada*) is pleased to announce that Doig River First Nation from British Columbia is the recipient of the first ***MNP-AFOA Canada Aboriginal Community Excellence Award***.

*“The Doig River First Nation community exemplifies a sustainable community”* states Clayton Norris, VP, Aboriginal Services, MNP LLP. *“We look forward to seeing further growth and success for the Doig River First Nation and its members for generations to come.”*

Doig River First Nation will be presented with this prestigious award the evening of Thursday, October 5, during an Awards Banquet at AFOA Canada’s Inaugural International Conference at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

More than 1,100 Indigenous professionals from around the world will gather in Vancouver, BC, October 2-5<sup>th</sup> to discuss successes, learn key business insights and share trends of Building Sustainable Communities. AFOA Canada is the host organization for this international event.

*“Doig River First Nation is pleased to be the first recipient of the MNP – AFOA Canada Aboriginal Community Excellence Award. Our community aspires to be self-sufficient with the goals of protecting our treaty rights, land, environment, language and culture while excelling in business and economic development. To achieve these goals, our nation has worked hard over the past few years to build a foundation of good governance, financial transparency, sustainability and meaningful opportunities for our members to participate in grassroots democracy and community decision making. It is an honor for Doig River to receive this award and it is something our members will celebrate for years to come.”* Chief Trevor Makadahay, Doig River First Nation

**About the Award**

Every year AFOA Canada recognizes Aboriginal Professionals for their outstanding contribution and excellence in leadership. This is the first ***Aboriginal Community Excellence Award*** jointly presented by MNP LLP and AFOA Canada. This award was designed to recognize and celebrate Indigenous Communities for achievements in Aboriginal finance, management, and leadership. Communities are nominated and selected by an independent committee and then approved by the AFOA Canada Board of Directors.

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