



AFOA CANADA

Building a Community of Professionals

NATIONAL CONFERENCE - CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS February 7 - 9, 2017 Calgary TELUS Convention Centre - Calgary, Alberta

AFOA Canada will be hosting its 17th National Conference in Calgary, Alberta from February 7 to 9, 2017 at the Calgary TELUS Convention Centre.

Background

AFOA Canada's National Conference is the premier event for the exchange of knowledge and information on Aboriginal finance, management and leadership in the country. It is an important venue where Aboriginal financial professionals, Chief Administrators/Executive Officers, Program and Business Managers, Chiefs, Tribal Council members, Government representatives and consultants working with Aboriginal communities can get together to explore emerging strategies and tools to enhance finance, management and leadership in Aboriginal communities and organizations.

The theme of the 2017 Conference is *Aboriginal Economy – Building a Stronger Future.*

It was stated that in 2016, the Aboriginal Economy could reach \$32 Billion in combined income across households, businesses and government. Along with this growing economy is the need for financial services at a personal level, for economic development opportunities and to operate Aboriginal governments. The creation and ability to generate wealth is paramount to the ongoing sustainability of Aboriginal communities. Much of these opportunities will be realized by building the financial, management and leadership acumen and capacity of individuals who will take their communities to the next level. Opportunity and capacity are two sides of the same coin. This conference will focus on financial management, banking and investments. The workshops will be on key areas that are needed to build capacity in Aboriginal communities.

Attendees:

Delegates to the conference include professionals, practitioners, executives and stakeholders working with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities and organizations.

Specifically:

- Financial Professionals
 - Financial executives, managers, officers and administrators
 - Trust Officers
 - Aboriginal business owners
- Senior Management

- Chief Administrative Officers and Chief Executive Officers
- Band Managers/Administrators
- Senior management, program and business managers
- Elected and Appointed Leaders
 - Chief and Councillors
 - Community Leaders and Elected Representatives
 - Board of Directors
- Corporate Canada
 - Management consultants
 - Financial Institutions and Accounting firms
 - Economic development officers
 - Resource Companies
- Educational Institutions
 - Educational Institutes and Stakeholders
 - Academic leaders, students and Aboriginal Youth
- Government
 - Federal and Provincial government representatives

Guidelines for Abstracts

Tell us about an initiative, project or program and how it contributes towards a sustainable economy and how it is helping to build a stronger future for your community or organization. How does it help to educate and build capacity for your leadership and/or governance? Is it a local, regional, national or international initiative and are you partnering with federal, provincial or municipal governments, corporate Canada, educational institutions, non-profits or other Aboriginal organizations? Tell us how your First Nation, Inuit or Métis organization is actively demonstrating best practices that contribute to building a stronger future for your community? Do you have a success story to share and from which we can all learn from?

The presentation descriptions should contain no more than 250 words. Presentations should fit into one of the following five tracks and be relevant to the conference theme:

1. **Financial Management** – Best practices and trends in Aboriginal Financial Management
2. **Community Administration** – Best practices and trends in Aboriginal Management
3. **Leadership** – Trends and governance success stories
4. **Business Development** – Featuring success stories in community business development
5. **Healthy Workplace (Human Resources)** – Creating healthy work environments that reflect Aboriginal culture

Where applicable, presentations should address:

- **Issues** that affect a particular aspect of finance and/or management;
- **Case Studies** especially lessons learned AND the lessons obvious to you; and
- **Innovative Solutions** both proven and potential, to the issues faced in any area of Finance and/or Management

Presentation Format:

- Concurrent workshops of 75 or 90 minutes of an in-depth nature and that allow for at least 20 to 25 minutes for Q&A; and

- Workshops will not exceed a maximum of 3 presenters. Please provide in your abstract the names, titles, Community or organization name, telephone and email address of the suggested presenters.

Selection Criteria

The Program Committee will review all presentations - selection will be based on the following criteria:

- Topic and relevance to the conference theme and participant base;
- Focus on future trends and lessons learned (what worked AND what didn't) and recommended solutions to common issues;
- Speaker's expertise, knowledge and ability to challenge delegates;
- Presentation experience of speaker;
- Workshop balanced with sufficient practical information (i.e. 'here's how this can be applied to');
- Presenters will refrain from taking the opportunity to use the workshop as a commercial for their own services or products (no marketing); and
- Provide objective and fair information to participants based on effective practices.

Important note: If your abstract is selected and you are invited to deliver a workshop at the 2017 conference, you must submit a copy of the presentation in electronic format ie. Powerpoint and the biographies of the workshop speakers by December 31, 2016.

Deadline for Submissions

The deadline for submissions is Friday, October 14, 2016 at 4:30 pm EDT. The submissions should be prepared in Word format. Please send your submissions by email to George Rogerson, AFOA Canada Conference Secretariat at george@chelsea-group.net.

Compensation

Speakers will be provided with a complimentary registration to the full conference, including admission to all sessions, the exhibit area, receptions and meals (2 lunches and 1 dinner).

Note: All speakers are responsible for expenses related to their travel and accommodation and all other expenses related to their participation at the conference.

Contact Information

If you have any questions about the Call for Presentations, please contact George Rogerson at george@chelsea-group.net or telephone 819.827.5168 or toll free at 866.775.1816 or Sheila Howard at showard@afoa.ca or telephone 613.722.5543 or toll free at 866.722.2362.