

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE SEPTEMBER 21, 2018**

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**AFOA CANADA IS HOSTING 1,000 INDIGENOUS LEADERS TO DISCUSS HUMAN CAPITAL - BALANCING INDIGENOUS CULTURE AND CREATIVITY WITH MODERN WORKPLACES DURING ITS 19<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN OTTAWA, ON OCTOBER 2-4, 2018**

On October 2-4, 2018, AFOA Canada will host its Inaugural International Conference to discuss "***Balancing Indigenous Culture and Creativity with Modern Workplaces***". The Ottawa Shaw Centre will be home to over 1,000 prominent Indigenous business and elected leaders from Canada.

There are several drivers that are shaping how Indigenous communities manage their programs, services and human capital. These drivers include but are not limited to global connectivity, smart machines, new media, social and economic prosperity and demographic shifts. This conference will examine two relevant topics that need to be considered which are The Changing Nature of Work and Inclusive Growth.

AFOA Canada will be hosting two main conference plenaries:

### **Tuesday Plenary: THE CHANGING NATURE OF WORK**

Recently, there has been much discussion on automation and artificial intelligence. This poses the question of how this technology will impact upon Indigenous workplaces and communities in Canada. At the same time, it is important to recognize that throughout the last century specific technological advances have also changed the economic and social fabric of Canada. This plenary will focus on the potential changing nature of work, how we can work smarter and not harder, and how Indigenous culture and creativity can help shape modern workplaces and better serve community members.

#### **Part 1 - Keynote Address**

**Keynote: Amanda Young**, Chief Executive Officer, First Nations Foundation, Australia

#### **Part 2 - Panel Discussion**

##### **Panelists:**

**Mitchell Carkner**, MBA, Canadian Cognitive Process Services Leader, IBM Services

**Keith Martell**, CPA, CA, CAFM, Chief Executive Officer, First Nations Bank of Canada

**Jordan Wapass**, Executive Director, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne

**Amanda Young**, Chief Executive Officer, First Nations Foundation, Australia

**Moderator: Harold Tarbell**, Facilitator, Tarbell Facilitation Network

**Corporate Lead Sponsor and Plenary sponsored by: First Nations Bank of Canada**

#### **Event details are as follows:**

Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2018

Time: 8:30am to 10:30am

Location: Ottawa Shaw Centre, Ottawa, Ontario.

## **Wednesday Plenary: INCLUSIVE GROWTH**

The term Inclusive Growth acknowledges that growth has occurred but that it has neither been widely shared nor created opportunities for all. As the Canadian economy grows, the question is how can any economic gains be shared more broadly and equitably with Indigenous people? Should the term inclusive growth be broader than economic and include social gains in “closing the gap”. Some may argue that Indigenous people and communities have not had equitable sharing of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the past and perhaps the focus should be more on policy changes to allow them to “catch up” to the rest of Canada. This panel will discuss what Inclusive Growth means to them and why it is important for Indigenous people and communities who have historically been subjected to income inequality. They will also discuss how demographics need to be considered. The panel will conclude with a discussion on how Indigenous people and communities can be part of the Canadian economy today and going forward to shape the emerging Indigenous economy.

### **Part 1 - Keynote Address**

**Keynote Speaker: Clément Chartier**, President, Métis National Council

### **Part 2 - Panel Discussion**

**Dr. Simona Bignami**, Associate Professor, University of Montréal

**Clément Chartier**, President, Métis National Council

**Bill Lomax**, Vice President, Goldman Sachs, USA

**Dr. Paulette Tremblay**, Ph.D, ICD.D, CAPA, Chief Executive Officer, Assembly of First Nations

**Moderator: Harold Tarbell**, Facilitator, Tarbell Facilitation Network

**Plenary sponsored by: Peace Hills Trust**

#### **Event details are as follows:**

Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2018

Time: 8:30am to 10:30am

Location: Ottawa Shaw Centre, Ottawa, Ontario.

A media release with further details on the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual AFOA Canada National Conference will be available at the event.

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For further information and interview requests, please contact:

#### **AFOA Canada**

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