PLA and Aboriginal (Community) Economic Development: The Cando Approach

Past, Present, and Future Opportunities and Challenges

Warren Weir – Dean of Academic Programs at NVIT
Day Two, March 27 (8:45-9:25 am): Cardero (7th floor)

SUMMIT 2013
Surging to the Future: Research-Informed Policy, Practice and Innovation in the Recognition of Prior Learning
Cando’s Vision is: To be the leading authority on Aboriginal Community Economic Development

Cando’s Mission is: To build capacity which strengthens Aboriginal economies by providing programs and services to Economic Development Officers.
Aboriginal Economic Developer Certification Process

The first national professional certification process designed, developed and facilitated by an Aboriginal organization, that is:

- Relevant
- Accessible
- Affordable
- Certified
Prior Learning Assessment Stages

1. Pre-Entry & Advising
2. Candidate Profiling
3. Gathering & Generating Evidence
4. Assessment
5. Post-Assessment Guidance
6. Competency Fulfilled
Past: Late 1980’s to Mid 1990’s

1. Government Devolution for Aboriginal Community Economic Development

2. Aboriginal Economic Development Officers (AEDO’s) asked to take over, but
   - No agreement on job definition
   - No acknowledgement of role
   - Lack of funds
   - Lack of network, support, training
Current: Mid 1990’s to 2013

1. Creation of Cando
2. Acknowledgement of role shortcomings
3. Development of training/certification options and materials (TAED/PAED)
4. Creation of education, government, industry and community partnerships/relations
TAED Competencies

2. Community Economic Development Philosophy and Theory
3. Community Economic Development Practices
4. Community and Political Processes
5. The Nature, Structure and Functioning of Organizations
6. The Context of Aboriginal Economic Development
7. Contemporary Aboriginal Economic Development Approaches and Issues
8. Financial Accounting
9. Managerial Accounting
10. Community Impact Analysis and Assessment
11. Marketing
12. New Enterprise Development
13. Community Based Research Method
14. Aboriginal Law and Policies
15. Written and Oral Communications
16. Computer Applications
Cando Accredited Institutions
Grand-Parenting

Processed files under the Grandparent (PLA)
TAED Level Certification:
• 2 TAED Grandfathered in 2007

PAED Level Certification:
• 52 PAED Grandfathered in 2007
• 23 PAED Grandfathered in 2008
• 47 PAED Grandfathered in 2009
• 39 PAED Grandfathered in 2010
• 35 PAED Grandfathered in 2011
• 9 PAED Grandfathered in 2012

PLA Binders
• 49 PLA’d through course by course match ups
  (transcript reviews and PLA)
• 3 unknown
• 25 plus current
Future: 2013 and beyond

1. Changing educational requirements
2. Diverse Roles (and community aspirations)
3. Changing demographic reality

Next Steps