

**Assembly of First Nations
Special Chiefs Assembly
Our Languages, Our Land, Our Future
December 5-7, 2017**

**Assemblée des Premières Nations
Assemblée extraordinaire des Chefs
Nos langues, notre terre, notre avenir
Du 5 au 7 décembre 2017**



First Nations Labour Market Strategy (FNLMS) Update



In March 2017, the Chiefs Committee on Human Resources Development (CCHRD) recommended a new policy approach to Canada to recognize First Nations governance under a new distinct First Nations Labour Market Strategy that calls for:

- New relations with First Nations in a new government –to-government approach
- Self-governance authority and jurisdiction
- Indexed long-term investments under new fiscal transfers
- Structural reform with transitional supports
- Shared responsibility for outcomes and measurement
- This approach is consistent with the UNDRIP and responds to TRC Calls for Action



First Nations policy document overview

Legislative Change

- Strong institutional capacity
- Effective self-governance and jurisdiction
- Fiscal predictability and stability

New Distinct First Nations Labour Market Strategy - 2019-2029

- New relationship with First Nations
- New government-to-government approach
- Long-term funding
- Shared responsibility for outcomes

Structure to support

- Labour Market council and secretariat
- Center of excellence approach
- Arm's length from government
- Research and outreach capacity support and research with partners
- Support for transitional process

New Fiscal Agreements

- Autonomous decision making
- Inclusive Transfer Payment Policy with First Nation governments
- Establishing our own performance measurement and evaluation processes
- Expert capacity support and monitoring

New Long-term Investments

- First Nation focussed
- Inflation and population adjustments
- Capacity and equalization
- Support for governance and management development



Progress made

- ***AGA Resolution #32 provides guidance and direction for implementation***
- ***Senior officials with Employment and Skills Development Canada (ESDC) confirmed that no decision on the funding has been made***
- ***ESDC have informed the AFN that the recommendations of the CCHRD, along with feedback from engagements with First Nations has informed the basis of their cabinet recommendations***
- ***ESDC has agreed to a joint transitional plan that will guide the process going forward***
- ***There is agreement to establish joint working groups to:***
 - ***Determine the best transitions needed***
 - ***Prepare for a new distinct and relationship-building approach***
 - ***Identify governance and management of labour market programming for First Nations.***





Guided by the new policy approach and AGA resolution, Joint Working Groups will prepare for the best transitions needed for a distinct strategy

LABOUR MARKET COUNCIL WORKING GROUP

Review the planning, concept and role of a Labour Market Council

- **Its leadership and capacity for key success factors to enable progress on difficult issues**
- **As a centre, at arm's length from the Government of Canada, for research and outreach with First Nations labour market partners, organizations and agencies under the control and leadership of First Nations.**
- **Be the helm of policy and program processes that affect their labour markets and share responsibility for labour market outcomes between Governments and First Nations.**





SECRETARIAT WORKING GROUP

- **This working group will review the Secretariat's main role in supporting the Council and capacity building objectives in First Nations Labour Market agencies.**
- **Its role and responsibility to fill technical gaps FNLMA will need.**
- **The secretariat will undertake initiatives such as a centre of excellence role that will reduce government oversight, and the secretariat would be expected to liaise with ESDC.**

FINANCIAL MODEL WORKING GROUP

- **This working group would review the model advanced in the policy documents and National Forum in June 2016 to determine seamless implementation of new resources in a long-term strategy**





COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

- **This working group will review communication protocols needed with all governments that would provide clarity to the First Nations Approach and to inform others that:**
 - **First Nations require new governance conditions**
 - **The traditional approach managed through conditional Contribution Agreements obscures these unique governance conditions**
 - **A distinct strategy for First Nations peoples can be expected to enhance the effectiveness of these programs, support building the institutions of self-governance and move toward comparable government-to-government relations and shared responsibility for outcomes**
 - **Active communication and input from First Nations rights holders will be a focus of the strategy**

