

ABSBN Background

ABSBN is an initiative of the Federal Government Aboriginal Business Development Strategy. In 2002, the Community Economic Development Centre and Simon Fraser University (SFU) completed a Gap analysis on Aboriginal business needs and service providers. ABSBN formed a steering committee consisting of volunteer Aboriginal business providers from Aboriginal Capital Corporations, Community Futures offices and Business Development Centres, along with Provincial and Federal representatives, to create a comprehensive and integrated strategy to support the growth and development of Aboriginal Business.

A three year action plan developed from the analysis included hiring an ABSBN coordinator, developing REACH Sites throughout the Province, a workbook on Aboriginal Business Development and a variety of other tools – intended as capacity development tools for Aboriginal Business Development Officers.

Over the past fiscal years ABSBN BC has had significant strategic changes, which include: becoming an established and registered society, developing the ABSBN website, hosting the Annual Strategic Conversations Forum and expanding the REACH Sites with in BC.

ABSBN is continually networking information accessibility to Aboriginal Service providers, Entrepreneurs; facilitating increased awareness of existing information of financial resources for service providers, Government agencies, Aboriginal Capital Corporations and Business Development Centres in BC.

REACH Sites in BC

REACH Sites were established throughout the Province to provide First Nation entrepreneurs, access to business resources such as a computer station, printer and internet resources.

REACH Site locations are:

Aboriginal Business Development Centre—
Prince George, BC

Bella Bella Community Development Society
Waglisla, BC

Bonaparte Indian Band ~ Cache Creek, BC

Boston Bar First Nation ~ Boston Bar, BC

Burns Lake Native Development Corporation
Burns Lake, BC

Central Interior Trades & Apprenticeship Centre—
Kamloops, BC

Coldwater Indian Band ~ Merritt, BC

Community Futures Howe Sound-Squamish, BC

Desniqi Services Society ~ Williams Lake BC

Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre, Smithers, BC

Gwaalagaa Naay Corp. -Skidegate, BC

Kla-how-eya Aboriginal Centre of SACS—
Surrey, BC

Kootenay Aboriginal Business Development
Agency, Cranbrook BC

Lillooet Tribal Council – Lillooet, BC

Lil'wat Nation, ~ Mount Currie, BC

Lower Columbia River all First Nations
Castelgar, BC

Lower Similkameen Band, Keremeous, BC

Namgis First Nation Employment & Training,
Albert Bay, BC

Northeast Aboriginal Business and Wellness
Centre, Fort St. John BC

North West BC Metis Association- Terrace BC

Nuu-chah-nuth Economic Development Corp.
Port Alberni, BC

Okanagan Indian Band ~ Vernon, BC

Okanagan Nation Alliance ~ Westbank, BC

Old Masset Village Council ~ Masset, BC

Sto:lo Community Futures Development
Corporation, Chilliwack, BC

Tribal Resources Investment Corporation
Prince Rupert BC

Urban Native Youth Learning Association –
Vancouver

Victoria Native Friendship Centre, Victoria BC



ABS N Board of Directors

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www.absn.ca

“The BC ABSN is a collective of Aboriginal Business Service Providers in BC who enhance access to business information and resources..”

Aboriginal Business Service
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