Enriching Canada through Indigenous education and by inspiring achievement.
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR
David Tuccaro

Thank you for believing in Indspire and continuing to champion Indigenous education and support of First Nations, Inuit and Métis students across Canada who are realizing their dreams and graduating from post-secondary institutions; many of these students are the first person in their families to do so. We truly appreciate our private and public funders who continue to invest in our social impact across the country. Through our programs this past year, we reached some 7,856 students. When we add the CBC reach, we are connecting with more than 630,000 Canadians!

Senator Murray Sinclair, former chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, has said that education provides one of the greatest hopes for repairing cultural attitudes, redressing the legacy of Indian Residential Schools, and advancing the process of reconciliation. Through its support of thousands of students each year, Indspire is contributing to the success of First Nations, Inuit and Métis learners, the process of reconciliation and ultimately realizing its purpose that within a generation, every Indigenous student will graduate.

We currently meet 22 per cent of student applicants’ needs. We know we have to do better and believe that together we can achieve this. Indeed, we have had a record year, disbursing more than $16 million in 5,553 bursaries and scholarships — a year of unprecedented impact for Indigenous students and one we intend to pursue in our growth strategy over the coming year.

We have set ourselves the ambitious challenges of increasing our bursary and scholarship applications by 25 per cent and increasing funding for students by more than 40 per cent. In the coming year, we will make a huge investment in technology to better serve and support our students. As we do that, we are monitoring their success through our National Education Survey to be conducted again in 2020.

On behalf of the board, I would like to thank our leader, Roberta Jamieson, and her dedicated staff. Thank you for your continued support. Together, we are making a difference for thousands of First Nations, Inuit and Métis students across this country.

David Tuccaro
Chair, Board of Directors

Click here to see our audited statements.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO
Roberta L. Jamieson

Skéno. I’m Roberta Jamieson, President and CEO of Indspire. We’re excited to share with you the stories and highlights of this past year.

Each year, I have the opportunity to meet First Nations, Inuit and Métis students across Canada. With every student that I meet, and through the stories that they tell about their educational journey, the more I believe that Indspire can fulfill its purpose — that within a generation, every Indigenous student will graduate.

Some of their stories came out in a survey we conducted of First Nations, Inuit and Métis students across the country in 2018. I encourage you to read the full report at indspire.ca to hear, in their voices, what students are experiencing on campuses across the country.

I am so pleased that the federal government chose to significantly increase its investment in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis students across Canada. On average, 90 per cent of Indspire-supported students graduate. While these numbers are impressive, what is truly inspiring are the stories behind these numbers, some of which we’ve shared in this report. They demonstrate how we can truly impact the lives of Indigenous people.

I also speak with many of our donors, who are committed to providing their support so that Indigenous students can achieve their highest potential. They know that investing in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people will not only benefit these individuals, their families and communities, but Canada as a whole.

Once again, Indspire received a four-star rating from Charity Intelligence, and named us a Top 10 Canadian Impact Charity. Indspire was also recognized by Maclean’s magazine in 2019 as a top-rated charity for Canadians to support.

To the dedicated and hard-working staff, to David Tuccaro, the chair of our board, and all the board directors, to governments, to corporations and individual Canadians who support Indspire and make our work possible, I thank you in the language of my people: Nia: wen!

Roberta L. Jamieson
President & CEO
2018–2019 BY THE NUMBERS

More than $115,000,000 provided to students since 2004

Indigenous Education is Canada’s Future Growth

In an increasingly interconnected world, Canada is in a global race for talent. Fortunately, Canada has a ready supply of labour, energy and enterprise right here at home.

Indigenous peoples are the fastest growing demographic cohort, and they are younger than the Canadian average. More than 130,000 Indigenous people aged 17–51 will be eligible to attend post-secondary university by 2023. They are a key piece of Canada’s economic engine. In fact, the Centre for the Study of Living Standards estimates that if we close the education and labour market gaps for Indigenous people in Canada by 2031, Canada’s GDP could gain $36 billion.

Indspire is an Indigenous national charity that invests in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people for the long-term benefit of these individuals, their families and communities, and Canada. With the support of its funding partners, Indspire provides financial awards, delivers programs and shares resources so that First Nations, Inuit, and Métis students will achieve their highest potential.

Indspire provides hundreds of scholarships, bursaries and awards to thousands of Indigenous students every year through its Building Brighter Futures Program. Since 2004, Indspire has provided over $115 million in financial support to more than 37,500 First Nations, Inuit and Métis students. Ninety per cent of students who have received funding have graduated from a post-secondary institution. Fifty per cent of graduates continue toward another post-secondary credential, and most importantly, 50 per cent of employed recipients work in fields that support Indigenous people.

As a society and a country, we have the responsibility to ensure all our students have what they need to follow their dreams and make the most of future opportunities. Not only is this vital to advancing reconciliation, but it will also make our country stronger, more innovative and more inclusive. It will make us all better able to thrive in a changing world and a shifting global economy.
Indspire’s K–12 Institute: Promoting Indigenous Education

RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS
Successful Practices: Showcasing Strategies that Work

Successful Practices include documented research, frameworks, models, and educational strategies that have worked to enhance kindergarten to Grade 12 student success. Indspire evaluates and shares these proven practices on the Indspire website, through webinars and at Indspire’s National Gathering, for the benefit of Indigenous education stakeholders nationwide. Practices are evaluated using seven principles, which were founded in consultation with national Indigenous scholars. The principles honour Indigenous ways of knowing and values.

SUCCESSFUL PRACTICES SPOTLIGHT
Spirit Bear and Children Make History: Spirit Bear Book Learning Guide

Spirit Bear and Children Make History is written by First Nations educators (Dr. Cindy Blackstock and Eddy Robinson) and illustrated by a First Nations artist (Amanda Strong). Produced by a national charitable organization, the Caring Society works to ensure the safety and well-being of First Nations youth and their families.

Spirit Bear and Children Make History was written to engage a younger audience in learning about the child-welfare case, and to demonstrate and affirm the powerful role of young people in the reconciliation movement.

Peer Support: Educator Mentorship

Peer Support is a mentorship and coaching program for educators of Indigenous students. Indspire pairs educators across Canada based on their professional learning goals and provides support online to this learning community through webinars, and other professional development tools.

The top five goals for the 2018–2019 Peer Support program were:
1. Infusing Indigenous ways/teachings/culture into classrooms;
2. Building and increasing knowledge of Indigenous culture;
3. Sharing resources;
4. Classroom management;
5. Lesson planning.

For the 2018–2019 school year, there were 351 active participants in the program.

NURTURING CAPACITY SPOTLIGHT
Seven Oaks School Division, Winnipeg, MB, Researcher: Dr. Niigaan Sinclair

The Ojibwe Bilingual Program at Riverbend Community School is a community-based elementary-level initiative, located in Seven Oaks School Division in Winnipeg, Canada. Opened in September 2016, it is a dual-track program where students receive 50 per cent of their school day instruction in the Ojibwe language and 50 per cent of the day in English. A large percentage of students in this program are children in the child-welfare system and, as a result of attending the school, report experiences of personal and cultural empowerment, feelings of community and finding an identity. The program personnel also develop their own curriculum and train language educators to become teachers. The program is open specifically to students in the Seven Oaks School Division, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, as well as students living throughout the city of Winnipeg.

“Together, my mentee and I inspire each other to learn, share, seek, and develop transformational resources to build capacity for colleagues and students.”

PEER SUPPORT MENTOR, BILLIE-JO GRANT, ST. ALBERT, ALTA.

“I was inspired with new ideas, met new contacts and learned new strategies from my mentee.”

PEER SUPPORT MENTOR, SHELBY MCNISH, WINNIPEG
National Gathering for Indigenous Education

The National Gathering for Indigenous Education is an annual gathering for educators and others who work with Indigenous students to improve educational outcomes.

Attendees share promising practices and collaborate to translate theory into workable strategies. More than 850 educators and others attended a Pre-Gathering workshop on reconciliation and 70 workshops at the sixth annual gathering in Edmonton, from November 7–9, 2018. The next conference will be held in Toronto, November 20–22, 2019.

What 2018 National Gathering attendees had to say:

“The atmosphere was wonderful, inviting, noninvasive. Everyone was genuine and super interested in bettering their school environment. I would love to attend again.”

“My name is Alex Thomas and I am a proud member of Snuneymuxw First Nation in Nanaimo, B.C. I am currently enrolled in my second year of medical school at McMaster University and I am mentor with the Rivers to Success mentorship program. Throughout high-school, my undergraduate degree and now medical school, I have received a tremendous amount of advice and support from mentors and peers, so I am always looking for ways to do the same for others. The opportunities are endless for Indigenous students in Canada, so as a mentor I find great fulfillment in sharing my story and helping others pursue their dreams and goals as well.”

“Indspire’s K–12 Institute: Promoting Indigenous Education

Rivers to Success: Mentoring Indigenous Students

Rivers to Success is a national mentorship program with two streams of mentorship. The post-secondary stream matches Indigenous students with career professionals to assist students transitioning into the workplace or with further education. The second stream of mentorship connects Indigenous high-school students with post-secondary students to encourage successful high-school completions and to support smooth transitions to post-secondary education.

This past year, there were 371 active participants in Rivers to Success from 32 post-secondary institutions across the country. These students were matched with both first-year students who are Indspire-funded recipients from their school and high-school students who are considering attending their institution.

“My name is Alex Thomas and I am a proud member of Snuneymuxw First Nation in Nanaimo, B.C. I am currently enrolled in my second year of medical school at McMaster University and I am mentor with the Rivers to Success mentorship program. Throughout high-school, my undergraduate degree and now medical school, I have received a tremendous amount of advice and support from mentors and peers, so I am always looking for ways to do the same for others. The opportunities are endless for Indigenous students in Canada, so as a mentor I find great fulfillment in sharing my story and helping others pursue their dreams and goals as well.”

ALEX THOMAS, RIVERS TO SUCCESS MENTOR

Rivers to Success Gathering

On February 22, 2019, 60 Rivers participants attended a luncheon in Calgary that took place during Indspire’s Soaring Youth Empowerment Gathering and Indspire Awards. While enjoying lunch, participants were encouraged by post-secondary mentors through words of advice and strategies for success that have guided their journeys.

“The opportunities are endless for Indigenous students in Canada, so as a mentor I find great fulfillment in sharing my story and helping others pursue their dreams and goals as well.”

ALEX THOMAS, RIVERS TO SUCCESS MENTOR

Attending the Rivers to Success Gathering are Jocelyn Plouffe, B.Sc., University of Manitoba (left) with her mentee Brianna Jonnie, a Grade 12 high-school student who also plans to attend university to study science.
**Guiding the Journey: Indigenous Educator Awards**

*Guiding the Journey* recognizes and celebrates outstanding educators for their achievement and innovation in Indigenous education.

These educators work hard to transform Indigenous education across Canada by advocating for updated resources and more cultural teachings in the curriculum; having innovative teaching practices; and helping Indigenous students reach their full potential. Nine educators and one organization were honoured at the National Gathering in Edmonton on November 8, 2018.

**Soaring: Indigenous Youth Empowerment Gathering**

At Soaring, high-school students learn about a myriad of career and post-secondary education options. Students participate in career workshops, learn about financial support, and meet Canada’s top employers.

Held annually, Soaring continues to be widely appreciated by the students, educators, sponsors and trade show vendors.

Surveys completed by student participants provide insight into their thoughts about post-secondary education. The following is a snapshot of what youth shared:

"The way the people speak, it’s like they know what you fear & give advice related to that."

"Cuz it motivates youth to work hard and you tell us that we have potential and that we can make it and be more, and some of us haven’t been told that."

"I believe that these conferences help to show/inspire people to follow their dreams and to know that they will have support and options."

"It is important because it helps not only young students find where they want to go in their future, but it also helps them feel connected to their culture."

**INDIGENOUS EDUCATOR**

**Indigenous Youth**

**EVENTS**

**EVENTS**

"I am overjoyed to be the recipient of your bursary, and I am deeply appreciative of your support ..."

"... Due to your award, I can focus my time at university on schoolwork and community engagement, instead of struggling with finances. I will forever be grateful for that. Thank you for your generosity and support. I covenant to work very hard and eventually give something back to others, both as an architect and as an active member of my community."

"... The amazing contribution that you have given me towards my education adds up to a lot of stress taken off my shoulders. Thank you for making it possible for me to continue my studies."

"The 2017 federal budget allocated $25 million to Indspire’s Building Brighter Futures: Bursaries, Scholarships and Awards program over five years beginning in 2017–2018, and contributions from non-federal sources will be matched by the federal government up to March 31, 2022. In its March 2019 budget, the federal government made an additional investment of $9 million over three years to enable Indspire to support many more Indigenous students to achieve their potential through education."

Indspire provides financial support for Indigenous students across Canada to assist them in completing their post-secondary education. In 2018–2019, Indspire awarded more than $16.3 million through 5,553 financial bursaries, scholarships and awards.

A snapshot of what the students that we support are studying — top 10 fields of studies.

- Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM)
- Business
- Social Science and Humanities
- Education
- Social Work/Counselling
- Nursing
- Indigenous Languages and Studies
- Health
- Law
- Fine Art

The 2017 federal budget allocated $25 million to Indspire’s Building Brighter Futures: Bursaries, Scholarships and Awards program over five years beginning in 2017–2018, and contributions from non-federal sources will be matched by the federal government up to March 31, 2022.

In its March 2019 budget, the federal government made an additional investment of $9 million over three years to enable Indspire to support many more Indigenous students to achieve their potential through education.
The Indspire Awards recognize Indigenous professionals and youth who demonstrate outstanding achievement and serve as invaluable role models for Indigenous youth. Each year, recipients are selected by a national jury of past laureates.

The Indspire Awards were established in 1993 in conjunction with the United Nations’ International Decade of the World’s Indigenous Peoples, and after 25 years, we have honoured 362 outstanding First Nations, Inuit and Métis individuals. These positive role models are a source of inspiration for Indigenous youth.

The 2019 Indspire Awards were held on February 22, 2019, at the Southern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium in Calgary.

### 2019 INDSPIRE AWARDS RECIPIENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Community</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lifetime Achievement</td>
<td>Atuat Akittiq</td>
<td>Aggu, Nunavut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Barbara Todd Hager</td>
<td>St. Paul Des Métis Settlement, Alta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business &amp; Commerce</td>
<td>Ron Derrickson</td>
<td>Westbank First Nation, B.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture, Heritage &amp; Spirituality</td>
<td>Jijuu Mary Snowshoe</td>
<td>Gwich’in Nation, N.W.T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Dr. Vianne Timmons</td>
<td>Mi’kmaq, N.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Dr. Marilyn Cook</td>
<td>Misipawistik Cree Nation, Man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law &amp; Justice</td>
<td>Dianne Corbiere</td>
<td>M’Chegeeng First Nation, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Service</td>
<td>Peter Dinsdale</td>
<td>Curve Lake First Nation, Ont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports</td>
<td>Brigette Lacquette</td>
<td>Mallard, MB &amp; Cote First Nation, Sask.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth — First Nations</td>
<td>Billy-Ray Belcourt</td>
<td>Driftpile Cree Nation, Alta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth — Inuit</td>
<td>Kelly Fraser</td>
<td>Sanikiluaq, Nunavut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth — Métis</td>
<td>James Lavallée</td>
<td>Métis Homeland (St. Vital, St. Boniface, Bissett), Man.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 2019 Indspire Awards were broadcast on CBC TV, radio and online and APTN.
Board of Directors and President & CEO

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David Gabriel Tuccaro (Chair)
Jean Teillet (Vice Chair)
Darrell Beaulieu
Nicole Bourque Bouchier
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Clint Davis
James Dekker
Joseph Dion
Len Flett
Aditya Jha
Fauna Kingdon

HONORARY CHAIR
Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette
C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M.
Governor General of Canada

(Back row L-R) Clint Davis, Michael Dan, David Gabriel Tuccaro (Chair), James Dekker, Paul Tsaparis, Gordon Peeling
(Front row L-R) Hilary Pearson, William (Bill) Shead, Jean Teillet, Donald E. Worne, Roberta L. Jamieson
(President and CEO, Indspire), Yvan Guy Larocque, Fauna Kingdon, Darrell Beaulieu, Joseph Dion
Not pictured: Len Flett, Aditya Jha, Dr. Gerald McMaster

Indspire Staff

FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES (AS AT MARCH 31, 2019)

Office of the CEO
Robert L. Jamieson
President and CEO, Indspire
Executive Producer, Indspire Awards

Julie Monture
Senior Executive Assistant to the President and CEO

Fiona Crean
Chief Operating Officer

Lauren Hollywood
Executive Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer

Chelsea Fennell
Administrative Assistant

Communications & Marketing
Nick Foglia
Vice-President, Communications & Marketing

Amanda Charles
Communications Advisor

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Marketing Co-ordinator

Madison Johns
Communications & Marketing Assistant

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Michelle Bombery
Director, Post-Secondary Education Program

Tammy Martin
Director, K-12 Institute

Trista Bombery
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Suzanne Bradley
Bursary & Scholarship Officer

Mike Hager
Teach for Tomorrow Lead Information Manager

Rachel Hill
Program Coordinator, Peer Support

Valerie Hill
Administrative Support

Hillary Martin
Bursary & Scholarship Support Officer

Kim Radbourne
Rivers to Success Program Coordinator

Terry Ramirez
Nurturing Capacity Coordinator

Finance & Administration
Tom Darnay
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Tabitha McNaughton
Manager, Finance

Arlene Williams
Accounts Receivable & Finance Officer

Corry Williams
Accounting Support Clerk

Shyla Williams
Human Resources, Payroll & Benefits Administrator

Carol Sherry
Finance & Administrative Support

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Director, Government Relations

Leah Akiwenzie
Government Relations Assistant

Jamie Ricci
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To learn more about our impact, visit https://indspire.ca/programs/impact-research/impact/

Financial Statements

Indspire’s financial statements for the year ending March 31, 2019 were audited by Deloitte and can be found here https://indspire.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Indspire-English-Audited-Financial-Statements-FY2019-signed.pdf

RIVERS TO SUCCESS:
MENTORING INDIGENOUS YOUTH

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2019 Soaring: Indigenous Youth Empowerment Gathering

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Ken McCaghty
Drew McIntyre
Margaret McKenzie
Barry McNamara

2019 Soaring: Indigenous Youth Empowerment Gathering

“... My future career goal is to find my place within my community where I can make a positive difference for future generations whether it is in a coordinator capacity or a role in advocacy for my Quw’utsun mustimuhw.”

Bart Melek
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Robbie Pryde
Matthew Rachiele
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Hatch
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AltaLink
Anonymous
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Canadian Press
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Vitera
Wawanesa Mutual Insurance
‘Weeneebayko Area Health Authority
Winnipeg Foundation/Anonymous

“I hope to find employment as a producer, or director of documentaries. I want to help tell the stories of other Indigenous people and help artists of diverse backgrounds make it to the screen …”

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2019 Indspire Awards: Celebrating Indigenous Achievement

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Thank you for your dedication!

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<th>Name</th>
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LIFT and Indspire

LIFT and Indspire have partnered for a three-year agreement at an estimated value of $1M for both in-kind and paid services. LIFT estimated at $155,850 in-kind services to March 31, 2019 to support Indspire’s desire in significantly moving the needle on Indigenous education outcomes.

This would mean that Indspire would be contributing an increased number of Indigenous youth graduating, entering the workforce, and contributing to the economy, and have the tools to measure and report out on their impact.

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