Thank you for believing in Indspire and continuing to champion Indigenous education and support of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis students. Over the past year, we have worked diligently to improve the support for post-secondary students and ensure that more of these students receive the funding they need to achieve their academic and career goals. The Employment Success of recipient graduates had not secured employment work in fields that support Indigenous people.

2018 NATIONAL GATHERING FOR INDIGENOUS EDUCATION
On February 21, 2019, over 800 participants attended the Soaring Indigenous Youth Empowerment Gathering in Calgary, Alberta. Click on the highlights and information for the energy and enthusiasm of the day.

THE 2018 INDSPIRE AWARDS
Indspire is pleased to announce the 2018 Indspire Awards honourees. These awards recognize the outstanding achievements of Indigenous professionals and youth who are shining a light on the progress made towards reconciliation and social and economic success for all Canadians.

The Indspire Awards recognize the exceptional achievements of Indigenous professionals and youth who are leading the way towards reconciliation and social and economic success for all Canadians. This year, the Indspire Awards will celebrate the contributions of honourees who are working towards a better future for all Canadians.
Indspire thanks the following organizations and individuals for their generous support in 2018–2019.

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**Indspire Programs**

**2018 National Gathering for Indigenous Education**

**2019 Soaring: Indigenous Youth Empowerment Gathering**

**Building Brighter Futures (BBF) Supporters $1,000+ and Other Donors to BBF**

**Apprenticeship, Skilled Trades and Technology Bursaries**

**2019 Indspire Awards: Celebrating Indigenous Achievement**

**Annual Donors and Supporters (Donations made between April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019)**

**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.

Enriching Canada through Indigenous education and by inspiring achievement.
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.
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.
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 Blockstock 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: Documenting Community Success

Indspire supports communities to document and evaluate their successful practices. The community-led process is supported by an Indigenous researcher, who works with the community from identifying what data to collect to completion of the evaluation.

NUPTURING CAPACITY SPOTLIGHT

Sevens 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.

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 Snuuomyxw 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 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.”

“The entire gathering was so efficient and also friendly. There were such a variety of workshops to choose from, and all that I attended were informative, Indigenous and incredible. I really appreciated the many different events available, including the opening event, lunch-time events, awards and the film screening. It was so incredibly inspiring to meet so many Indigenous role models and people from all walks of life who are passionate about moving education forward in the process of reconciliation.”
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.

2019 Guiding the Journey: Indigenous Educator Award Recipients
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
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.

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.

VIDEO MESSAGES OF THANKS FROM BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES AWARD RECIPIENTS

"... 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.

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

"... 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."

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

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

"... 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.

"... My future career goal is to find my place within my community where I can make a positive difference to future generations whether it is in a coordinator capacity or a role in advocacy for my Quw’utsun mustimuhw."
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 Akittirq</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. Marlyn Cook</td>
<td>Misipawistik Cree Nation, Man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law &amp; Justice</td>
<td>Dianne Corbiere</td>
<td>M’Cheheeng 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>Driftstone 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>Méts Homelands (St. Vital, St. Boniface, Bissett), Man.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 2019 Indspire Awards were broadcast on CBC TV, radio and online and APTN.
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Yancy Craig
Director, Government Relations

Leah Akiwenzie
Government Relations Assistant

(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. Worme, 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

RETURN TO HOMEPAGE
Indspire thanks the following organizations and individuals for their generous support in 2018–2019.

(ALL) SPONSORS & PARTNERS ($100K+)

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
INDSPIRE’S K–12 INSTITUTE

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

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RETURN TO HOMEPAGE
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Elizabeth Freeland Compassion Fund
Morris & Rosalind Goodman
Family Foundation
Goods & Services Branding
The Sibylla Hesse Foundation
Hewitt Foundation
Horgarth Family Foundation
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Humber Valley United Church
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White Buffalo
Women of Halton Action Movement
WSP Canada

“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 …”

“With awards such as this I feel very proud of my accomplishments and feel that I can continue to strive for academic success without the additional stress of financial burden …”
APPRENTICESHIP, SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY BURSARIES

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