Building Brighter Futures:
Impact Story Map

Indspire
Indigenous education, Canada's future. | L'éducation des autochtones. L'avenir du Canada.

Building a Better Futures for Indigenous Students: A One-Page Narrative

What Student Participants had to Say About Indspire

Source: 2024-2025 BBF Evaluation findings

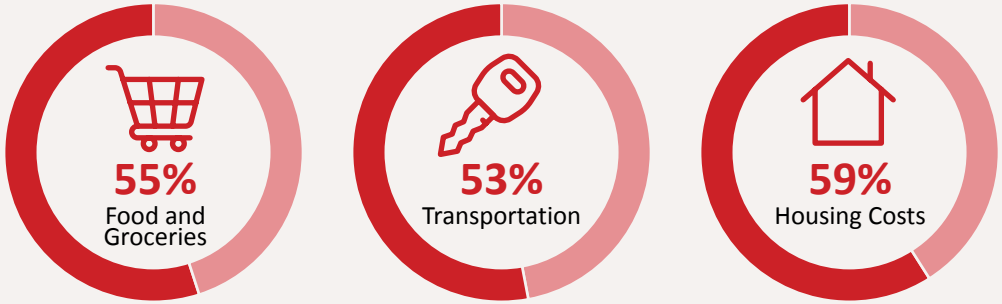
1. Funding Sources

Most students rely on a stack of sources, with BBF as the foundation.

- **94%** Indspire BBF as Primary Funding Source
- **53%** Other Scholarships and Bursaries
- **49%** Band or Treaty Funding
- **~50%** Multi-Year BBF

2. Financial Security

BBF covers the essentials, but only one in four feel truly confident. Confidence is the lagging Indicator.



ONLY 23% **"Always"** or **"Often"** Feel Confident Managing Financial Matters

Year-Over-Year Change (Comparing 2023-2024 to 2024-2025)

- Compared to last year, respondents' reported **ability to pay** for rent, food, and transportation **increased by 2 – 6%**
- Overall **confidence** in managing financial matters **increased by 3%.**

3. Two Reinforcing Outcomes

What BBF funding enables.

Academic

Includes students indicating “Strongly Agree” or “Agree”.

- **99%** Bursary Enabled Ability to Complete Program
- **97%** Focus on Studies
- **94%** Employment in Field of Study
- **88%** “A” or “B” Grade Average
- **77%** Working Towards Completion

Cultural and Community

Includes students indicating “Always” or “Often”.

- **97%** Strengthened Sense of Belonging
- **90%** Maintained Familial and Cultural Connections

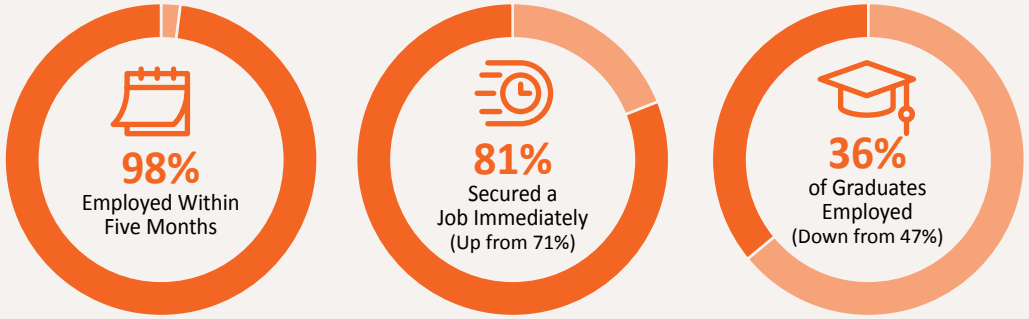
The Pattern

Financial stability frees attention. Students not worrying about rent and groceries can show up for studies and stay rooted in family and community. Academic success and cultural belonging move together—neither is sacrificed for the other.

The 94% Field-Aligned and 88% Community-Impact Figures Hint at the Next Phase: What Happens After Graduation

4. Positive Impact on Indigenous Communities

Fewer placed, but those placed move faster.



Employment and Community Impact

Compared to fiscal year 2023-2024.

- **79%** Non-Indigenous Employers — **21%** Indigenous
- **88%** Positive Impact on Indigenous Communities

Reading the Tension

The job market for Indigenous graduates has tightened—fewer landing roles overall. But for those who land, the path is faster, suggesting BBF graduates are well prepared and credible candidates once a door opens. The bottleneck is on the demand side, not on graduate readiness.

Implication: Broaden Employment Opportunities

The next lever is partnerships and pipelines, not student preparation.

Program Legacy: The Throughline

1. Funding stabilizes essentials.
2. Stability frees focus.
3. Focus enables completion and cultural belonging.
4. Graduates land in field-aligned roles that lift Indigenous communities.

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