



Reimagine the North

February 25-27, 2025
Thompson Regional Community Centre

PRESENTED BY



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Federated Co-operatives Limited | Western Nations

CONFERENCE PROGRAM





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Winnipeg, MB, R2M 3W8



Reimagine the North

Tuesday February 25, 2025

Thompson Regional Community Centre

9:30am – 10:30am

REGISTRATION & COFFEE

10:30am – 11:15am

CONFERENCE OPENING

Emcee - *Bruce Krentz*
Red Cree Singers - *Drum Song*
Opening Prayer - *Elder Martha Jonasson & Elder John Donovan*
Greetings on behalf of *Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation*
Grand Chief Garrison Settee - *Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak*
Sandra Trottier - *Manitoba Métis Federation*
Deputy Minister Jan Forster - *Province of Manitoba*
Mayor Colleen Smook - *City of Thompson*
Pam Marsden - *Chair, Governing Council – University College of the North*

11:15am-12:00pm

BLUEPRINT TO THE FUTURE

Eric Termuende - *Co-Founder of NoW of Work*

12:00pm-12:30pm

WORK IN MANITOBA JOB PORTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WINNIPEG

Ashley Dunlop - *Director of Talent & Workforce Development*
Alberto Velasco-Acosta - *VP International*

12:30pm-1:30pm

BLESSING & LUNCH | Lunch Sponsor: Federated Co-operatives Limited | Western Nations

Elder Gail Gossfeld-McDonald

1:30pm-2:00pm

NORTHERN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Christian Sinclair

2:00pm – 3:00pm

PANEL DISCUSSION – SKILLS AND THE ECONOMY

Moderator: John Morris - *Co-Director, Mining Association of Manitoba*
Corinne Gusnoski - *New Media Manitoba, Senior Manager Business Development*
Meghan Lavallee - *Apprenticeship Manitoba, Executive Director*
Glenn Laycock - *Northern Manitoba Sector Council, Executive Director*
Bram Strain - *Business Council of Manitoba, President & CEO*
Jack Winram - *Manitoba Environmental Industries Association, Executive Director*

3:00pm – 3:30pm

BREAK

3:30pm – 4:00pm

FEDERATED CO-OPERATIVES LIMITED

Todd Gursky - *Director, External Relations*

4:00pm – 4:45pm

IMAGINING A NEW NORTH: How Can Technology, New Ideas And Rediscovered Confidence Revitalize Northern Manitoba?

Dr. Ken Coates - *Director and Senior Fellow, Macdonald-Laurier Institute*

4:45pm – 5:00pm

DAILY CLOSING

Elder Mabel Bignell

5:00pm – 6:30pm

NETWORKING RECEPTION

SUBJECT TO CHANGE





Reimagine the North

Wednesday February 26, 2025

Thompson Regional Community Centre

8:00am – 8:45am

NETWORKING & BREAKFAST

8:45am – 9:00am

DAILY OPENING

Elder Stella Neff

9:00am – 10:30am

DEPUTY MINISTERS AND LEADERS PANEL: EMPOWERING NORTHERN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES: Building A Sustainable Workforce And Economic Opportunities

Moderator: Kim Laycock - *VP Finance & Administration, UCN*

Jan Forster - *DM, Advanced Education and Training*

Michael Jack - *DM, Business, Mining, Trades and Job Creation*

Paul Sheridan - *Senior Policy Analyst, Natural Resources and Indigenous Futures*

Doug Lauvstad - *President and Vice Chancellor, UCN*

10:30am – 11:15am

BREAK

11:15am-12:00pm

ROOTED IN LISTENING, GROWING THROUGH WIL: Building Manitoba's Workforce For Tomorrow

Janet Westbury-Swain - *Regional Associate Director, Central Canada - CEWIL CANADA*

12:00pm – 1:00pm

IMAGINING A NEW NORTH: Lessons from Sápmi and Northern Norway

Sven-Roald Nystø – *Retired Special Adviser*

1:00pm-2:00pm

DAILY CLOSING & LUNCH

Elder Martha Spence

2:00pm – 5:00pm

SITE TOURS

City Of Thompson

R.D.Parker Collegiate | UCN Campus

5:30pm – 6:30pm

NETWORKING RECEPTION

6:30pm – 9:30pm

NETWORKING DINE-AROUND DINNER

Emcee - Chuck Davidson - *President & CEO, Manitoba Chambers of Commerce*

Blessing - *Elder Mabel Bignell*

Keynote: Hon. Renée Cable - *Minister of Advanced Education and Training*

SUBJECT TO CHANGE





Reimagine the North

Thursday February 27, 2025

Province of Manitoba - Mining Day

Thompson Regional Community Centre

8:00am – 8:45am

NETWORKING & BREAKFAST

8:45am – 9:00am

DAILY OPENING

Blessing – *Elder Tommy Weenusk*

Hon. Jamie Moses - *Minister of Business, Mining, Trades and Job Creation*

9:00am – 10:15am

FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP PANEL

Economic Reconciliation: Challenges and Opportunities

Moderator: Linda Murphy, P. Geo - *Apiichitaa Inc.*

10:15am – 11:00am

BREAK

11:00am – 12:15pm

MINISTERS AND MAYORS PANEL

Building Tomorrow: Workforce Development and Collaboration in Manitoba's Northern Mineral Sector

Moderator: Doug Lauvstad - *President and Vice Chancellor, UCN*

Hon. Renée Cable - *Minister of Advanced Education and Training*

Hon. Jamie Moses - *Minister of Business, Mining, Trades and Job Creation*

Mayor Colleen Smook - *City of Thompson*

Mayor Andre Murphy - *Town of The Pas*

12:15pm – 1:30pm

BLESSING & LUNCH

Elder Tim Mendel

1:30pm – 2:15pm

THE MANITOBA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY and THE MINERAL OCCURRENCE DATABASE UPDATED

Dr. Tafa Kennedy - *Director, Manitoba Geological Survey*

Marc Rinne - *Precambrian Geologist, Manitoba Geological Survey*

2:15pm – 3:00pm

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS TOWARD STRONGER COMMUNITIES: Indigenous Engagement, Workforce Development, and the Critical Minerals Industry

Jamie Dumont - *Principal/Co-Owner, Chadwick Consulting Ltd.*

3:00pm—3:45pm

ALAMOS GOLD'S LYNN LAKE PROJECT

Paul Levesque - *General Manager, Lynn Lake Mine*

3:45pm – 4:00pm

CONFERENCE CLOSING

Elder John Donovan

SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Developing Manitoba's Workforce for a Sustainable Future.



SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN ENVIRONMENTAL, ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCE SECTORS

MEIA PROGRAMMING IS SUPPORTED BY FUNDING PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE MANITOBA GOVERNMENT.

Visit www.meia.mb.ca to learn more



Communities Economic Development Fund (CEDF) is a Manitoba Crown Corporation that has operated in Northern Manitoba since 1973.

Through leadership in community building, creating connections and business development, we unleash the economic power of Northern Manitoba.

SIX AREAS OF FOCUS



NORTHERN MINERAL AND OTHER NATURAL RESOURCE POTENTIAL



INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS



HOUSING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



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