



**FIRST NATIONS OF QUEBEC AND LABRADOR ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**FNQBN  
QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

**JULY 2011**

# QUARTERLY ACTIVITY REPORT

## FNQBN

### **Meetings in Lac Simon and Kitcisakik (July 5 and 6 2011)**

The objectives of these meetings were as follows:

- To update the community's profile;
- To obtain the CEDO's profile;
- To obtain a photograph of the CEDO;
- To keep the CEDOs informed about the services offered by the FNQLEDC;
- To talk about the First Nations of Quebec Business Network.

In Lac Simon, we met with Mr. William Cheezo who presented us with this year's economic development objectives, which consisted in opening a restaurant and a convenience store to serve the community.

### **Community Projects**

Lac Simon is working on various projects to develop the economy of the community, including:

- a business incubator (the action plan is already in place);
- a project for a grocery and hardware store which will be funded by the SAA and AADNC;
- a draft « framework agreement ». This is a project that is meant to gather additional funding which the community wants to manage for individual, community or family-based projects;
- a gas station project, but the city of Val-d'Or is still not prepared to hand over the land for the construction of the gas station. Moreover, Lac Simon would like to expand its territory, but that will depend on Council which is currently in negotiations with the government;
- a community hall project which would be located besides the Cicip grocery store.

In Kitcisakik, we met with Mr. Denis Lefebvre who mentioned that the *Société de développement économique de Kitcisakik* wants to create permanent and sustainable employment so that people can continue to live on the territory.

### **The Community Projects**

- Actually, the community owns a small sawmill which was given by an Ontario company, but it is working on a project to acquire a larger one in order to

- produce more wood for resale. Presently, the community cuts wood to provide for the needs of community members;
- The community has undertaken constructing and renovating houses. About 15 people are currently employed in that field of work;
  - The other project which is close to their heart is cabinetry and cupboard manufacturing. In order to achieve this goal, they want to train youths who are able to do woodwork;
  - The community is also considering a reforestation and lumber harvesting project.

We presented the FNQLEDC whose mission is to support CEDO's skills development, and we gave a presentation on the various services provided by the Commission (training, available programs, the activities we organize, the ongoing projects, etc.)

Also, we talked about the First Nations of Quebec Business Network which can assist future entrepreneurs. We explained the advantages of being engaged in the network and all the opportunities offered (visibility, partnerships, events, etc.)<sup>1</sup>.

### **Meeting with "Conférences pour La Différence"**

« *Conférences pour La Différence* » is a company specialized in the designing of customized training based on urgencies, needs, priorities and on the organizations' objectives. We met with them to find out if the trainings they offer respond to our needs.

### **Messages for Aboriginal people in the Strategy for Entrepreneurship**

Subsequent to the consultation held in aboriginal communities, and in the context of activities in the Strategy for Entrepreneurship, the MDEIE wishes to illustrate the strategy on the ministry's website with the aid of a few examples of Aboriginal community entrepreneurs having succeeded.

We have chosen three businesses: Gestion Rousselot, Groupe ADL and Éconobois. These are flourishing enterprises which distinguish themselves by their way of doing things. These messages will be placed on the ministry's website in the context of the Strategy for Entrepreneurship.

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to the Lac Simon and Kitcisakik meeting report