



BUILDING FIRST NATIONS–MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS



CEDI



Photos: First Nations - Municipal CEDI



Photo: Slave Lake Regional Tri-Council

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**Muster your courage; take that leap of faith.
If we can pool our resources and our knowledge,
we can come up with some unique solutions that
we wouldn't have been able to come up with on
our own and that alone is well worth it.**

*Chief Roland Twinn,
Sawridge First Nation, AB*

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WHAT IS JOINT FIRST NATIONS–MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?

First Nations and municipalities across the country share many common hopes and challenges. Joint First Nations–Municipal Community Economic Development (CED) brings together neighbouring communities to develop and implement a **shared vision** for their economic future.

These innovative partnerships promote **reconciliation**, **collaboration** and the **recognition of common values and goals**. They help coordinate local action to address regional issues and build a stronger, more sustainable economy for all.

THE BENEFITS OF JOINT FIRST NATIONS–MUNICIPAL CED INCLUDE:

- ☑ **A stronger, united voice** for engaging with businesses and other orders of government.
- ☑ **Increased ability to access funding** from other orders of government.
- ☑ **Cost savings** and more efficient program delivery.
- ☑ **More opportunities for local business development and job creation.**
- ☑ **Ability to leverage** the unique financial, human and physical **resources** of each partner.
- ☑ **Coordinated planning efforts** to improve land use, land management and environmental/resource protection.



TOOLKIT HIGHLIGHTS

The Stronger Together Toolkit is a free, step-by-step resource that provides all the information and tools you will need to initiate an effective First Nations–Municipal Community Economic Development partnership.

The toolkit was produced by the First Nations–Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative (CEDI), a pilot program jointly delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Cando.

A. Connect

Meet, build a stronger relationship and formally commit to the joint CED process

2–3 months

B. Vision

Create a shared vision for the relationship and formally commit to it through a relationship agreement

2–4 months

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My experience is it takes time, patience and resilience to build successful partnerships; as municipalities we have a lot to offer and more to receive.

*Vicki Blanchard, Economic Development Manager,
Municipality of Sioux Lookout, ON*

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It includes:

- Background information and answers to frequently asked questions.
- A detailed, step-by-step guide to initiating and managing a joint First Nations–Municipal CED process.
- Handouts, templates, workshop agendas and other tools for implementing projects in your own community.
- Detailed case studies on how different communities have used the joint First Nations–Municipal CED process to improve the quality of life for their citizens.
- A guide to building strong First Nations–municipal relationships.

C. Decide

Decide on joint CED initiatives, develop work plans and set up a governance structure to manage implementation

3–6 months

D. Act

Work together to implement the work plans, strengthen the partnership and build a stronger regional economy

12–24 months

JOIN US

Download the Stronger Together Toolkit
today at: fcm.ca/CEDToolkit

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: SUCCESS STORIES



- ▶ In Alberta, Sawridge First Nation, the Town of Slave Lake and the Municipal District of Lesser Slave River worked together to develop a joint economic development strategy, a regional growth strategy and a joint communications policy and are working on a regional tourism strategy that includes a focus on First Nations tourism.

In Ontario, Lac Seul First Nation, Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug and the Municipality of Sioux Lookout are undertaking a feasibility study for a regional food distribution centre to serve northern communities and developing a joint labour market group to address planning for labour needs in the region.



- ▶ In Quebec, Eagle Village First Nation, the Town of Témiscaming and the Municipality of Kipawa are developing a joint regional tourism strategy.

GET STARTED TODAY

1

Download the **Stronger Together Toolkit** from www.edo.ca/downloads/cedi-toolkit-3.pdf or www.fcm.ca/CEDItoolkit.

2

See **“Get Ready”** under **Chapter 3** of the Stronger Together Toolkit for tips on how to get joint First Nation-municipal collaboration started in your own region.

3

Share this **brochure** with your colleagues and counterparts in neighbouring First Nations and municipalities.

4

Discuss the **benefits and opportunities** of joint First Nations–Municipal Community Economic Development at an upcoming council or staff meeting.

5

Find **more information** about the First Nations–Municipal Community Economic Development Initiative at www.edo.ca/CEDI or www.fcm.ca/CEDI.

6

Join our **community of practice** on the First Nations–Municipal Collaboration Network Facebook Group to share questions, resources, news, ideas and more!

7

Stay **connected** and sign up to the CEDI newsletter and get updates on current and future program initiatives. <https://fcm.ca/en/resources/cedi/first-nations-municipal-newsletter>

About Cando and FCM

The CEDI program and the Stronger Together Toolkit are the result of the effective partnership between Cando and FCM and the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through Indigenous Services Canada (ISC).

Cando

Cando is a national, membership-based, non-profit Indigenous organization involved in Indigenous community economic development. Cando strengthens Indigenous economies by providing training, certification and networking opportunities for economic development officers (EDOs) working in Indigenous communities.

www.edo.ca

FCM

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities is the national voice of local government. FCM brings together nearly 2,000 municipalities of all sizes, representing more than 90 percent of Canadians living in every province and territory. That gives us unparalleled capacity to convene Canada’s local order of government, and to help design and implement municipal-federal initiatives that improve the lives of Canadians.

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