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First Nations Economic Forum invites attendees to shape priorities and grow First Nations' economies

For Immediate Release

OTTAWA (March 27, 2024) – A consortium of national indigenous organizations (NIO's) is hosting the First Nations Economic Forum at the Delta Hotel in Winnipeg, MB on May 13-14, 2024, to develop an economic framework and identify what initiatives to prioritize to advance First Nations economies and generate more prosperity.

Currently, First Nations governments, economic development officers, entrepreneurs and communities looking to pursue economic prosperity must navigate a seemingly complex system of supports. The Forum offers an opportunity to create a strong, unified voice in advocating for economic development supports for First Nations with the federal government.

The consortium of NIOs organizing the Forum are:

- First Nations Financial Management Board (FMB)
- National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Associations (NACCA)
- First Nations Finance Authority (FNFA)
- Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO)
- First Nations Tax Commission (FNTC)
- Aboriginal Finance Officers Association (AFOA)
- National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association (NALMA)
- Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB)
- National Aboriginal Trust Officers Association (NATOA)
- First Nations Infrastructure Institute (FNII)
- First Nations Major Projects Coalition (FNMPC)

Throughout the week of March 18-22, organizations will notify their memberships of the forum and invite their participation. This gathering of Chiefs, Councillors, economic development officers, land managers, entrepreneurs and other First Nation representatives will discuss a proposed economic framework and prioritize potential initiatives.

The consortium will also ask participants if they support the creation of an Economic Council to bring together Indigenous groups for comprehensive and wide-ranging discussions on economic issues of importance to rights-holders in a more cohesive and unified way. This council could become a centre of excellence in both research and policy development on economic issues, as well as a source for professional advice to First Nations.

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