REzLAND
FIRST NATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE, LAND DEVELOPMENT & URBAN PLANNING CONFERENCE
JUNE 16TH – 18TH, 2015 NK’MIP RESORT, OSOYOOS BC

AGENDA

JOIN US AT THE OSOYOOS INDIAN BAND’S SPECTACULAR NK’MIP RESORT FOR AN INFORMATIVE AND INNOVATIVE CONFERENCE FOCUSING ON ALL TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE, URBAN PLANNING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ON RESERVATION LAND IN CANADA.

“LAND AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE”

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ON THE CONFERENCE GO TO WWW.2GGROUP.CA
WELCOME
TO THE FIRST NATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE, LAND DEVELOPMENT & URBAN PLANNING CONFERENCE

The REZLAND Conference is unique in design with a focus on creating a comfortable and supportive venue for technical discussion and collaboration between Aboriginal and Private Sector business groups. The 12 unique plenary sessions will cover all aspects of land development and community infrastructure and also showcase Best Practices in commercial and residential development on-reserve.

Space is limited to 160 Delegates and 10 Exhibitors.

As your conference organizer my role is to ensure you get the utmost value from your time with us. Our staff will be on-site from June 15th – 19th and I can be reached at any time by calling Toll Free 866 284-8322, Texting 250 878-9908 or emailing geoff@2ggroup.ca

We have assembled a fantastic line-up of presenters for Rezland 2015. Make sure you use all of the networking breaks to your advantage and be sure to bring plenty of business cards along with you.

Our hotel partner – Spirit Ridge - will be happy to assist you with your accommodation, just see the concierge at the front desks if you have any questions.

Thank you for registering and we look forward to hosting you at the Osoyoos Indian Band's spectacular NK'MIP Resort in June.

Geoff Greenwell
CEO, 2G Group
AGENDA

JUNE 16TH
WELCOME RECEPTION AND EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

6:00-8:00PM
Delegate Registration and Welcome Reception hosted by 2G Group at NK’MIP Cellars Winery

JUNE 17TH
CONFERENCE DAY 1 - JUNE 17TH

7:30-8:30AM
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST, DELEGATE REGISTRATION AND TRADESHOW OPENS
Sponsored by: 2G Group

8:30-9:00AM
OPENING PRAYER AND WELCOME ADDRESS FROM:
Chief Clarence Louie, CEO Osoyoos Indian Band

Chief Clarence Louie
CEO, Osoyoos Indian Band
SESSION 1 – LAND DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS – This presentation will discuss planning and engineering factors to be considered in evaluating development potentials and provide an overview of infrastructure servicing opportunities. We will discuss the steps to development from identifying community vision to land use planning, infrastructure construction as well as operation and maintenance.

Elizabeth Lau, P.Eng.
Senior Civil Engineer
Kerr Wood Leidal Engineering

Catherine Simpson, MCIP, RPP
Strategic Asset Management
Kerr Wood Leidal Engineering

10:00 -10:30AM  NUTRITION, NETWORKING BREAK AND TRADESHOW VISIT
Sponsored by: Aboriginal Marketplace Magazine

10:30 -11:15AM  SESSION 2 – LEGAL ASPECTS OF LAND DEVELOPMENT
This presentation will cover 3 topics:

1. Land Regimes – an overview of the different land regimes applicable to real estate development on reserve;

2. Leases – an overview of the head lease and sublease structure for development, and key provisions; and


Andrea East
Pushor Mitchell LLP
SESSION 3 – HOW TO ENSURE YOUR COMMUNITY HAS SAFE DRINKING WATER - This presentation will outline the key planning and operational steps needed to ensure your community has safe drinking water as well as highlighting some Best Practices case studies.

Kevin L. Martin                             Justin Gee, P.Eng MCIP RPP
President                             Vice President
First Nations Engineering Services Ltd.       First Nations Engineering Services LTD

BUFFET LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK –
Enjoy the sumptuous fare from the Okanagan Valley

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON SPEECH - Chief Clarence Louie, CEO Osoyoos Indian Band

Chief Clarence Louie
CEO, Osoyoos Indian Band

SESSION 4 – URBAN RESERVE DEVELOPMENTS
- This presentation discusses the marketing and operational stages of a project and the process including research on “highest and best use of the lands”, tenant profiling, securing letters of intent, property asset management, financial modelling and arranging for bank financing. It will also provide practical examples of how to apply these principles to projects.
that can be undertaken by a First Nations Community in an easy step by step phased approach.

Tony Mammon P.Eng
Senior Advisor, Major Projects
ATCO Sustainable Communities Inc

2:15-3:00PM

NUTRITION, NETWORKING BREAK AND TRADESHOW VISIT

3:00 - 3:45PM

SESSION 5 – COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE
– This presentation will explain how to gain a better understanding of the infrastructure inventory in your community, how it contributes to community services and how to develop long-term financial projections for their operations, maintenance and renewal.

Martin Gordon
Senior Vice President
Opus International Consultants (Canada) Limited

3:45 - 4:30PM

SESSION 6 – STEPPING OUT FROM UNDER THE INDIAN ACT
– This presentation will overview the process required and support available for First Nations who wish to develop their own Land Use Codes under the framework agreement on First Nations Land

Daniel Millette, PhD, RPA, RPP, MCIP
HOSPITALITY EVENT AT THE NK’MIP DESERT CENTRE WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FROM AWARD WINNING ARTIST INEZ JASPER – NETWORK WITH OTHER DELEGATES, ENJOY THE FOOD AND FANTASTIC SOUND OF INEZ JASPER

check out Inez online ~ [inezjasper.com](http://inezjasper.com)

**JUNE 18th**

**8:00 - 9:00AM**

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND TRADESHOW OPENS

**9:00 - 10:00AM**

SESSION 7 – RESORT AND CULTURAL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT ON-RESERVE – THE NK’MIP RESORT STORY – This presentation will discuss the potential for the development of Resort/Hotel and Cultural Tourism attractions on Reserve lands and the steps to take to evaluate the potential of your land.

Glen Harris  
President  
GGC Development Inc.

Brenda Baptiste  
Cultural Tourism Consultant,  
Aboriginal Strategy Group LLP

**10:00-10:30AM**

NUTRITION, NETWORKING BREAK AND TRADESHOW VISIT

Inez Jasper

check out Inez online ~ [inezjasper.com](http://inezjasper.com)
10:30 - NOON

SESSION 8 – FINANCING LAND DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

– This session will give delegates a comprehensive knowledge of the options available to raise both loan and investment capital for major projects.

Neil Philcox                           Frank Busch
Co-Founder                           Marketing Manager
Blended Capital Group     First Nations Finance Authority

12:00-1:00PM

BUFFET LUNCH AND NETWORKING BREAK –
Enjoy more of the sumptuous fare of the Okanagan Valley

1:00 – 1:45PM

SESSION 9 – CAMPGROUND AND RV PARK DEVELOPMENT

– This session will cover all phases of developing a Campground & RV Park from planning to final completion, marketing and operation.

Chris Bower, President
Bower Consulting Group

1:45 - 2:30PM

SESSION 10 – BEST PRACTICES OF SHOPPING MALL DEVELOPMENT

– This presentation will tell the story of the development of Eagle Landing, a mixed use shopping mall development on Squiala First Nation lands.

Chief David Jimmie, Squiala First Nation
2:30-3:00PM

NUTRITION, NETWORKING BREAK AND TRADESHOW VISIT

3:00 – 3:45PM

SESSION 11 – BEST PRACTICES OF ON-RESERVE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT – This presentation will showcase some successful residential on-reserve housing developments and tell the stories of how they originated, were planned, were financed and successfully built.

Geoff Greenwell
Vice-President,
Aboriginal Strategy Group LLP

3:45 – 4:30PM

SESSION 12 – BEST PRACTICES OF LAND USE PLANNING – This presentation will look at Land Use Planning from an on and off reserve perspective. On reserve land use planning is critical in developing on reserve economic opportunities, so is off reserve planning. Developing a seamless approach to on and off reserve land use planning will increase opportunities to economically develop both on and off reserve lands. An important example is water. Water is of central concern for development planning on reserve, however off reserve planning can be used to preserve and protect source water quantity and quality needed for growth. Another example is tourism planning, on reserve cultural tourism often incorporates the off reserve lands as a backdrop to cultural tourism events, such as tours and vistas. Off reserve land use plans can support what is needed for First Nations tourism by delegating lands as important to cultural tourism. This presentation will share a set of land use planning considerations that should be thought of to ensure complimentary on and off reserve planning and look at examples of off reserve and on reserve land use plan integration.

Gwen Bridge, M.Sc.
Gwen Bridge Consulting

6PM – MIDNIGHT

ALL DELEGATE BANQUET DINNER WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FROM GEORGE LEACH
JUNE 19TH

DAY 3 - JUNE - 19TH

RELAXATION AND NETWORKING DAY

10 - NOON

(Optional) Charity Golf Tournament at Sonora Dunes Executive Golf Course

1:00 – 4:00PM

(Optional) Wine Tour – Visit some of the Okanagan’s Finest Wineries
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES
IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

GEOFF GREENWELL - Chief Executive Officer, 2G Group

Geoff Greenwell B.Ed (Hons), MBA, CEO of 2G Group has been working globally as a facilitator and strategic planner for over 25 years. Geoff came to Canada in 1992 and since that time has worked extensively for Governments, Aboriginal Groups, NGO’s and Private Sector organizations as a business advisor, negotiator and facilitator. He was also a two-term municipal councillor in the District of Lake Country (British Columbia) and chaired the district’s affordable housing and economic development committees from 2006 - 2012. Prior to coming to Canada Geoff worked for twelve years in the Middle East, Africa, South East Asia and South America as a senior negotiator for multinational energy companies.

Geoff formed 2G Group in 2001 and works collaboratively with a team of expert associates who offer a variety of services to government, aboriginal and corporate clients. The team’s areas of expertise include: facilitation, strategic planning, corporate visioning, marketing, business planning, events management, negotiating and mediation, project management, raising financing and land use planning.

Geoff has accomplished many unique things in his life and is renowned as a true business visionary for his record of success with projects he has led. Geoff specializes in taking projects “from the drawing board” and bringing them to life. His development of Aboriginal Marketplace magazine and the NABOC conference series are ongoing examples of unique ideas that he has turned into successful business ventures. He is the consummate networker always looking to connect people and ideas, and his enthusiasm for creating equitable business partnerships between Aboriginal and private sector business groups rubs off on everyone who meets him.

Through the 2G Group, Geoff has helped structure numerous joint ventures and partnerships between private sector and Aboriginal groups since inception in 2001. The 2G Group offers its services globally and some recent notable clients include: Governments of New Brunswick, NWT and Nunavut, Northern Savings and Credit Union, Jardine Lloyd Thompson, Lloyd & Partners (UK) Limited, Atla Energy Group, Alterna Energy, Syntaris Power, Nigaani Air of Ontario, Okanagan Nation Alliance, Osoyoos Indian Band, Metlakatla First Nation, Scuka Enterprises, Aboriginal Business Quest, Niche Media Group and Stuart Olson Dominion Construction. Geoff and the entire 2G team have assisted these clients and many others with their respective goals and helped them make informed decisions and achieve critical milestones within their organizations.

CHIEF CLARENCE LOUIE - Prince Rupert

Chief Louie’s efforts have been widely recognized in Canada and the United States. In 1999, he received the Aboriginal Business Leader Award from All Nations Trust and Development Corporation. In 2000, the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO) named Chief Louie the “Economic Developer of the Year”. In the same year, Clarence was chosen to join the Governor General of Canada in the 2000 leadership tour. In 2001, Chief Louie was appointed to the Aboriginal Business Canada Board and most recently was appointed Chairperson of this Board. In 2002, Aboriginal Tourism B.C. awarded Chief Louie the “Inspirational Leadership Award” MacLean’s Magazine listed Chief Clarence Louie as one of the “Top 50 Canadians to Watch” in their January 2003 issue. More recognition came in 2003 as the U.S. Department of State selected Clarence as 1 of 6 First Nation representatives to participate in a 2-week tour of successful American Indian tribes. In April 2004, the National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation presented Clarence with the award for “Business and Community Development”. The National Aboriginal Achievement Awards represent the highest honor the Aboriginal Community bestows upon its own achievers. In June 2006, Chief Louie was presented with the Order of British Columbia, which is the province’s highest honor for outstanding achievement.
ELIZABETH LAU - Lau, P.Eng. Senior Civil Engineer, Kerr Wood Leidal Engineering

Elizabeth Lau is a Senior Civil Engineer with over 25 years of experience in the design and delivery of municipal infrastructure projects. She joined Kerr Wood Leidal Associates (KWL) in 2014. Her past work experience included engineering consulting, construction contracting in Central America and Yukon, as well as project engineer with City of Whitehorse and BC Ministry of Transportation and Highways. Her expertise lies in planning, detailed design and construction implementation of infrastructure improvements and community services. For the past 15 years, Elizabeth has worked closely with a number of First Nations on Vancouver Island providing engineering and planning services. She has led planning teams on Land Use and Comprehensive Community planning projects. She has been involved in facilitation of community consultation and stakeholder engagement. She works closely with AANDC and First Nations in developing strategic direction for community improvement, including solid waste management planning, infrastructure upgrading and community buildings. Elizabeth’s strengths lie in her broad knowledge of municipal engineering and her ability as a consensus builder and facilitator.

CATHERINE SIMPSON - MCIP, RPP, Strategic Asset Management
Kerr Wood Leidal Engineering

Catherine is a planner with expertise in infrastructure management and community finance, ranging from master planning to detailed financial modelling. She also specializes in land use and policy planning, water resource planning, and community enhancement. Catherine joined Kerr Wood Leidal Associates Ltd. (KWL) in the spring of 2014. Previous to KWL, she worked as a project manager and consultant with Urban Systems Ltd. and as a community development planning assistant with the City of Windsor. All of Catherine’s work involves some form of facilitation or stakeholder engagement, and she is regularly asked by clients to develop new learning sessions and tools. She has presented at national conferences and province-wide conferences on planning, infrastructure management and capacity building. Since 2011, she has prepared and delivered hands-on asset management workshops to over 70 communities across Western Canada. She recently developed and led a series of innovative infrastructure pilot projects with scopes spanning water, sanitary sewer, and stormwater systems, in addition to road and community building infrastructure. She works regularly with senior management teams and Councils to ensure results-driven solutions. Catherine excels at seeing the big picture of a project while still being able to understand the details.

ANDREA EAST - Pushor Mitchell LLP

As a business lawyer, Andrea loves the challenge of guiding her clients through complex commercial transactions and real estate projects, and she strives for excellence with every task. Andrea has previously acted as in-house counsel at a private corporation and a public body, experiences that provide insight into her clients’ perspectives. She frequently helps First Nations and the organizations that do business with them to navigate the regulatory systems governing their economic and real estate development projects. As a columnist, she has shared her expertise on topics such as legal partnerships and land development on reserves. Andrea believes that clarity is the key to good legal service. She focuses on clear drafting in each contract she develops, and has extensive experience in drafting commercial contracts for unique transactions. She helps each client to fully grasp the processes and legal issues they face by giving clear, practical advice and making complex projects and developments more understandable.

After earning her Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of British Columbia (during which time
she received the Prize in Conflicts Law for academic achievement in private international law), Andrea worked as a Judicial Law Clerk for the British Columbia Supreme Court, and became a lawyer in 2004. She belongs to the Kelowna Bar Association, the Westbank First Nation Economic Development Commission and the Penticton Indian Band Taxation Board of Review.

Andrea attended high school in Kelowna and returned here after university. Showing her commitment to the community – from buying local whenever possible to supporting local business owners, artists and producers – is very important to her. Andrea is a member of the Urban Development Institute Okanagan's U40 committee and a member of the Kelowna Chamber of Commerce, a founding member of Connections at Work and a past volunteer director with Community Futures and a past Host Committee member of BreakOut West 2010.

Both in and outside her working life, Andrea strives for a job well done. She works hard to give the best of herself to her clients, her volunteerism, and the family she adores: her husband and three young daughters. She enjoys spending time at the lake and exploring the beautiful Okanagan with her family.

KEVIN MARTIN - President, First Nations Engineering Services Ltd.

Mr. Martin is the Owner and President of First Nations Engineering Services Ltd. Kevin founded K.L. Martin & Associates in 1991 and First Nations Engineering Services Ltd. in 1995. Prior to the development of the companies, he gained 9 years of experience employed with INAC/PWC, Government of Canada, as District Technologist where, in his final year, he received the Deputy Minister's Group Commendation Award. KLMC and FNESL have provided a wide variety of technical services to First Nations in Ontario over the past 21 years. Kevin has grown these companies to a combined staff of 32. Mr. Martin oversees and monitors all financial, administration and technical operations of the company. As project director, Kevin oversees projects as a whole to ensure that the goals and mission statement of the company are accomplished. To date, over 300 million dollars worth of infrastructure projects have proceeded to design and construction. As owner he ensures that the appropriate personnel and resources are assigned to keep projects on schedule.

JUSTIN GEE - P.Eng MCIP RPP, Vice President, First Nations Engineering Services LTD

Justin is a member of the Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation. He is a professional engineer and registered professional planner. He has worked for First Nations Engineering for 18 years. He has completed the detailed design and contract administration duties for infrastructure projects on First Nations for almost two decades. During this time, the capital planning and feasibility studies he authored were the keys to obtaining the funding for these important infrastructure projects.

TONY MAMMONE P.ENG - Senior Advisor, Major Projects, ATCO Sustainable Communities Inc

Tony Mammone P.Eng. is the Senior Advisor, Major Projects at ATCO Sustainable Communities Inc., the construction management company which provides a full range of pre-fabricated building solutions for Aboriginal communities. Prior to this position, he was responsible for providing project construction management, engineering and manufacturing and support
services on over 400 projects in Canada, USA and international markets since 1989. Tony’s past clients included Institutional, commercial, multi-unit builds. Tony possess an intimate understanding of initiating property developments with the right target market, proper design, business approach and ultimately bringing financial solutions to each project. Tony received initiation into commercial property investment at only 12 years old when his then Italian immigrant parents asked him to participate in tenant lease meetings.

MARTIN GORDON - Senior Vice President, Opus International Consultants (Canada) Limited

Martin has an extensive background in the engineering consulting industry and has exceptional skills in business development, corporate leadership and implementing growth strategies that are built on strong performance metrics.

Martin is a Professional Engineer in two provinces and a Certified Professional Accountant. His unique mix of skills allows Martin to engage with clients at a technical, financial and strategic level to better deliver on their requirements.

Martin also has a teaching background which has reinforced his ability to clearly communicate and facilitate outputs that consistently exceed client requirements. Martin is a Senior Vice President with Opus and leads one of the company’s three North American regions. He is an expert in infrastructure asset management, P3 procurement and was a Canadian delegate on the international technical committee to establish ISO 55000 Standard for Asset Management.

DANIEL MILLETTE - PhD, RPA, RPP, MCIP

Daniel Millette has worked on Indigenous land matters for approximately twenty years. He is Director of Strategic Planning and Communications with the First Nation Lands Management Resource Centre. He specializes in land use planning, land strategizing, and land use - economic development interfacing, with an aim at empowering individual communities through self-governing over unique sets of lands and resources. As a Registered Professional Planner, he has worked throughout Canada and within a variety of legal land frameworks including Treaty, Framework Agreement on First Nation Lands, and RLAP. Millette enhances his planning outlook through several academic and research initiatives: As a Registered Professional Archaeologist, he maintains a research program on ancient planning techniques and their relevance within contemporary planning models. As Adjunct Professor at the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at the University of British Columbia, he has taught Theory and Environmental Design History. Concurrently, he is completing a book on Indigenous communities across Canada, documenting successes in planning and architecture.

GLEN HARRIS - President, GGC Development Inc.

Glen holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from UBC and has over 25 years of experience in the real estate development and asset management business. In 2005 Glen and some partners invested in the South Okanagan and developed the Watermark Beach Resort in Osoyoos. Watermark is an $80 million full service lake front resort property with 153 suites that also includes amenity, restaurant, convention and retail space. Glen was responsible for the Development Management role and was involved in all aspects of the project which included: development, design, sales and marketing, finance, construction and ultimately, the operations of the Watermark Beach Resort. The investment in Watermark led to an interest in other real estate opportunities in the region and in 2010 Glen got involved with the development team for the Canyon Desert Resort (CDR) project which, is a 32 acre, 5 phase master planned community on Osoyoos Indian Band (OIB) Lands in Oliver. Glen and his team are currently developing the first phase of the project which is 81 Golf Villa Homes on the NK'MIP Desert Canyon Golf Course. In addition to his development
management responsibilities for CDR Glen is also working with the OIB Team on leasing and economic development initiatives for the Senkulmen Business Park in Oliver – this light industrial business park is fully serviced and totals 135 acres – 46 acres are leased and are either occupied or under construction and the team is actively working on commercial leasing initiatives for the remaining 80+ acres.

BRENDA BAPTISTE – Aboriginal Strategy Group LLP
(Co-Chair Aboriginal Tourism Association of BC)

As a member of the Osoyoos Indian Band, Brenda graduated as a Registered Nurse specializing in Aboriginal health with a focus on community development, and worked with the Osoyoos Indian Band in the area of community health.

Later, she was the responsible for the development of the Nk’Mip Desert Cultural Centre, including managing Phase 1 of this operation, and playing a key role in the planning and development of the second and final phase of this centre. Her primary responsibilities for this project included project planning, product development, program development, marketing, fundraising and management of a $12 million dollar capital project. Brenda continues to support the Osoyoos Indian Band in the marketing and development of the Nk’mip Desert Cultural Centre.

As a Co-Chair of Aboriginal Tourism British Columbia, Brenda’s focus is to actively promote tourism as a foundation for socio-economic development for Aboriginal communities. She has committed her energy to the development and promotion of the Aboriginal Cultural Tourism Blueprint Strategy, an innovative and leading edge initiative to develop the Aboriginal tourism industry in BC.

As a consultant, Brenda worked with Tourism British Columbia to support the development of Aboriginal communities that are involved in tourism. As a champion for Aboriginal Tourism, her focus was to build capacity and opportunity with the belief that Aboriginal tourism balances socio-economic development with heritage preservation and promotion.

During the 2010 Olympic Games, Brenda completed the role of Director – Aboriginal Business Showcase for the Four Host Nations; as part of the programming for the 2010 Aboriginal Pavilion which hosted over 500 Aboriginal businesses and artisans.

Since April 2010, Brenda was the Chief Administration Officer for the Tsleil-Waututh First Nation, a challenging role that includes working with the leadership, staff and community in the area of economic development, social and community development, administration and governance. Supporting business, social and cultural development is one of her roles within the nation.

Brenda has most recently joined Chief Clarence Louie and Geoff Greenwell at Aboriginal Strategy Group LLP bringing her expertise in the cultural tourism industry to the firm.

NEIL PHILCOX – Co-Founder, Blended Capital Group

Neil is a co-founder and principal of Grand Basin Capital (GBC), a boutique advisory firm that originates and develops institutional grade, sustainable real asset investment opportunities that offer compelling financial, environmental and social returns. Neil also co-founded The Blended Capital Group, an international advisory firm focused on serving clients at the intersection of global capital flows, integrated value creation, and sustainable investment opportunities. In his capacity at GBC, Neil works with a diversity of Aboriginal, corporate and financial clients spanning a wider range of sectors. He is the former Director of Economic Development Projects at Coast Opportunity Funds, a First Nations economic development and conservation organization with $116 million under management. At Coast Funds he worked on financing approximately 100 projects with 20+ First Nations in British Columbia, spanning a broad range of sectors, activities and objectives. Neil also serves as treasurer and member of the board of directors for St’át’imc Eco-Resources, an economic development entity owned by 10 St’át’imc communities.
Neil has an accomplished background in international finance and business development, primarily with Standard Chartered Bank and American Express Bank. After more than 10 years working in international capital markets, Neil completed a Master of Resource Management at Simon Fraser University in 2006, with a focus on environment, development and non-market valuation. He brings a deep understanding of capital and finance, as well as being a respected practitioner on the implementation and development of asset-based metrics for social, economic and environmental values, in a manner that serves the needs of both communities and mainstream finance and investment. Neil is also a regular contributor to the magazine, Aboriginal Marketplace, on the topic of access to capital.

FRANK BUSCH - Marketing Manager, First Nations Finance Authority

Frank is a member of the Nisichawayasihk (Nih-chi-sah-way-ah-see) Cree Nation and grew up in Northern Manitoba. He was educated at the University of Manitoba and has spent his professional life in the Financial Sector. In addition to working with large corporations in Canada, he also has previous experience with First Nations business, non-profits and government at the community, tribal council, provincial, national and international levels.

Frank is also a published author who has had articles on First Nations social and economic issues published in major Canadian newspapers including the National Post, a fiction novel called “Grey Eyes” and is also a regular contributor to Aboriginal Marketplace Magazine.

As Director of Information and Marketing for the First Nations Finance Authority, Frank is responsible for building and maintaining relationships with member First Nations and providing information to First Nation Councils, Finance Staff and Membership that increases awareness of the FNFA Financing, Investment and Advisory Services.

CHRIS BOWER - President, Bower Consulting Group

Chris Bower is the Executive Director of Tourism Penticton who oversees destination sales & marketing and the operation of the Penticton & Wine Country Visitor Information Center. A veteran in the South Okanagan’s tourism industry, Chris has spent the last 15 years with the Osoyoos Indian Band Development Corporation. He started at the NK'MIP Campground and RV Park as the General Manager in 1997 turning it into a successful year round R V Park. NK’MIP Campground and RV Park revenues are over 2.3 million annually. Chris held the position as Chairman of the NK’MIP Resort Association for 8 years and is very experienced in destination marketing. He has been on the Thompson Okanagan Regional Tourism Board for 7 years and was President of the BC Campground and Lodging Association. In 2011 he became Business Development Officer (BDO), for the Southern Region of the Osoyoos Reserve, responsible for development of NK’MIP Resort, overseeing infrastructure and intercompany operations for the Resort.

CHIEF DAVID JIMMIE - Squiala First Nation

David Jimmie is the Chief and CEO of Squiala First Nation located in the traditional territory of the Ts’elkweyqw Tribe in Chilliwack, BC. David is the President of Ts’elkweyqw Tribe Management Limited representing 7 communities; he is a director on the New Relationship Trust Board and also a director with the Chilliwack Chamber of Commerce.

David previously owned and operated David Jimmie Construction building 224 homes and 175 apartment units in Chilliwack and Westbank. He is currently working on a 600,000 square foot shopping center in Chilliwack and exploring new ventures to diversify revenue streams for Squiala First Nation. David has a hunger to learn about life and education which led him to buy an around the world ticket in 2008, travelling to 19 countries in 1 year. He is a strong advocate for education and culture and is excited to have recently completed his Masters in Business Administration from Simon Fraser University.
GWEN BRIDGE - M.Sc. Gwen Bridge Consulting

Gwen has worked with Tribes and First Nations in natural resource management and planning for 15 years. Her work has included land and watershed planning, water quality standards development, aquatic, riparian and burned area restoration, strategic planning and facilitation, endangered species recovery planning, water rights protection, Environmental Assessment, educational outreach and community engagement. Locally, Gwen was chair of the Syilx Working Group that wrote the feasibility Syilx Feasibility Study for the proposed National Park Reserve in the South Okanagan Similkameen. Gwen is also working on establishing more inclusive regional governance with the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen through a collaborative water governance initiative. Land and Watershed Planning work has included work in Washington State on behalf of the Makah Tribe, source water and well head protection planning and implementation for the Mescalero Apache Tribe in New Mexico, Land Use Visioning and Planning with the Okanagan Nation Alliance, and watershed planning engagement strategies with the Lower Similkameen Indian Band. Recent work for the First Nations Fisheries Council included supporting the development of the Water for Fish Strategy and Water Sustainability Act policy analysis. Water protection and management for people and ecosystems is a passion. She is interested in shifting the processes and structures of existing decision making mechanisms to reflect First Nations perspectives on governance, TEK, and Natural Resource Management. Gwen is a member of the Saddle Lake Cree Nation in Alberta. Gwen has a Master of Science degree in Renewable Resources from the University of Alberta.

Gwen Bridge, Gwen Bridge Consulting Ltd. Founder was born and raised in rural B.C. and is a member of the Saddle Lake Cree Nation. As an aboriginal person with a Masters of Science Gwen has a passion and understanding for melding both traditional cultural values and scientific methodologies. Gwen has 15 years experience providing services to First Nations and First Nations organizations, Tribes, Government, and the private sector.
NATIONAL ABORIGINAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES CONFERENCE - OSOYOOS 2015
SEPT 15TH -17TH 2015 - NK’MIP RESORT

JOIN US AT THE SPECTACULAR NK’MIP RESORT FOR THE BEST ANNUAL ABORIGINAL/PRIVATE SECTOR BUSINESS NETWORKING EVENT IN WESTERN CANADA.

HOSTED BY:
Chief Clarence Louie
JOIN ME AND OVER 200 OTHER PRIVATE SECTOR AND ABORIGINAL BUSINESS LEADERS FOR OUR 6TH ANNUAL NABOC NETWORKING CONFERENCE