

Editors' Introduction

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Warren Weir and Wanda Wuttunee

This section describes the strategies and motivations of those addressing the challenges and conflicting views regarding resource development.

Meet Mark Sark, CEO of Gespe'Gewaq Mi'gmaq Resource Council, "the best natural resource and environmental organization in eastern Canada." You are invited to find out why he says this and learn about significant influences brought to bear on his work. Gaming is a growing industry and Enoch Cree Nation has been a leader that is willing to share experiences fully in their challenging journey to realize community goals. Paulette Flamond brings 15 years of entrepreneurial experience to her current position with the Aboriginal Business Service Network Society. She has a strong focus with a number of organizations and projects on Aboriginal economic development.

Many communities are facing natural resource development opportunities. They must deal with companies and contracts that will impact the futures of their ways of life. Based on research in and around Baker Lake, Nunavut, Warren Bernauer examines the consulting phase of this process in detail. He questions current consultative processes and makes recommendations for nurturing a stronger community role.

Finally, individual training needs are recognized in an article by Robert Oppenheimer, Tom O'Connell, and Warren Weir. Surveying course offerings by National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association, Aboriginal Financial Officers Association, and Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers provides

readers with a quick review of the array of courses in the area of economic development.

This section can be a catalyst to reaching out to the many resources that are available to economic development officers and others with an interest in this field. Several note their willingness to share their experiences, so take a step in that direction and support your growth in this field.