

Graduate Student Funding Opportunity Northern Governance and Economy Conference

A PhD student is required to assist with research and activities associated with a conference on Northern Governance and Economy scheduled to take place during October 2012.

Students with a background or interest in Indigenous economies, economic development, business administration and development, Northern economic and social development are encouraged to apply. However applications from PhD students in related areas such as Indigenous governance, anthropology, sociology, etc will be considered.

Students should be willing to:

- Work on a project of relevance to Indigenous government(s) in the NWT;
- Work with a NWT based mentor who will guide their project;
- Be willing to undertake fieldwork in the NWT and/or with an Indigenous organization, prior to October 2012;
- Attend the conference as a working participant;
- Assist with editing an academic publication resulting from the conference.

Remuneration for this position is \$15,000.00, in accordance with SSHRC rules.

For more information, contact:

Stephanie Irlbacher-Fox, PhD
Principal Investigator/Conference Chair
Adjunct Professor
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Application Deadline: May 04, 2012.

Applicants should provide a current CV, short biography (no photos), 1 page description of their PhD research in plain language, and the names and contact information for 3 references (2 academic, 1 Indigenous organization/northern community official) who can speak to academic and personal suitability respectively.

Candidates selected for an interview will be notified by May 10, 2012.

Pathways to Prosperity: Northern Governance and Economy Conference Overview

The purpose of the conference is to:

- Bring together Indigenous and Northern business leaders, policy makers, and social activists with academics working on Indigenous and Northern issues for information exchange and networking;
- Vision how political institutions could change to better accommodate shifting governance authorities (land claim, self government, devolution) to create social and economic stability;
- Vision concrete partnerships, mechanisms and strategic goals essential for actioning change toward social and economic stability and prosperity.

Participants

Business and social issues advocates often operate in solitude, or speak about each other but rarely have forums to work together. The exception is Indigenous governments and businesses: often established through land claims capital, one purpose of Indigenous business is to promote social and economic opportunity for its membership. The impact of land claim businesses, the employment and profit they generate, and their influence in the social sphere extends beyond Indigenous peoples to affect the broader NWT economy and citizens. Participants will have time to reflect on NWT political institutions' roles in creating social and business stability and prosperity, and how policies of and changes in those institutions might improve the socio-economic landscape.

Panels and Workshops

Panels and Workshops for this conference will include (but not be limited to) topics such as:

- Colonization Impacts: implications for governance institutions, businesses and economic policy;
- Culture and Indigenous peoples governance institutions;
- Why educational quality, cultural relevance, and resourcing matters for economic development;
- Land relationship, wellness and economy;
- Negotiating Impact Benefit Agreements;
- Case Study: Alaska Native Corporations and Cultural Renewal;
- Case Study: Indigenous Governments and Businesses in the NWT.