

THE INDIGENOUS-LED ECONOMY

MAY 17, 2022 | 8:30 AM – 2:40 PM EST | THE WESTIN OTTAWA

**Agenda subject to change*

8:45 AM **Opening Remarks**

Opening prayer from **Elder Claudette Commanda**.
Framing the day's conversation with **Braeden Caley**, Executive Director of Canada 2020.

9:00 AM **Investing in Communities**

A conversation between four incredible female Indigenous leaders from across Turtle Island on the importance of economic reconciliation. Learn about their personal and professional investment in their communities, the challenges to be overcome, and the road ahead.

With **Chief Crystal Smith** of the Haisla Nation, **Hillary Thatcher**, Senior Director of Project Development and Indigenous Infrastructure at the Canadian Infrastructure Bank, and **Jeanie McLean**, Yukon MLA and Minister of Education and Minister responsible for the Women and Gender Equity Directorate
Moderated by **Tabatha Bull**, President and CEO of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business.

10:00 AM **Break**

10:15 AM **Case Study 1: Watay Power**

Margaret Kenequanash, CEO of the [Wataynikaneyap Transmission Project](#) will share how this project is bringing electricity to remote Northern communities to end their reliance on diesel.

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10:45 AM Case Study 2: FHQ Developments

Thomas Benjoe, President and CEO of [FHQ Developments](#) (File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council Economic Development Corporation) will share how they're working to build Indigenous wealth in Saskatchewan.

11:15 AM Case Study 3: Growcer

Learn about education and training to build food security, food sovereignty, and sustainability with [Growcer](#)'s co-founder and CEO **Corey Ellis** and Pine Creek First Nation **Chief Derek Nepinak**.

11:45 AM Break

12:30 PM Lunch Keynote and Fireside Chat

Keynote remarks from **The Hon. Marc Miller**, Minister of Crown Indigenous Relations, followed by Minister Miller in conversation with **Mark Podlasly**, Director of Economic Policy at the First Nations Major Projects Coalition, moderated by **Cherie Brant**, Partner and National Leader, Indigenous Law at BLG.

1:45 PM Leading by Example

Join the case study presenters in conversation to reflect on how each of these projects can serve as a model for future initiatives. Learn about common challenges, best practices, and these innovators' visions for the future. Moderated by **Chief David Jimmie**, Chief & CEO, Squiala First Nation.

2:40 PM Closing Remarks

Closing the day's conversation with **Anna Gainey**, Executive Chair of Canada 2020.