



# Indspire

Indigenous education,  
Canada's future.

L'éducation des autochtones,  
L'avenir du Canada.

July 8, 2019

Friend  
Red Sky Métis Independent Nation  
406 Victoria Avenue East  
Thunder Bay ON P7C 1A5

Dear Friend:

I am writing to share information about the work of Indspire in supporting Indigenous students over the past year while clarifying our role in advancing First Nations, Inuit and Métis student success. The support provided by Indspire to your students is detailed in the enclosed appendix.

Indspire is a national Indigenous charity that invests in the education of Indigenous learners for the long-term benefit of our people, their families, communities and Canada. We serve First Nations, Inuit, and Métis students in communities across Canada, including rural and remote, fly-in and urban centres.

Indspire's work is in addition to the support you provide for your students. We do not administer the Post-Secondary Student Support Program, or the University and College Entrance Preparation Program provided through Indigenous Services Canada.

We raise funds from federal and provincial governments, philanthropic foundations, educational institutions, the private sector and individual donors to ensure a brighter, and more hopeful future for our people. In 2018-19, Indspire awarded \$16.3 million, through 5,553 scholarships and bursaries to Indigenous students. This includes \$4,453,274 in financial awards which were provided to 1494 Métis students.

While we celebrate this success, we know that the needs are great, which is why I continually advocate for additional funding for all First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, and I am particularly encouraged that the Government of Canada has chosen to invest in post-secondary through Budget 2019.

#### Head Office

Box 5, Suite 100  
50 Generations Drive  
Six Nations of the Grand River  
Ohsweken, Ontario, NOA 1M0

1.855.INDSPIRE (463.7747)  
fax: 866.433.3159

#### Toronto Office

555 Richmond Street West  
Suite 1002  
Toronto, Ontario, M5V 3B1

1.855.INDSPIRE (463.7747)  
fax: 416.926.7554

[indspire@indspire.ca](mailto:indspire@indspire.ca)

#### Patron:

Her Excellency  
the Right Honourable  
Julie Payette  
C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M.  
Governor General of Canada

#### CEO


Roberta Jamieson  
President, Chief Executive  
Officer, Executive Producer,  
Indspire Awards

#### Board of Directors

David Gabriel Tuccaro  
Chair

Jean Teillet  
Vice-Chair

Darrell Beaulieu  
Nicole Bourque-Bouchier  
Michael Dan  
Clint Davis  
James Dekker  
Joseph Dion  
Fauna Kingdon  
Jean LaRose  
Yvan Guy Larocque  
Peter J. Lukasiewicz  
Maatalii Okalik  
Hilary Pearson  
Gordon R. Peeling  
Wm. (Bill) Shead  
Paul Tsaparis  
Donald Worme



In addition to providing funding to students pursuing post-secondary, Indspire recognizes that our young people also need support to succeed in K-12 before considering higher education. Our annual *Soaring: Indigenous Youth Empowerment Gatherings* allow students to explore post-secondary options through campus tours, engage in career workshops and an interactive tradeshow with industry professionals, opening them to a world of possibility.

We also have several tools to help educators support Indigenous student success through mentorship and by sharing innovative practices and research. The National Gathering for Indigenous Education offers one and a half days of workshops and presentations by educators, leaders and administrators from across Canada and is an opportunity for your educators to meet their peers and learn about best practices in Indigenous education.

Through the Indspire Awards, we celebrate excellence in Indigenous achievement. Broadcast on APTN and CBC, the annual Awards honour the resilience, strength and determination of outstanding individuals while demonstrating the positive contributions of our people to Canada and the world. Our recipients serve as role models for the next generation, inspiring them to overcome difficulties and stay the course they have chosen to achieve their full potential.

We welcome your feedback and input on any of our programs. I invite you to contact Michelle Bomberry, Director of Programs at **519.445.3015** or [mbomberry@indspire.ca](mailto:mbomberry@indspire.ca) for more information and to let us know how we can further support your community.

Sincerely,



Roberta Jamieson  
President & CEO, Indspire  
Encl.