

Making Modern Treaties Work – LCAC
BREAKOUT 2D: Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs and
Indigenous Services: an update on the INAC split

Moderator: Kirk Cameron, President, northSense Management Consulting, Board Member YESA

PANELIST 1: Sony Perron, Associate Deputy Minister, Indigenous Services Canada

- Will speak about the mandate of ISC, five activities: children, family, education improving outcomes, infrastructure, and increase Indigenous control over services.
- Work with Indian Bands that have not moved towards self-government.
- Working with modern treaty partners and Land Claims organizations with service gaps, equitable access to treaty groups.
- Self-government leads to better health outcomes.
- Inuit, relationship agreement with NTI to make decisions about how funding will flow.
- Exploring models on how Indigenous peoples can better control their delivery of programs and services.
- Conversations will be different between organizations, no one size fits all. For example, how authorities interact with your agreements.
- ISC focuses on-reserve populations and some off-reserve complimentary services. Inuit suicide prevention strategy, funds set-aside for the land claim organizations.
- Path forward, over coming months, is to continue working collaboratively on various pieces such as:
 - o Jordan's Principle,
 - o Inuit child funds to assist communities,
 - o Long-term water advisories working towards zero,
 - o Access to post secondary education,
 - o Development of Health Legislation, to explore with partners and identify priorities,
 - o Limit dependency on diesel fuels towards more green solutions
 - o Implement five present procurement goal for Indigenous businesses to have more access to government contracts
 - o Address gaps within each region, to advance priorities, and
 - o Address infrastructure
- These are just to name a few, not an exhaustive list.
- Quality of services in our organization, and training for our employees. Plans with partners to advance greater control of services. Work with our colleagues in CIRNAC where we have core shared objectives.

PANELIST 2: Diane Lafleur, Associate Deputy Minister, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

- This government is serious about reconciliation.

- Dismantling colonial past to respond to unique needs and interests.
- Since coming into force the Act to separate the department, is new legislation that created a new Minister of Northern Affairs. Separate but aligned mandates.
- CIRNA to continue work with First Nations, Inuit and Metis peoples. The legislation outlines ministerial duties.
 - o Implementation of modern and self-government agreements.
 - o Supporting communities that are working towards getting out from under the Indian Act.
 - o We aim to coordinate a whole of government approach, change approaches to funding.
 - o New fiscal self-government policy.
- Northern Minister has authority over the three territories.
- CIRNA ensures departments know their obligations. Transfer of responsibilities between departments of services and programs.
- Shared services at corporate level.
- Rights and self-determination of Indigenous peoples.

PANELIST 3: William David, Director of Lands and Territories, Assembly of First Nations

- Speech by Minister in 2017 dismantling old colonial structure.
- Hear of declaration included: socio-economic gap, indicators, guidance to implement act.
- Makes changes of how we operate, not a mere division, meant to inspire culture change in government.
- Referenced decolonization, for how Indigenous peoples organize themselves. My thoughts on that split in 2017. Not very much parliamentary scrutiny and appears quickly drafted.
- How do Indigenous peoples see the relationship with government?
- Preamble for legislation on policy, both acts is identical. Implement UN declaration. Middle point, on promoting is soft language. Preamble provides guidance.
- Section 6 of CIRNA notes powers duties and functions extends to Indigenous peoples, does extend to departments in relation to Indigenous peoples, therefore, programs that affect Indigenous peoples can be discussed. Minister can lead on implementation issues.
- Data collection and sharing of information. Appears administrative data can be shared with Indigenous organizations.

Question:

1. Concerns government coordinated on behalf of all government. It is not and has never worked. When it comes to the Indian Act and Fiduciary responsibility, there is no on-the-ground understanding. Program mentality still exists from TBS on programs and services.

William David:

- ATR is program being split to lengthen process. Process takes too long.

Diane Lafleur:

- Horizontal approach we are open to hearing new approaches. Regional offices work at regional level for additions to reserves.

Sony Perron:

- Programs are a challenge to continue to modify. Ten-year grant funding is a new method to move away from programs.

2. Inuit we live in third world conditions. How about supporting our youth dealing with challenges and less fortunate?

Sony Perron:

- Inuit Suicide Strategy will be managed by Inuit organizations. Solutions coming from our partners to improve strategies and approaches.

Diane Lafleur:

- Important creation of Crown Indigenous relations to meet with partners to address key priority areas.

William David:

- Let's look at Ministers speech, advocate hitting home on those issues.

3. Coal Lake is the largest Military base in Canada, but there are land and water issues. We keep being told by provinces we do not have a voice at the table. Procurement requirements state must have a prior contract. Bill 92 and S3, why don't they have funds?

Sony Perron:

- Bill 92 is in partnership with partners. We are working on getting resources to put towards the system.
- Federal procurement needs to create a space for opportunities.

4. My comment is that jurisdiction is still main issue. Ten-year grant still programming just delays reporting. How do we do new fiscal arrangement? Including fiduciary responsible and new tax transfers.

Sony Perron:

- When it come to long-term funding and other ways of funding resources, we are open to hearing new creative ideas to find new ways to see revenues.