



1.14 Billion Strong: Indigenous Economic Performance in Atlantic Canada



What is the research about?

The research demonstrates the real economic contributions of Indigenous communities, businesses, and economic development activities to the broader Atlantic Region economy. Tools are developed that encourage and support partnership building between Indigenous and non-Indigenous business stakeholders. These tools fulfill a clearly articulated need for increased meaningful engagement between Atlantic Indigenous and non-Indigenous business stakeholders in order to support business growth in the Atlantic Region.

What does the research do?

The research addresses a significant gap in available information on the outputs and outcomes of the Atlantic Indigenous economy. It provides critical economic benchmarks and baseline tools and methodologies, including a replicable methodology to measure economic performance in the Indigenous economy going forward.

Timeline: October 2015-March 2016

Why is the research important?

The 2003 Auditor's General's report for Canada noted that there are substantial gaps in key economic indicators between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada. Poverty would be reduced by closing these gaps but Indigenous people face barriers to accessing natural resources, capital, and other business supports that would strengthen Indigenous economic development. The research is a first of its kind in the Atlantic Region and, as such, provides baseline data highlighting the key factors around which a successful Indigenous economy revolves. The study provides clear-cut empirical evidence of the meaningful contribution that Indigenous peoples make to provincial and regional economies and underscores what is required to support continued growth in Indigenous economic development activities.

Research team:

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