

# Forum on Indigenous Agriculture in Saskatchewan

Wanuskewin Heritage Park

December 18, 19, 2018

## *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - A Relationship Story*

- Man was created with a disadvantage to the animals and plants. He had no natural covering to keep him warm and dry; no tools to feed or defend himself. He was unable to fend for himself in the natural world.
- Mother Earth took pity on him and convened a meeting with the animals and plants; they agreed to give their lives so man could live.
- In return for this help, man agreed to be a steward of the world in which he lived. To care for and respect Mother Earth, the animals and the plants.

## *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Ethics and Values*

- ▶ That story best explains the concepts NIAA's core values. These core values guide our approach when working / consulting with individuals and /or communities
  - Relationships
  - Environmental Stewardship
  - Communication
  - Integrity
  - Dependability
  - Loyalty
  
- ▶ Nitapwêhtênan ê-wâhkomitoyahk kahkiyaw / We believe we are all Related

# *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Where do we start?*

- ▶ We look at what we have
  - First Nations have land and labour, capital.
  
- ▶ We take stock
  - What's our agricultural goal?
  - What's our experience?
  - How do we capitalize on what we have?
  - Access to capital?
  - Do we have the technical information? Where do we get the information?
  - Do we have a Strategic Business Plan?
  - Who can help us?

## *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Examples of Sustainable Practices*

- ▶ Environmental stewardship can be maintained and enhanced by agricultural programs and services.
  
- ▶ How can programs and services make the land sustainable?
  - Technical information relevant to your business.  
build a data base for your lands - soil types, soil capabilities, continuous cropping, rotations, placement of water and feed for livestock, prevention of overgrazing
  
  - We can develop a data base of lands covered by noxious weeds such as Leafy Spurge or Toadflax and make recommendations for control.

# *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Influences on Canadian Agriculture*

- ▶ In February, 2017, Canadian Finance Minister Bill Morneau's Advisory Council on Economic Growth released a report, "Barton Report", a set of recommendations to make Canada more competitive in emerging global markets. The report set a target for Canada to export \$75 billion in agri-food products by 2027.
- ▶ The report identified that one of Canada's most promising sectors is the agriculture and agri-food, as key to realizing our export potential.
- ▶ The report lists:
  - Strengths: natural resources, including land, Canada's reputation as a safe food producer, and existing geographical clusters in which production, education, innovation and labour are concentrated;
  - Opportunities: the trend of a shrinking arable land mass, climate change, environmental degradation, and the increasing demand for animal proteins as our opportunity.

# *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Agricultural Statistics*

- ▶ The overall Canadian Ag Sector is strong, with exports in 2017 of Canadian agriculture, agri-food, fish and seafood reaching \$64.6 billion.
- ▶ The sector is one of the nation's largest employers. Being responsible for 2.1 million direct and indirect jobs, it is a force for economic inclusion across rural and urban Canada.
- ▶ National level:
  - The Agriculture and Agri-food system generated \$108.1 billion and provides 1 in 8 jobs employing over 2.3 M people.
  - Spectrum includes Primary production (livestock, grains and oilseeds), fertilizers (potash), machinery (farm implements), transportation (truck, rail car, boat), processing (canola crushing), storage (elevators)
  - Farm-level performance, as measured by net cash income, reached a record high in 2014 of \$14.2 billion.
  - Expressed in dollar terms, government expenditures (federal and provincial) in support of the AAFS were estimated to be \$5.3 billion in 2015-2016.

# *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - AAFC programs*

- ▶ AAFC has developed a five year block of programs under the Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP), a \$3 billion investment in strategic initiatives.
  - It includes \$1 billion for federal activities and programs,
  - \$2 billion in cost-shared programs delivered by provinces and territories on a 60:40 basis
  
- ▶ Program details and applications were launched for the six federal programs on February 13th and include:
  - AgriMarketing
  - AgriCompetitiveness
  - AgriScience
  - AgriInnovate
  - AgriDiversity
  - AgriAssurance
  
- ▶ In addition to these programs, producers will continue to have access to a suite of Business Risk Management programs.



# ***National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - AAFC programs***

- ▶ **AgriMarketing**
  - Up to \$121 million federal initiative to help the industry increase and diversify exports to international markets and seize market opportunities.
- ▶ **AgriCompetitiveness**
  - Up to \$20.5 million program to assist industry-led efforts to provide producers with information needed to build capacity and support the sector's development.
- ▶ **AgriScience**
  - Up to \$338 million initiative to support leading edge discovery and applied science, and innovation driven by industry research priorities.
- ▶ **AgriInnovate**
  - up to \$128 million initiative to accelerate the commercialization, adoption, and/or demonstration of innovative products, technologies, processes or services that increase agri-sector competitiveness and sustainability.
- ▶ **AgriDiversity**
  - Up to \$5 million initiative to help under-represented groups in Canadian agriculture, including youth, women, Indigenous Peoples, and persons with disabilities to fully participate in the sector.
- ▶ **AgriAssurance**
  - Up to \$74 million federal initiative to foster public trust by helping industry develop and adopt systems, standards and tools that enable them to make credible, meaningful and verifiable claims about the health and safety of Canadian agricultural and agri-food products, and the manner in which they are produced.

## ***National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - AAFC Business Risk Management (BRM) programs***

These programs are cost shared 60/40, also depends on the province.

- ▶ *AgriStability* - provides support when producers experience a large margin decline, (min to enroll, 70% guarantee)
- ▶ *AgriInvest* provides cash flow to help producers manage income declines, (optional, min to enroll, 50/50 match, up to \$10,000)
- ▶ *AgriInsurance* provides cost-shared insurance against natural hazards to reduce the financial impact of production or asset losses. The *Western Livestock Price Insurance* program will continue to play an important role in the BRM suite
- ▶ *AgriRecovery* is a disaster relief framework to help producers with the cost of activities necessary for recovery following a natural disaster event

## *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Sask Ministry of Agriculture Programs*

Canadian Agricultural Partnership is a five-year, \$388 million investment by federal and provincial governments in strategic initiatives for Saskatchewan agriculture.

- ▶ Science, Research and Innovation,
- ▶ Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change,
- ▶ Risk Management,
- ▶ Value Added Agriculture and Agri Food Processing,
- ▶ Public Trust,
- ▶ Product 2 Market Program.

# ***National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Sask Ministry of Agriculture Programs***

- ▶ Science, Research and Innovation
  - Funding is available for research and development activities that enhance the diversification and profitability of agriculture.
- ▶ Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change
  - Funding to support rural water development and environmental programming, ie: EFP, FRWIP
- ▶ Risk Management
  - Funding programs to effectively manage production risk, ie: Pest Bio-Security Program
- ▶ Value Added Agriculture and Agri Food Processing
  - Funding to increase competitiveness through productivity and food safety, ie: Food Safety for Processors Program, Value Added
- ▶ Public Trust
  - Funding to build agricultural awareness, encourage farm safety and develop leadership, ie: scholarships
- ▶ Product 2 Market Program
  - Product2Market: Industry Association program supports industry organizations to increase the domestic and international trade capacity for Saskatchewan agricultural products and funding for industry market development

## ***National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Completed activities***

- ▶ Developed a relationship with the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, U of S and the Education and Training Secretariat, Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations.
- ▶ Approached the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture and AAFC to work together.
- ▶ Approached private industry with a message that Indigenous People will be potential customers.
- ▶ Completed a project. The outcomes included recommendations for farming, data base of land locations, Crop insurance assessments, a Farm Business Assessment

# *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Summary*

- Our success is building on our experience as former employees and our practical experience accessing programs and services, personally producing grains and oil seeds and marketing them at various grain terminals.
- Based on our experience, we look at “Lessons learned”, gaps in the system – current agricultural activity amongst Indigenous Peoples, F/P/T agriculture programs and services, gaps in the industry, and needs of new producers, Indigenous Peoples view of agriculture.
  - Examples: Book keeping, planning, outreach (we will use our contacts to bring in experts to talk to producers both on-reserve and off-reserve).
- Successful agricultural ventures expand, however *agriculture is much more than huge corporate or multi-national enterprises.*
  - Community gardens, kitchens for value added are approaches to prevent lifestyle or diseases attributable to economics ie: diabetes.
  - Producers on-reserve may be considered to be large farmers with 15 - 20 head of cattle or 1 cropped section of land or less.

# *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Next Steps*

- ▶ We will follow our strategy for NIAA
  - continue to raise awareness of NIAA,
  - continue to meet with a variety of groups in the ag sector to raise awareness of Indigenous producers,
  - continue to meet with government departments who have the necessary expertise,
  - continue to develop and expand on our current relationships in the agriculture sector.
  
- ▶ Recruit people with the necessary skills.

## *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Links*

- ▶ <https://www.smartagrifoodsupercluster.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Unleashing-growth-of-key-Sectors.-Barton.pdf>
- ▶ <http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/about-us/key-departmental-initiatives/canadian-agricultural-partnership/canadian-agricultural-partnership-federal-activities-and-programs/?id=1511361680577>
- ▶ <https://www.saskatchewan.ca/business/agriculture-natural-resources-and-industry/agribusiness-farmers-and-ranchers/canadian-agricultural-partnership-cap/science-research-and-innovation>



# *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) – A Market Garden; Grains and Oilseed production*



Riverside Market, Flying Dust  
First Nation



Wheat

# *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) – Grains and Oilseed production*



Oats



Canola

## *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Contact Information*

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# *National Indigenous Agriculture Association (NIAA) - Questions*

- ▶ Questions?