

# Indigenous Innovation & Inclusion



# About Indigenous Works (1998- )

- A recommendation in the 1996 Report on the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples; Mandate: to increase Indigenous engagement in the Canadian economy;
- Award winning, ISO certified, national Indigenous Organization with expertise in workplace, employment, corporate-Indigenous engagement and partnership systems;

- KOCIHTA CHARITY:  **Kocihta** Empowering Indigenous Youth to Reach Their Career Potential  
‘Increasing the human resource and career potential of Indigenous Youth including youth with disabilities.’

- LUMINARY: Advancing Indigenous Innovation



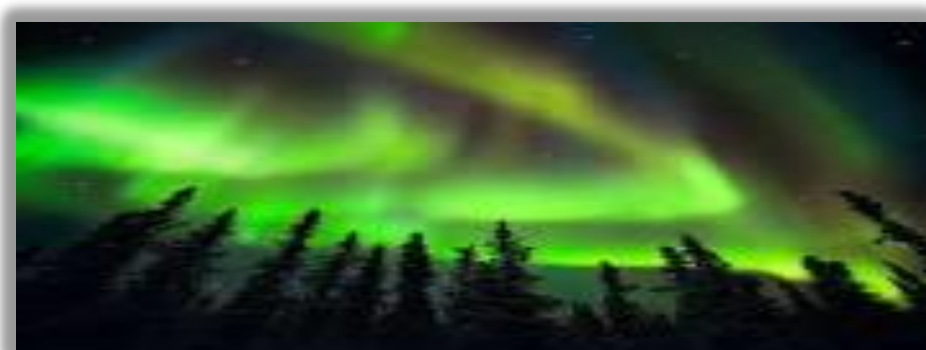
**LUMINARY**  
Advancing Indigenous Innovation for Economic Transformation, Employment and Well-Being  
IndigenousWorks



# LUMINARY

Advancing Indigenous Innovation for Economic Transformation, Employment and Wellbeing

**“Our vision is to be the most impactful network and program of its kind in the world, where business schools, academic community and Indigenous businesses grow research and innovations for economic transformation, employment and wellbeing”**

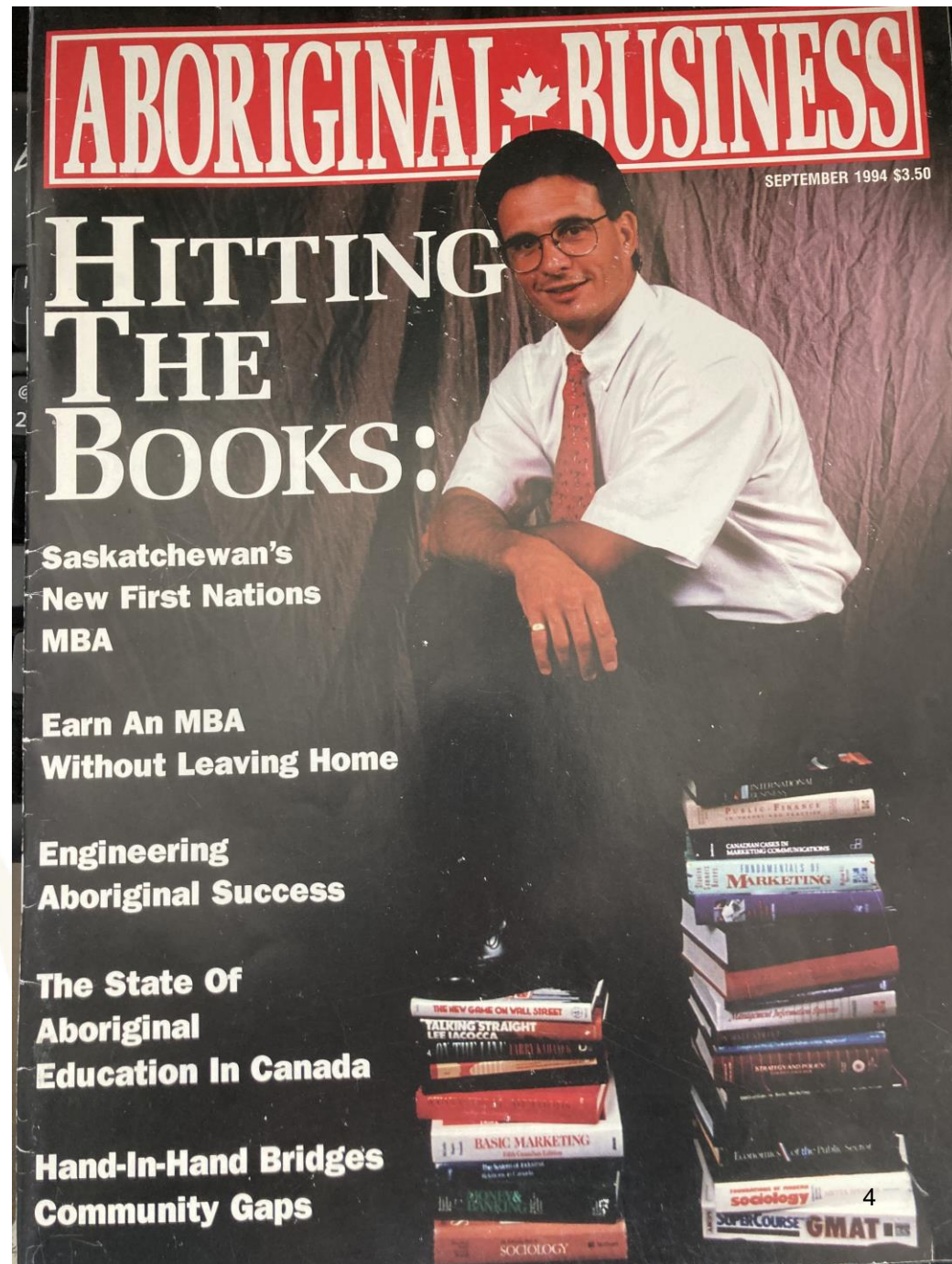


In 1990 - ten MBA's  
in Canada

In 1994/95 launched  
first Aboriginal  
Business Education  
Program in Canada

Edwards School,  
University of  
Saskatchewan

 IndigenousWorks





# Why Indigenous Innovation Matters

From this...

*‘Full reconciliation with Indigenous peoples will not happen without economic reconciliation. It is not only the fair and right thing to do, but there is a strong and compelling business case for all Canadians.’ -*

Dawn Madahbee Leach

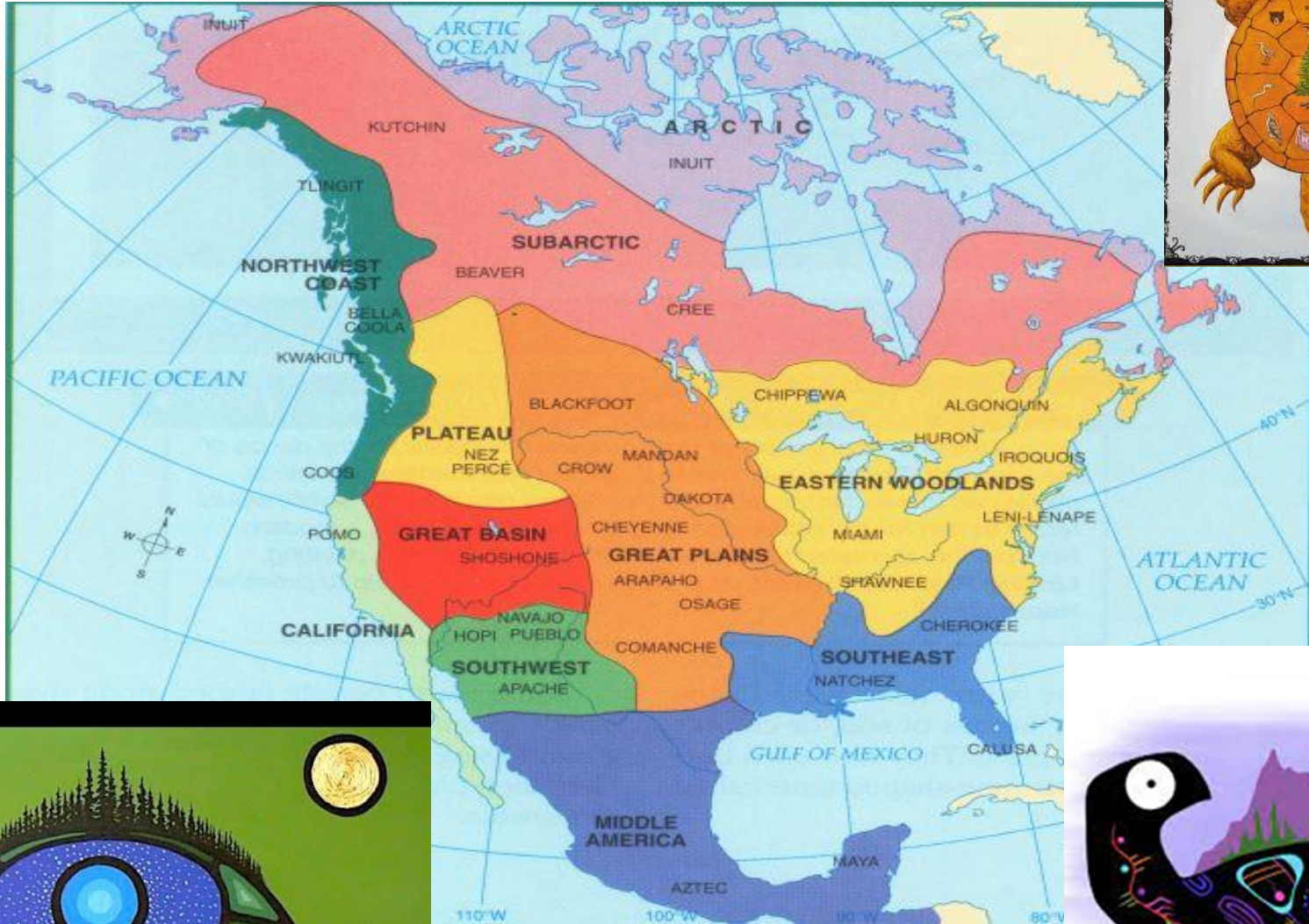
Chair, National Indigenous Economic Development Board (NIEDB)



To This



# Turtle Island



# Global Innovation Index 2021

Switzerland	1/132
Sweden	2
United States	3
Canada	17
Republic of Malawi	117/132



**The Innovation Characteristics of Malawi could describe the current state of innovation with Indigenous Canada**

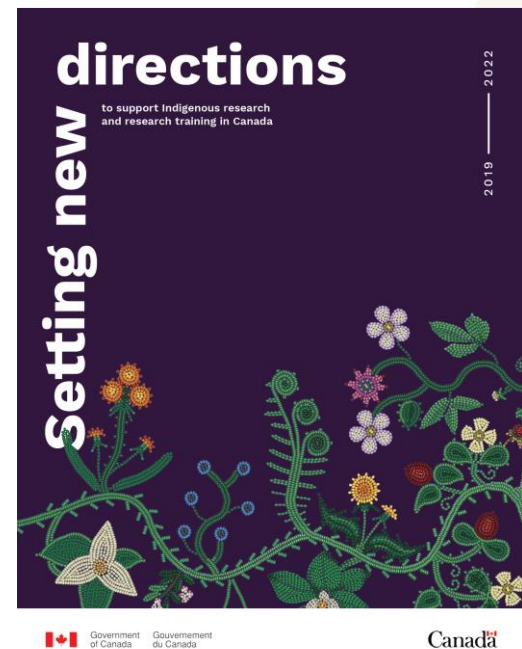
- ✓ **Poor or under-developed science and innovation culture**  
with few opportunities to understand and explore the value of research to innovate their own businesses and economies;
- ✓ The **collaborations and cooperation needed not yet in place;**
- ✓ There is a **lack of Indigenous researchers;**
- ✓ There are **significant power imbalances;**



# National Tri-Agency's Report and Plan: 'Setting New Directions to Support Indigenous Research and Research Training in Canada'

Released in January 2020 by the federal research granting agencies—the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council;

Sets out a number of proposed 'mechanisms and intended outcomes'.





# Four Examples of Intended Outcomes

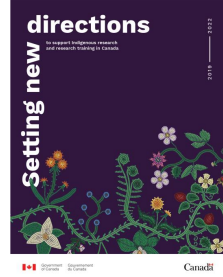
1: Researchers enabled to develop mutually respectful research relationships with Indigenous Peoples.

2: Research partnerships created between Indigenous communities, the granting agencies, and the broader research community and **research communication networks** with Indigenous communities.

3. Indigenous students have greater access to the work of Indigenous scientists and scholars.

4. First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples lead research projects for the benefit of their communities.

HOW WILL OUTCOMES BE ACHIEVED?



*“Towards reconciliation: 10 Calls to Action to natural scientists working in Canada”, (FACETS, C Wong, K Ballegooyen, L Ignace, MJ Johnson, H Swanson) 2020*

*The ten calls to action are triggered by frustration.*

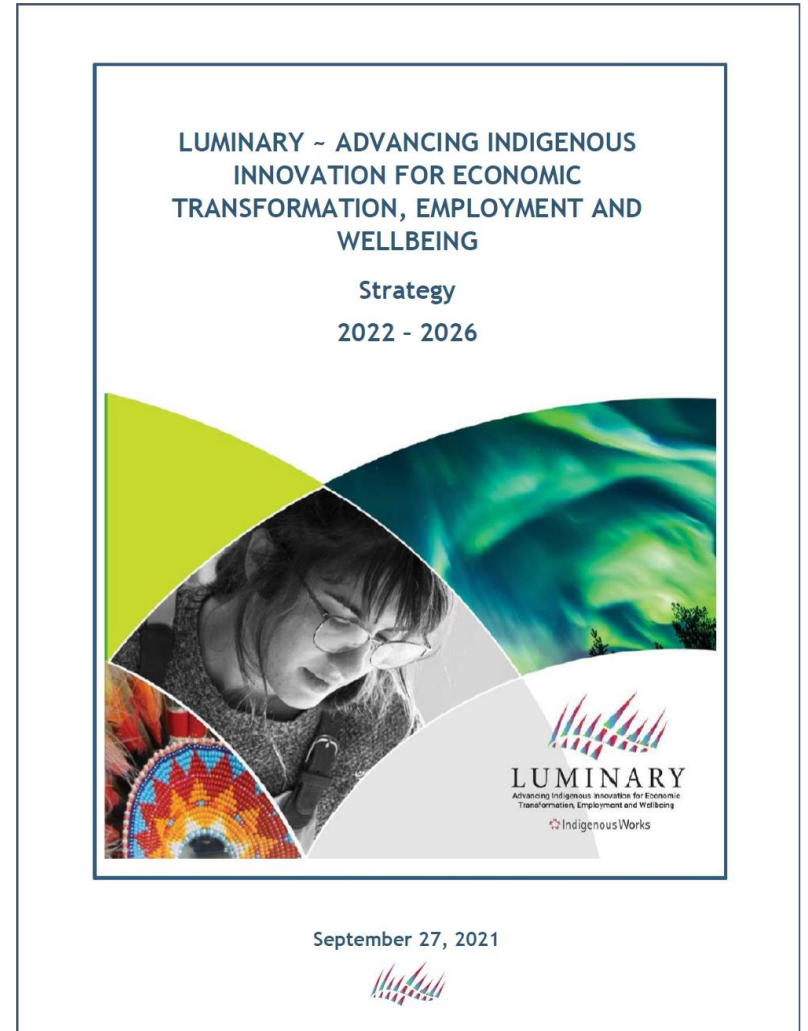
*“...natural scientists treat indigenous communities with blatant disrespect or with ignorance of indigenous rights;*

*“...reconciliation requires a new way...that includes and respects indigenous communities, rights and knowledge leading to better scientific and community outcomes.*

# THE NEW LUMINARY STRATEGY

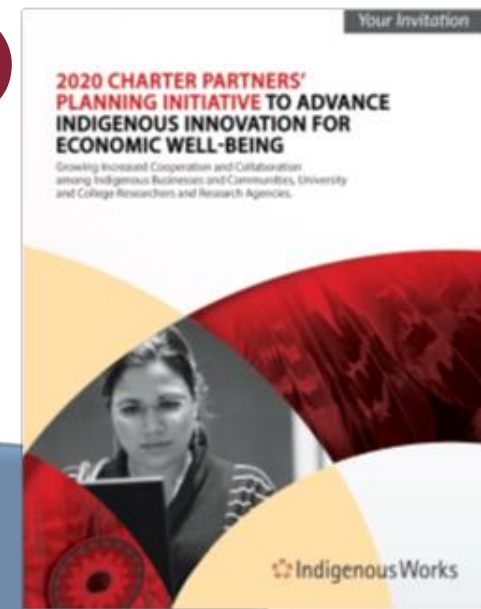
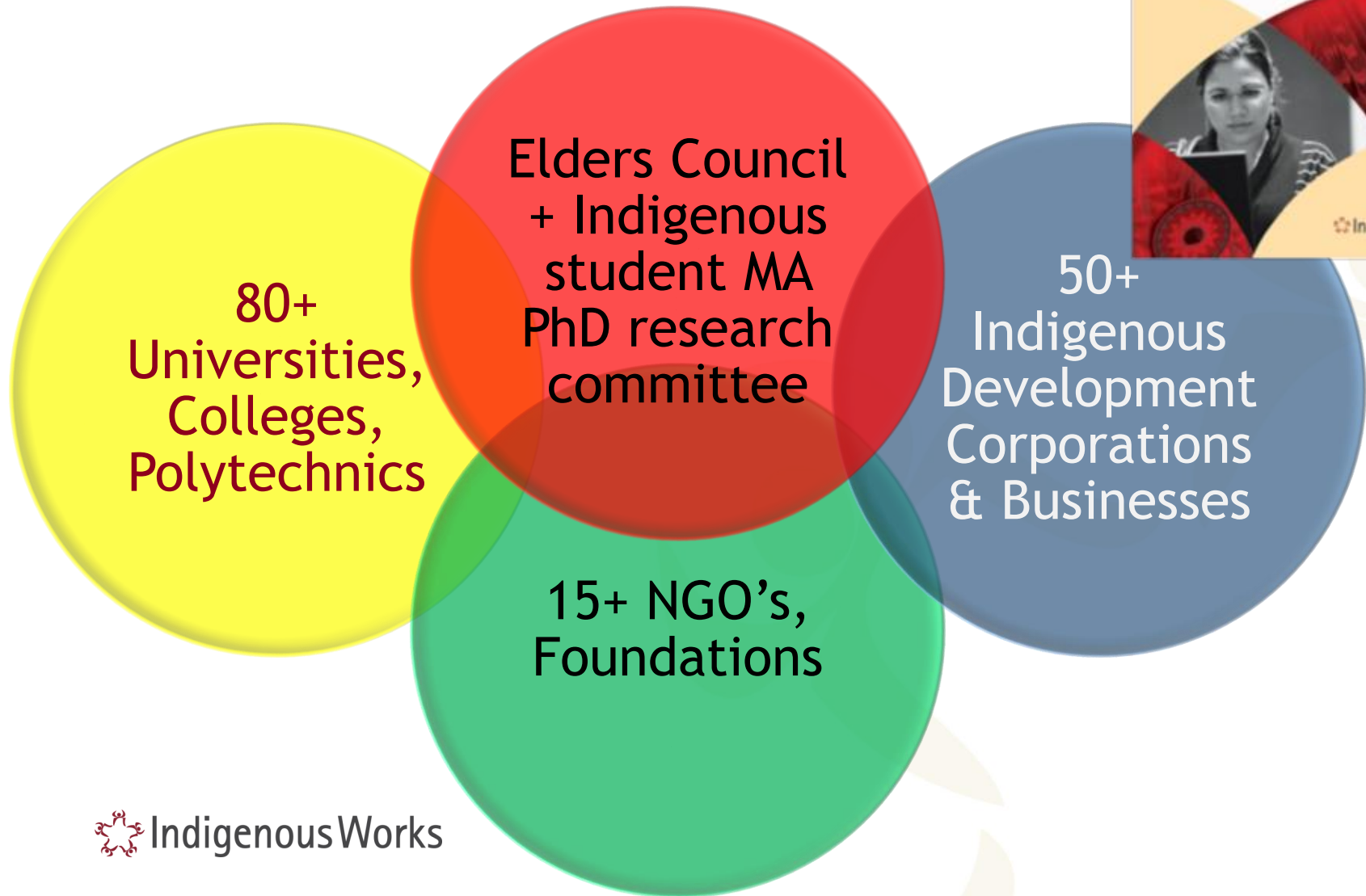
**LATE FALL 2021,  
LUMINARY PARTNERS  
CO-CREATED A FIVE YEAR  
STRATEGY PLAN**

**500+ HOURS INPUT IN  
14 STRATEGY SESSIONS  
AND TWO NATIONAL  
FORUMS IN JUNE  
AND OCTOBER 2021**





# Luminary Charter Members (160+) (See list Appendix pg 40)



# LUMINARY GUIDING LIGHTS - OUR ELDERS



Irene Lindsay - ON



Perry McLeod-Shabogesic  
Nipissing First Nation



Sally Webster -NU



Joe Quwezance,  
Hon Doctor of Laws UofS  
Yellow Quill First Nation SK



Gilman Cardinal - AB



Maggie Paul - NB  
Passamaquoddy Elder

# Luminary Partners Program Platform (Pg 25)

## Stream 1 - TALENT

Grow Indigenous Masters' and PhD Research Talent; Create a Student Network and Supports

## Stream 2 Pedagogy Curriculum

Play a strategic role to Indigenize post-secondary institutions' learning curricula.

## Stream 3 Research Collaborations

Increase Indigenous-led Research Collaborations

## Stream 4 - Institutional Capacity

Build Indigenous Leadership & Institutional Capacity for Research and Innovation

## Stream 5 – Knowledge Mobilization

Develop and Implement Knowledge Transfer and Mobilization Strategies

## Stream 6 - Awareness & Education

Increase Innovation, Awareness, Skills, & Know-how

## Stream 7- Indigenous Priorities

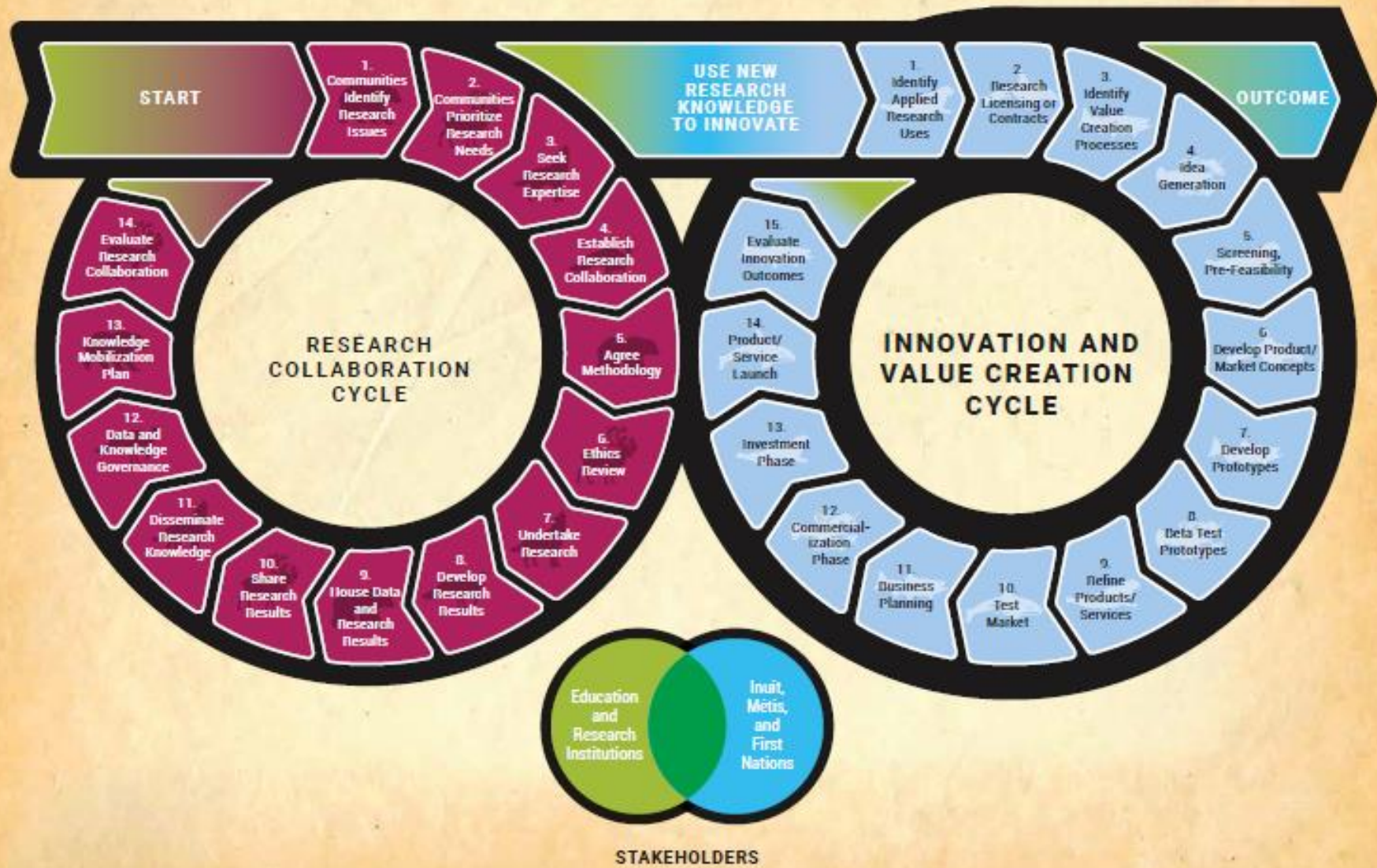
Identify & support Indigenous research and innovation priorities

## Stream 8 – Wellbeing Measurement

A more comprehensive Framework to Measure and Assess the impacts of Indigenous research, innovation and wellbeing



# Research Collaboration Cycle & Innovation and Value Creation Cycle




# Current Luminary Architecture



LUMINARY

Advancing Indigenous Innovation for Economic Transformation, Employment and Well-Being

- ✓ Luminary Partners Co-created the Strategy 2021  IndigenousWorks
- ✓ Shift into implementation and fund seeking mode
- ✓ Federal SSF Funding application for five years & 24M: 2024-2029 (only 35 organizations invited)

## Two Luminary Projects Underway

Project 1:  
Indigenous Student  
Research Talent &  
Network (underway)



Project 2 : Advancing an Innovation  
Strategy for the  
Indigenous  
Agrifoods/Business  
Sector (2021-22)

ADVANCING AN INNOVATION  
STRATEGY FOR THE INDIGENOUS  
AGRICULTURE/AGRIFOODS SECTOR

Backgrounder  
Luminary Agriculture Project  
& Charter Addendum



LUMINARY  
Advancing Indigenous Innovation for Economic  
Transformation, Employment and Well-Being  


# Conversations in the Luminary Dialogue: **Advancing** an Innovation Strategy for the Indigenous Agriculture and Agri-Food Sector

---

## Seaweed Cultivation

Our Special Guest ~ Dr Stephen Cross,  
a leading expert on coastal aquaculture

---

October 18<sup>th</sup> 2021





# LUMINARY INTERNATIONAL REACH

World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC)  World Indigenous Research Council (WIRC)

- Dr Rongo Wetera, Vice-Chancellor; MOU with LUMINARY (in development); Kelly Lendsay presented “Luminary” to the World Indigenous Research Council International Conference (July 2021)

## World Indigenous Business Forum: Nov 2021

- Kelly Lendsay presented “Luminary Keynote Address” to WIBF

# LUMINARY ROLES



# LUMINARY

Advancing Indigenous Innovation for Economic Transformation, Employment and Wellbeing

Connector & Advocate

Convenor & Facilitator

Capacity Builder

Research

Knowledge Keeper Center

Growing Indigenous  
Research Talent

Measurement & Reporting

# Seeking Foundation Funding for the Indigenous Research Talent Network Fulbright Canada & Luminary

*‘We need to address important issues, and we need to address them head on, and if sometimes that gets a little uncomfortable, so be it, disruption can lead to new models and approaches for a new Indigenous innovation ecosystem.’*

Dr. Michael Hawes

CEO Fulbright Canada



# INNOVATION

***‘We (Inuit) have so many opportunities coming down the pipeline and we are not ready. Luminary could help us, and Luminary could be the glue that pulls different Indigenous organizations together.’***

**-- Mary Simon GG**

**(From the Luminary Dialogue in spring 2021. (Mary Simon was installed as Canada’s 30th Governor General on July 26, 2021))**

LUMINARY - ADVANCING INDIGENOUS INNOVATION  
FOR ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION, EMPLOYMENT  
AND WELLBEING

CO-CREATING A STRATEGY AND PLAN

About the Charter Planning Process





# An Indigenous-led Innovation Eco-system will help

**GET US  
FROM THIS...**

**...TO THIS**



# LUMINARY: Advancing Indigenous Innovation

**Mat'na, Hai Hai  
Kinanaskomitin  
Migwetch**



**LUMINARY**  
Advancing Indigenous Innovation for Economic  
Transformation, Employment and Wellbeing

**[indigenousworks.ca/luminary](http://indigenousworks.ca/luminary)**

**Kelly J Lendsay, MBA, ICD.D  
President & CEO**

**[klendsay@indigenousworks.ca](mailto:klendsay@indigenousworks.ca)**

**306.291.0424**

