



Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET)

First Nations Agreement Holders' In-Person Meeting

ISET First Nation Agreement Holder's National Meeting

Date: September 17 – 18, 2025

Venue: Sheraton Ottawa

Address: 150 Albert St, Ottawa, ON K1P 5G2

AGENDA

Day 1 – September 17, 2025			
Time	Activity	Speakers	Location
8:00 a.m.	Registration Open	Sheraton Hotel, Lobby, 1 st Floor	
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Sheraton Hotel, O'Connor Room, 1 st Floor	
9:00 a.m.	Welcoming Remarks	Knowledge Keeper Barney Batise Regional Chief Joanna Bernard, AFN	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	AFN Update	Benjamin Green-Stacey, Director, AFN Economic Development	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	LMI Business Case Business Case Development for Transitioning the First Nations Labour Market Information (LMI) Initiative into a Permanent Government Program. This presentation will provide a brief overview of the LMI Initiative, AFN's Advocacy role, and an overview of the Business Case to date. Participants will be encouraged to join the subsequent breakout sessions to provide further comments and feedback on the LMI Business Case.	Faith Decontie Founder, Sàgàsige Annie M. Randell Finance Director, AES Inc.	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
10:30 am	Health Break	17 th Floor Lobby	
10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Overview of Concurrent Breakout Sessions A) National Certification for Career Development Professionals B) Strategies for Fostering Partnerships C) Mental Health and Wellness D) LMI Business Case Discussion	Pam Hunter, Hunter-Courchaine	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions		



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Session A	National Certification for Career Development Professionals This presentation will provide an overview of Career Certification. the approved assessment agency for the CCDP®/PCDC® designation for Career Development Professionals. This is not a training course.	<i>Presenters:</i> Tara Deveau, Program Assessor, CCDP®cm – Career Certification Lindsay Guitard, Registrar, Career Certification	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
Session B	Strategies for Fostering Partnerships This presentation explores the development of sustainable industry partnerships, drawing upon key insights from experiences with Saskatoon Tribal Council-Employment & Training, SIIT Job Connections and SITAG Partnership Initiatives.	<i>Presenter:</i> James Ouellette, Sr. Director Employment & Strategic Initiatives, Saskatchewan Indian Training Assessment Group Inc.	Salon E 2 nd Floor
Session C	Mental Health and Wellness This presentation will focus on wholeness and wellness being critical elements in the workforce, building confidence through addressing mental health barriers, and drawing out the leader within.	<i>Presenter:</i> Samanthan Moise, CDP, ESP/SFS, PIDP	Salon F 2 nd Floor
Session D	LMI Business Case Discussion Discussion topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indigenous Labour Market Information (ILMI) and Skills Inventory initiative pilot project Business Case Development for Transitioning the First Nations Labour Market Information (LMI) Initiative into a Permanent Government Program 	<i>Presenter:</i> Faith Decontie, Founder, Sàgàsige	Salon D 2 nd Floor
12:00 p.m.	Lunch	Sheraton Hotel, Club Lounge, 1 st Floor	
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	AFN Health Update The AFN continues its advocacy for the rights of First Nations Persons with Disabilities (FNPWD) through international mechanisms, including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The AFN Shadow Report recommends increased funding to ISET agreement holders to build First Nations capacity and service delivery for accessibility/ disability inclusion and to hold Canada accountable.	Marie Frawley-Henry, Sr. Policy Analyst, AFN Health	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Recap of Day 1 and Instructions for Recognition Dinner	Pam Hunter, Hunter-Courchaine	
3:00 p.m.	Day 1 Adjourns		



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Day 2 – September 18, 2025			
Time	Activity	Speakers	Location
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Registration Open	Sheraton Hotel, Lobby, 1 st Floor	
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Sheraton Hotel, OConnor Room, 1 st Floor	
8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Recap of Day 1 and Overview of Day 2	Pam Hunter, Hunter-Courchaine	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	ESDC Update	Jessica Gibbs, Acting Director Program Policy, Indigenous Affairs Skills and Employment Branch, Employment and Social Development Canada	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
10:30 am	Health Break	17 th Floor Lobby	
10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	AI in Action: Safe & Practical Use for ISET Administrators and Front-Line Workers <i>Description:</i> Curious about how artificial intelligence (AI) can support your day-to-day work—but not sure where to start or how to use it responsibly? This interactive workshop is designed specifically for Indigenous Skills and Employment Training (ISET) front-line workers and administrators who want to explore safe, practical, and culturally mindful ways to integrate AI tools into their workflows to enhance their work without compromising data privacy or community trust. Whether you're new to AI or just want to ensure you're using it safely and effectively, this session is for you	Darian Kovacs, Partner, Jelly Digital Marketing	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	First Nations Youth Build Canada (FNYBC) <i>Description:</i> AFN Resolution 86/2018, Realizing a National First Nations Youth Build Canada Program , supported the creation of a	Jody Linklater, MSs - Energy Security, Ph.D. Candidate	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor



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	national Youth Build program designed to foster improvements to the socio-economic circumstances faced by First Nation youth by addressing systematic barriers to labour market opportunities and increase access to employment opportunities.		
12:00 p.m.	Lunch	Sheraton Hotel, Club Lounge 1 st Floor	
1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.	Overview of Concurrent Breakout Sessions A) National Certification for Career Development Professionals B) Strategies for Fostering Partnerships C) Mental health and wellness D) LMI Business Case Discussion	Pam Hunter, Hunter-Courchaine	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
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2:15 p.m.	Health Break	17 th Floor Lobby	
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Plenary – Closing Gaps in Labour, Employment and Training Description: This is a conference-wide group dialogue session focusing on “Pathways for Program Renewal”.	<i>Moderator:</i> Sacha LaBillois, Sr. Policy Coordinator, AFN Economic Development	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Best Practices Description: FN ISET Agreement Holders will share best practices in supporting skills and employment training for First Nation clients.	<i>Panelists:</i> ISET Agreement Holders	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
4:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Closing Remarks	Knowledge Keeper Barney Batise Benjamin Green-Stacey, AFN Economic Development	Main Plenary Penthouse A/B 17 th Floor
4:45 p.m.	Day 2 Adjourns		