

NIB TRUST FUND  
**ANNUAL  
REPORT**  
2018-2019



CONTINUING OUR JOURNEY  
NIB Trust Fund





## CONTINUING OUR JOURNEY NIB Trust Fund

Today the NIB Trust Fund supports education programs aimed at healing, reconciliation and knowledge building. The goal of the NIB Trust Fund to help First Nations and Métis people, organizations and communities address the long-lasting impacts of the Indian Residential Schools system, and to support education programs aimed at healing and reconciliation over many years.

**Head Office:**

167 International Road, Unit 5  
Akwasasne, ON  
K6H 0G5

**Satellite Office:**

55 Metcalfe Street, Suite 1600  
Ottawa, ON  
K1P 6L5

Toll-Free: 1.888.268.0520

Fax: 613.686.6757

Email: [info@nibtrust.ca](mailto:info@nibtrust.ca)

**NIB Trust Fund Charitable Number:**

119051795RR0001



@NIBTrustFund



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# Message from our Chair



## Tansi!

The mission of the NIB Trust Fund is to support communities, organizations and individuals in making positive long-lasting changes and providing meaningful opportunities that positively changes the lives of First Nations and Métis people.

In 2009, the NIB Trust Fund was mandated with the following two new objectives:

- to support educational programs and related services and initiatives that provide assistance to First Nations peoples including the provision of financial assistance to attend education institutions at all levels; and
- to support healing and reconciliation programs, services and initiatives for First Nations peoples as required as a result of the intergenerational impacts of the Indian Residential School system.

To guide this work, the NIB Trust Fund was entrusted with residual funds from the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) and a court approved Terms and Conditions and Administration Plan that governs the applications processes, investment, accountability and reporting.

The Board of Trustees take their roles and responsibilities as trustees very seriously and are committed to providing leadership to the NIB Trust Fund. Continued development of the NIB Trust Fund as a trust and charity is a top priority so that we can meet the demand for resources for First Nations and Métis individuals, organizations and communities. The Board of Trustees oversee the investment and management of the trust funds and ensure that there is sound stewardship and strategic investment goals of the funds. The Board of Trustees meet regularly and consult with experts on the work and issues affecting the NIB Trust Fund.

This year we saw a change in trustees at the NIB Trust Fund. The Board of Trustees extends a sincere thank you and appreciation to two trustees whose terms ended in 2018, Tim Catcheway of Manitoba and Daniel Nolet of Quebec, and for their contributions to the NIB Trust Fund. The NIB Trust Fund welcomes back three trustees whose terms were renewed, Chief Rebecca David of British Columbia, Wally McKay of Ontario and Bertha Rabesca Zoe of the Northwest Territories.

We thank you for your support this past year and in the coming year, our success is yours.

Kinanâskomitinawa, Mîkwêc,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Martell". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Keith Martell, Chair  
NIB Trust Fund





# Message from our Executive Director



Tansi nitôtêmtik, I am very honoured to be appointed as the new Executive Director of the National Indian Brotherhood (NIB) Trust Fund. This role has a great responsibility to ensure that the NIB Trust Fund advances the objectives set by the NIB Trust Fund indenture and governing instruments, meeting regulatory requirements set for charities, and providing sound stewardship of the funds entrusted pursuant to the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement for First Nations and Métis individual, organizations and communities. It is a pleasure to lead collaboratively with very capable and passionate staff in providing fair, equitable and efficient access to the annual call for applications for individuals and groups. The integrity of our systems and processes is a commitment to build high standards of excellence necessary and expected of the NIB Trust Fund to support First Nations and Métis individuals, organizations and communities.

At the core of our work is strengthening First Nations and Métis identities, cultures, languages, traditional knowledge and practices, and advancing education. There is a close interconnected and intergenerational relationship that exists between First Nations and Métis peoples and their traditional lands, territories and resources. This relationship carries a particular knowledge that shapes our identity, culture, knowledge and language as First Nations and Métis. The education programs funded under the NIB Trust Fund contributes to this relationship by addressing the impacts of Indian Residential Schools and supporting the needs of individuals, organizations and communities.

The NIB Trust Fund values, mission and vision guides our work towards meeting the supporting First Nations and Métis peoples by ensuring our systems and operations keep up with technology while facilitating better access to NIB Trust Fund application processes and information. In order to enhance public confidence and accountability, we continue to make improvements in reporting the results of the funding awarded to individuals and groups. We strive to transmit the knowledge gained on healing and reconciliation to the beneficiaries through our annual report, public presentations, social media and website.

I would like to encourage everyone to contact the NIB Trust Fund for any information that you may need to support your individual or group application. It is our hope that an understanding of our role and responsibilities will contribute to our goal in providing fair and equitable access to the NIB Trust Fund resources.

Ekowski, kîhtwâm etahp,

Arnold Blackstar, Executive Director  
NIB Trust Fund



## Featured Group/Organization Projects:

### Union of New Brunswick Indians Training Institute Establishing An Education Strategy

The Union of New Brunswick Indians Training Institute's program integrates cultural practices and the revitalization of culture and tradition every day. They have established a culture-based curriculum, with involvement from elders through guest speaking, interviews, as well as encouraging students to go to elders in their community to gain access to information they would require for certain assignments. They have conducted drumming, talking circles and smudging, and are also involved with the youth of Oromocto First Nation, who come to share traditional dance and drumming with students and their families.

This program has ensured all First Nation children from the 15 communities in New Brunswick have received quality care and support for elders in their homes in their own communities. They have also strived to provide a safe and culturally relevant classroom and curriculum to all adult students. Have also created and continue to strengthen relationships with Health Canada, HRDC, Child and Family Services, Dept. of Education and all 15 First Nation communities.

"We feel very thankful for the support and funding from the NIB Trust Fund. Working with the staff of NIB Trust Fund has been a pleasant experience and everyone has been so kind and very helpful through out it all. We couldn't have done this with out the generosity and kindness from the NIB Trust Fund."







# About the NIB Trust Fund

The NIB Trust Fund was established as a trust in 1975 and in the same year obtained charitable status.

The NIB Trust Fund's objectives are:

- a) To study in conjunction with First Nation representatives from the various parts of Canada the problems confronting First Nations in today's society;
- b) To do research into the economic, social, and scientific problems of First Nation communities with a view to proposing solutions to these problems;
- c) To do research into the historical and cultural aspects of First Nation communities with a view to assisting in retaining First Nation culture and values;
- d) In order to further carry out the foregoing objects, to obtain and disseminate information to First Nation groups and others concerned with the quality of First Nations life;
- e) To provide educational programs and related services and initiatives that provide assistance to First Nations peoples including the provision of financial assistance to attend education institutions at all levels; and
- f) To provide healing and reconciliation programs, services and initiatives for First Nations peoples as required as a result of the intergenerational impacts of the Indian Residential School system.

Under the terms of the 2007 Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA), funds remaining in the Designated Amount Fund (DAF) were transferred to the NIB Trust Fund and the Inuvialuit Education Foundation. The funds are held in trust for First Nations and Métis individuals and governments, institutions, organizations, groups and are governed by the Terms and Conditions and Administration Plan that is consistent with the terms IRSSA.

The NIB Trust Fund supports education programs aimed at healing, reconciliation and knowledge building. Educational programs are those provided by education institutions, cultural centres, organizations, communities and individuals/groups, whether short- or long-term, informal or formal, or certified or noncertified.

The goal of the funds is to support First Nations and Métis people, organizations and communities address the long-lasting impacts of the Indian Residential Schools system by funding education programs that:

- Strengthen education and employment training;
- Promote First Nations and Métis languages and cultures; or
- Foster community and personal development, including access to counselling and other programs to heal communities from harms caused by the Indian Residential Schools.

Funds are available to First Nation and Métis individuals and organizations through a competitive application process. The NIB Trust Fund maintains its transparency and accountability as a results-based organization.



Over  
**6,467**

Indian Residential School survivors participated in activities through group-funded projects.



## Our Vision

Grounded in the preservation and revitalization of First Nations language, culture and way of life, the NIB Trust Fund provides resourcing to create meaningful opportunities that improve the quality of life for First Nations\*

## Our Mission

The NIB Trust Fund is devoted to creating meaningful opportunities to have a positive impact on the lives of First Nations people by:

- Cultivating a spirit of healing and reconciliation by providing resources to projects that focus on the preservation and revitalization of culture, language and ways of life; and result in greater recognition and respect for cultural diversity and First Nations autonomy.
- Supporting and promoting educational programs/services/resources and opportunities that will revitalize and protect our diverse First Nations languages, cultural practices and traditions as an integral part of enriching the lives of our First Nations people.
- Facilitating collaborative partnerships with First Nations governments, institutions, community members, as well as private and public sectors as to develop and propose projects that will mobilize greater opportunities across all regions.

\* a percentage of resources are allocated to the use and benefit of Métis Nations.





# Our Team

## Board of Trustees

L to R (standing): **Chief Roy Fox**, Trustee (Alberta); **Cara-Faye Merasty**, Trustee (Saskatchewan); **Edward Taylor**, Trustee (Yukon); **Wallace McKay**, Trustee (Ontario); and **Haskan Sioui** (Quebec/Labrador)

L to R (sitting): **John G. Paul**, Trustee (Nova Scotia/Newfoundland); **Keith Martell**, Chair; **Chief Matilda Ramjattan**, Trustee (New Brunswick/PEI); **Chief Rebecca David**, Trustee (British Columbia); **Bertha Rabesca Zoe**, Trustee (Northwest Territories); and **Jeremy McKay** (Manitoba)

### Board of Trustees Term Ended

Tim Catchway, Vice-Chair and Trustee (Manitoba)  
Daniel Nolett, Trustee (Quebec/Labrador)

### Board of Trustees New Appointments

Haskan Sioui (Quebec/Labrador)  
Jeremy McKay (Manitoba)

### Board of Trustees renewed Appointments

Bertha Rabesca Zoe, Trustee (Northwest Territories)  
Wallace McKay, Trustee (Ontario)  
Chief Rebecca David (British Columbia)



Orange Glow Photography, Calgary

## Staff

L to R: Dakota Creeley, Program Officer; Amsey Maracle, Program Officer; Justice Morningstar, Program Officer; Arnold Blackstar, Executive Director; Kelsey Thompson, Executive Assistant; Gary Duncan, Senior Finance Officer; Sheela Aubeelack, Administrative Assistant; Naomi Racette, Program Manager

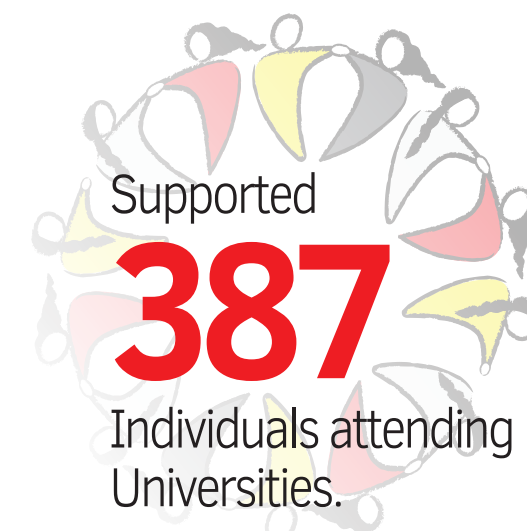
Absent: Bilingual Program Officer

## Advisors

Stuart Wuttke, Assembly of First Nation, Legal Counsel  
Ruth Jackson, Assembly of First Nation, Chief Financial Officer  
Joe Connolly, Morneau Shepell, Investment Consultant  
Don Burke, Kelly Santini LLP, Legal Counsel



Jeff Clifford Photography, Ottawa





# Application Process

The NIB Trust Fund has continued to work with FluidReview to administer our online platform for applications and process management. This platform allows for applicants to apply in a user-friendly manner.

## Group/Organization Application

Applications for groups and organizations opens in November and closes in early January. Applications will be accepted from First Nation and Métis governments and organizations who are designated as a qualified donee or registered as a charity with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). The NIB Trust Fund supports education programs aimed at healing and reconciliation, that strengthen education and employment training, promote First Nations and Métis language and culture, foster community and personal development, including access to counselling.

Groups and organizations can apply at [www.nibtrust.ca/groups/](http://www.nibtrust.ca/groups/)

1. Create a User Profile
2. Complete
  - Applicants must fill a current NIB Trust Fund application
  - Must be registered as a qualified donee or charity with CRA and provide proof, at the time of application
  - Provide the most recent audited statement
  - if applicable, provide letters describing a partnership to carryout a project
  - Describe the purpose of proposed project, work plan and budget
3. Submit the proposal

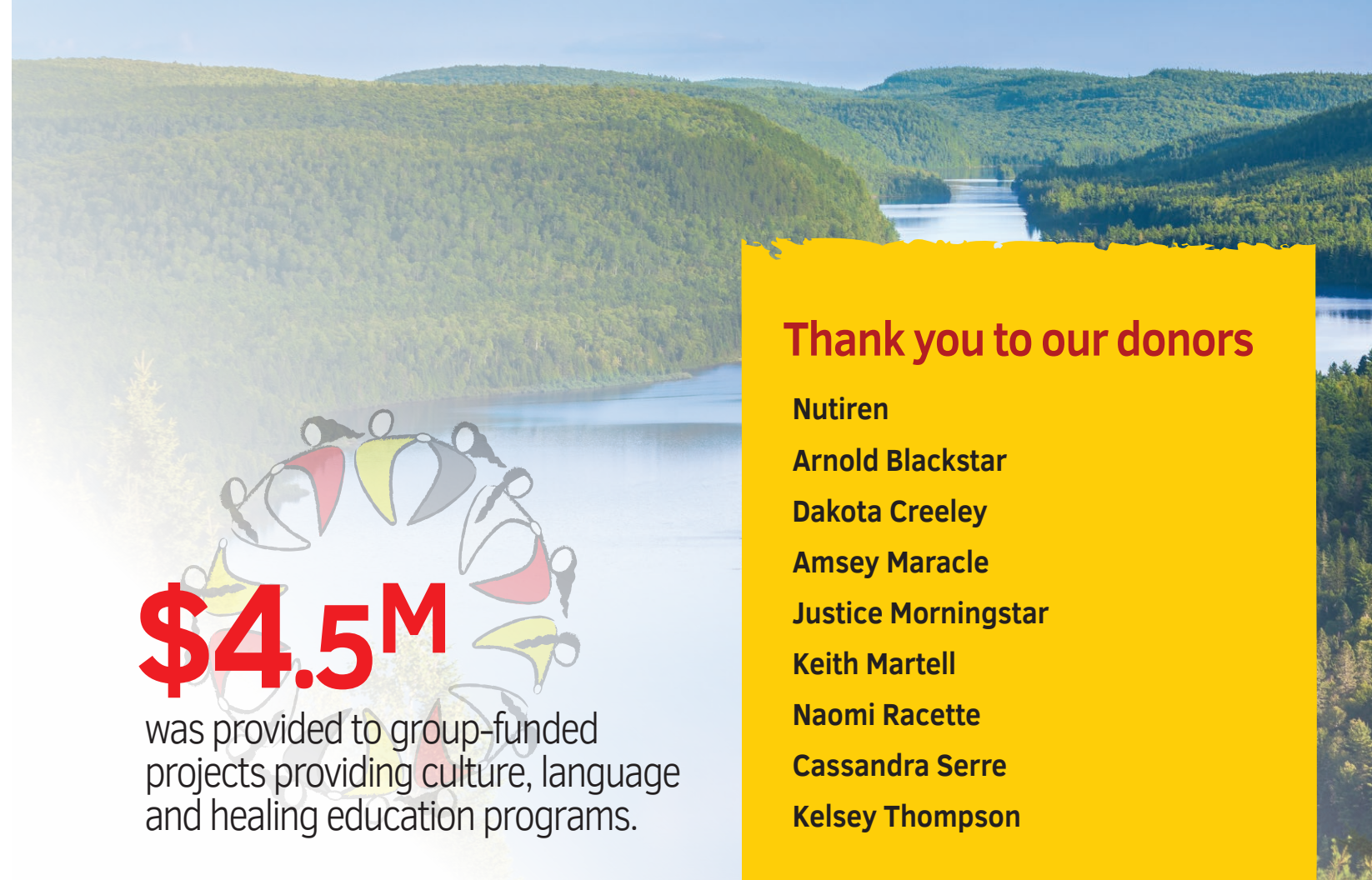
## Individual Application

Applications for individual opens in April and closes in early June. Applications will be accepted from First Nation and Métis individuals. The NIB Trust Fund supports education programs aimed at healing and reconciliation, that strengthen education and employment training, promote First Nations and Métis language and culture, foster community and personal development, including access to counselling.

Individuals can apply at [www.nibtrust.ca/individuals/](http://www.nibtrust.ca/individuals/)

1. Create a User Profile
  2. Complete several tasks
    - Applicants must fill a current NIB Trust Fund application
    - Must provide proof of First Nation or Métis membership
- If required:
- Most recent transcripts from an accredited academic institution
  - Confirmation of enrollment
  - Letter from Elder or Expert
3. Submit the proposal

The NIB Trust Fund strongly encourages applicants to complete their application online, ensure all required components are complete and submit the required supporting documentation. Email reminders of the deadline and applicants also receive e-mail confirmation once their application has been fully submitted.



# \$4.5M

was provided to group-funded projects providing culture, language and healing education programs.

## Thank you to our donors

- Nutiren
- Arnold Blackstar
- Dakota Creeley
- Amsey Maracle
- Justice Morningstar
- Keith Martell
- Naomi Racette
- Cassandra Serre
- Kelsey Thompson

## Featured Group/Organization Projects:

### Atlohsa Native Family Healing Traditional Healing Program, ONT



Atlohsa's Traditional Healing Program aims to promote holistic wellness for Indian Residential School Survivors and intergenerational survivors. Atlohsa aims to bring in Elders and healers for one on one sessions in cultural education. This program has been beneficial for survivors who have been affected by trauma from colonization through addictions, mental health, violence and homelessness.

Funding from the NIB Trust Fund has allowed this program to host land-based ceremonies such as Sweat Lodges, Full Moon, and Medicine Walks for community members. This program is open to all family, children youth and elders.



# Programs

## Group/Organization Call for Applications

The NIB Trust Fund released its third Call for Group/Organizations Applications in the 2018-2019 fiscal year. We received over 160 applications from across Canada before the January 18, 2019 deadline. The total request from all projects was over \$23 Million making it a highly competitive process as the NIB Trust Fund allotted \$7.2 million for group/organization funding for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

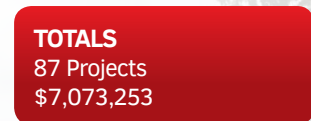
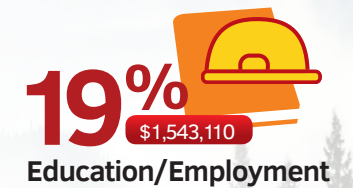
Applicants were informed of the funding decisions in March 2018. A total of 87 projects from across Canada were funded. Our staff are receiving final year reports, which provide information on the activities that were completed and participants that were reached throughout the year.

- Culture projects included land-based learning & reconnection to indigenous ways/ identity and in community cultural capacity building.
- Healing and Reconciliation projects include healing gatherings, structured healing programs, professional counselling, land-based teachings,
- Education and Employment projects included literacy, job skills, curriculum development, management capacity building in community, treaty and territory education.
- Language projects include curriculum development, language revitalization projects, immersion, elder transmission, language apps and living dictionaries.
- Other projects vary and include rebuilding kinship connections, healthy parenting, scholarship programs, youth leadership and empowerment and youth camps.

Supported  
**606**  
students attending  
education institutions.

# Approved Projects by Category

FUNDED IN 2018-2019



### Featured Group/Organization Projects:

## Foundation for the Advancement of Mi'kmaw Language Mi'kmaw Kina'matnewey



The Foundation for the Advancement of Mi'kmaw Language's Mi'kmaw Kina'Matnewey provided 13 communities with long term language planning training. The goals of program were to enable communities to discover their own path for language revitalization as there is no 'one size fits all' model for language learning.

Funding from the NIB Trust Fund allowed the Foundation for the Advancement of Mi'kmaw Language to bring together the 13 Mi'kmaw communities in one central location and provide a 3-day training in partnership with First Peoples Cultural Council. Three members represented each community; one elder, one community member and one youth. These members provided many different perspectives of language revitalization, loss and reclamation.

The funding further allowed them to provide the necessary resources to continue to support communities in their language planning journey.

This program allowed communities to see into the future while having a living document to keep language revitalization on track. It is especially important in the era of the *Indigenous Languages Act* which will provide communities with the necessary resources to implement their plans, language planning is only step 1 of many for our communities but the most essential step to ensure revitalization is the priority.

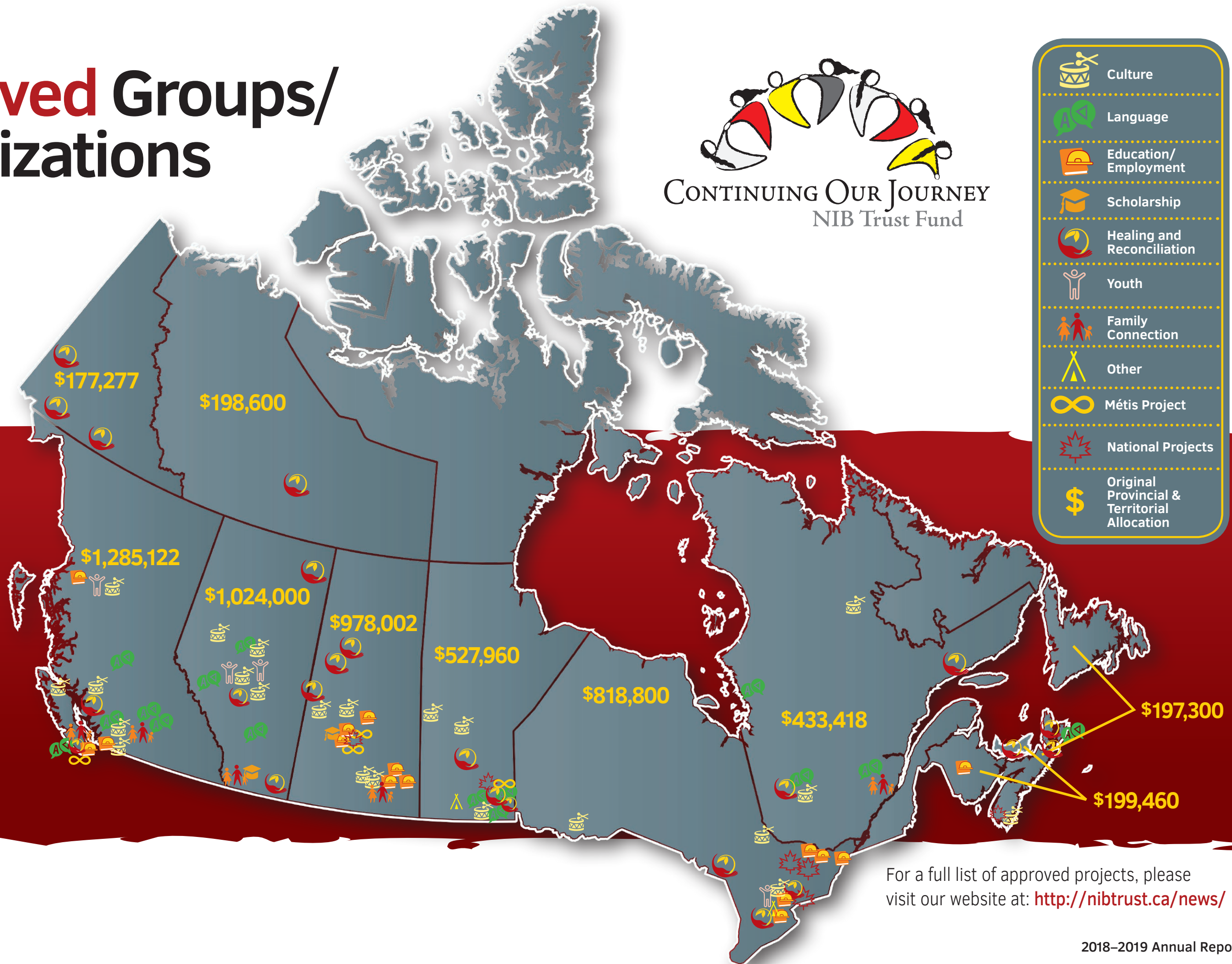




# Approved Groups/ Organizations



- Culture
- Language
- Education/  
Employment
- Scholarship
- Healing and  
Reconciliation
- Youth
- Family  
Connection
- Other
- Métis Project
- National Projects
- Original  
Provincial &  
Territorial  
Allocation



For a full list of approved projects, please visit our website at: <http://nibtrust.ca/news/>



## Individual Call for Applications

The NIB Trust Fund opened the 2018-2019 individual call for applications from April 16, 2018 to June 8, 2018. A total of 1,619 applications from individual across Canada and a total request of over \$12.5 million, making this year a highly competitive process. The NIB Trust Fund budgeted \$3.5 million for education program funding for individuals in the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

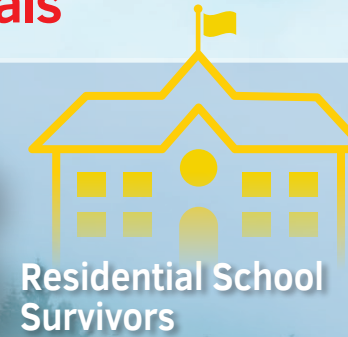
840 individuals were awarded funding which includes 817 First Nations and 23 Métis individuals. 173 were Indian Residential School survivors and 609 were intergenerational survivors. Education programs included post-secondary degree programs, certificate and diploma training programs, and cultural, language and traditional knowledge activities.

The NIB Trust Fund supported 191 awards (such as culture, land based learning, indigenous languages activities), 84 bursaries (such as certificate and diploma employment training and education programs, professional training, trades and apprenticeships), and 565 scholarships (such as post-secondary certificate, diploma and degree programs).



## Approved Individuals

**173**



**609**



**58** Other

7%  
Other

21%  
Residential School Survivors






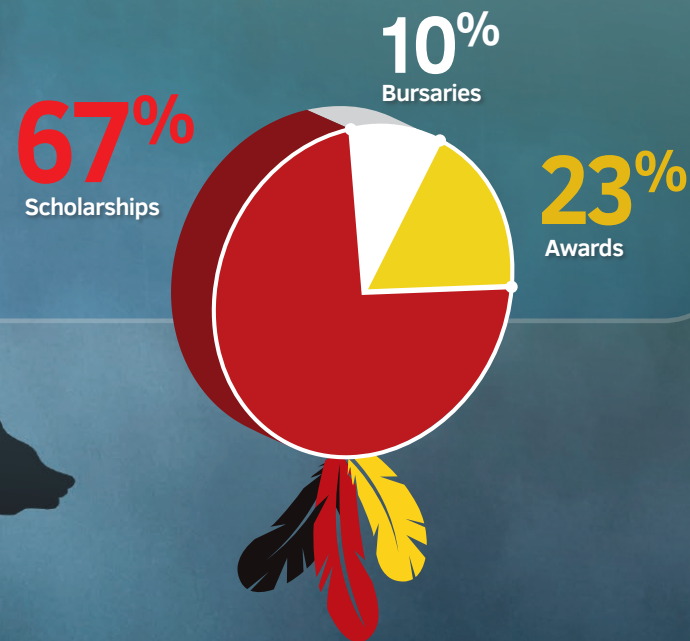
**72%**  
Intergenerational Survivors

**12.88%**  
administration costs









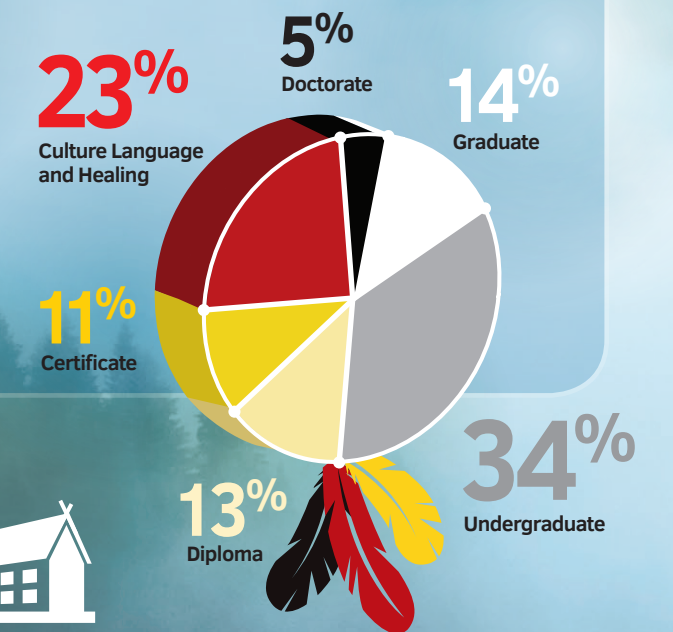
## 2018-2019 Individual Funding Distribution (\$)

Scholarships		565	\$2,385,697
Bursaries		84	\$298,699
Awards		191	\$568,588
<b>Total</b>		<b>840</b>	<b>\$3,252,985</b>





## 2018-2019 Individual Academics funded (\$)

	43	Doctorate	\$257,350
	118	Graduate	\$528,328
	287	Undergraduate	\$1,149,810
	110	Diploma	\$426,975
	91	Certificate	\$318,433
	191	Culture Language and Healing	\$572,088



15		Training Institute or Centre
79		Recipients Attending First Nation Institutions-University or College

125		Recipients Attending College
387		Recipients Attending University



# Featured Individual Recipients



## Andrew Volk – Métis, AB

Andrew Volk is a first-year student at the University of Alberta in the Doctor of Medicine, MD Program. Andrew is passionate about addressing the health deficiencies faced by fellow LGBTQS+ and Métis people in rural Alberta who have limited access to mental health specialists. After his brother died by suicide, Andrew realized his dream of being a physician.

Andrew is the co-founding Chair of the Indigenous Medical and Dental Students Association which was formed to identify, represent, encourage and advocate for the distinct needs of current and prospective Indigenous health care professionals, grounded in the respective and distinction-based traditions and teachings through mentorship and support with career transitions.

Faced by the financial burden of Medical School while raising an eleven-year-old son, Andrew is grateful to have some financial pressure alleviated by funding from the NIB Trust Fund.



## Ashley Bach, Mishkeegogamang First Nation, ONT

Ashley is an intergenerational residential school survivor. She is pursuing a Master of Science in Environmental Planning and Management at Johns Hopkins University, as well as concurrently pursuing Anishinaabemowin language courses at Trent University.

Ashley was placed in the foster care system at a young age and is now on a journey to connect with her culture, history, language and biological family.

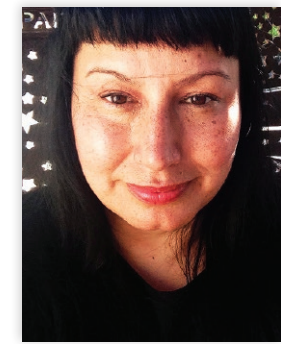
Funding from the NIB Trust Fund has helped Ashley alleviate the financial burden, made her education more accessible and break the cycle of intergenerational trauma.

## Lisa Boivin, Deninu K'ue First Nation, NWT

Lisa Boivin is completing her PhD at the Rehabilitation Sciences Institute at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine. Lisa's goal is to improve Indigenous healthcare outcomes by educating healthcare practitioners, instructors and students about Indian Residential Schools as it related to Indigenous health and wellness.

Lisa's PhD thesis is a direct response to Recommendation 24 from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Report. Which calls upon medical schools in Canada to require all students to take a course dealing with Indigenous health issues, including the history and legacy of residential schools and Indigenous teachings and practices.

The NIB Trust Fund affirmed Lisa that her research is valuable to Indigenous people and has enabled her to focus on her studies.



## Neal Cote, Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg, QC

Neal is currently enrolled in the Industrial Engineering program at École Polytechnique Montreal, specializing in project and business management. His studies have allowed him to gain knowledge in sustainable development, eco-design, and renewable resources.

Funding from the NIB Trust Fund has allowed him to focus on his studies, become top of his class, and bring valuable skills to his community.



Approved  
**\$3.2M**  
in individual funding.





### Lana Lowe, Fort Nelson First Nation, BC

After nearly a decade of working as the Director of Lands and Resources at Fort Nelson First Nation, Lana returned to school as she was seeking transformative change for herself and her community. After studying under Dr. Val Napoleon (Salteaux) she realized that we could transform community governance processes by grounding community in our own Indigenous law and legal traditions. Since then, Lana has been pursuing a doctorate in Law at the University of Victoria.

Thanks to the NIB Trust Fund Scholarship, Lana was able to recover costs of relocating from my home community of Fort Nelson to Victoria, BC. In addition, she was able to extend her 12-month required residency to 18 months to engage in additional study under the mentorship of Dr. Val Napoleon at the University of Victoria.

The Indigenous Law program has given me the intellectual tools to engage in the revitalization of Indigenous law and legal orders as the basis of transformative governance in our territories. Through the work with the Indigenous Law Research Unit at the University of Victoria she has had the opportunity to explore the revitalization of Indigenous legal traditions in the context of water governance and inter-societal conflict management. The revitalization of Indigenous law is the most challenging and important work that she has done in her career and she is grateful for the opportunity.



### Tina Wellman, Big Stone Cree Nation, AB

Tina is an intergenerational residential school survivor and is dedicated to learning different methodologies in teaching Indigenous languages from around the world.

The funds from the NIB Trust Fund helped Tina in attaining her MA, in Indigenous Languages. This program has helped further the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous cultural practices, traditions and language through her work at University Nuhelot'jine Thaiyots'j Nistameyimâkanak Blue Quills (UnBQ), she is able to facilitate workshops with students on canning while staying within the language and has also organized cultural events with the students.

### Jeanette Manyguns, Siksika Nation, AB

Jeanette is an intergenerational survivor who received her Masters of History from Old Sun Community College. Through her studies Jeanette was able to research with elders in her traditional language, as well as researching elder's family trees and putting them into an archive for future generations.

In the future, Jeanette hopes to teach Indigenous youth of their rich and unique culture and traditions.

Jeanette thanks the NIB Trust Fund for the help and encouragement she has received is appreciated and she hopes that her story can be an inspiration to other First Nations people in Canada.



### Arlene Blanchard, Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation, NL

Arlene Blanchard is attending Memorial University to obtain a certificate in Indigenous Studies.

Memorial University has assisted her in recording, transcribing and sharing the history of the Native Movement in Newfoundland and Labrador. Arlene had the opportunity to sit with Elder Calvin White, founder of the Federation of Newfoundland and Labrador Indians.

Arlene's studies provided her with a great deal of insight on the history of Canada and their relationship with Indigenous people. The courses she completed have provided her with a greater understanding and enhanced understanding in her role in protecting First Nations culture and the importance of sharing the knowledge she has gained. Spending time with a respected elder, listening to his stories and capturing his knowledge is time she will be forever grateful for and can now share with our next seven generations!



Indian Residential School Survivors and 609 of their descendants were supported to reach education goals through individual funding.

For more success stories please visit the NIB Trust Fund website: [www.nibtrust.ca/individuals/successstories](http://www.nibtrust.ca/individuals/successstories)



## **Audited Financial Statements**

The 2018-2019 Audited financial statement is available at <https://www.nibtrust.ca/about/financial-reports/>