



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The NIB Trust Releases Audit Report and Annual Report, Highlights Success Stories**

(OTTAWA, ON – September 19, 2017): The National Indian Brotherhood (NIB) Trust Fund released its 2016-2017 audit report and its 2016-2017 annual report which includes information on the Trust’s activities over the past year, including success stories of the students funded and facts and figures about its exciting and positive work.

“This has been a very dynamic year for the National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund as the organization continues to grow and develop,” said NIB Trust Fund Executive Director Nicole Callihoo. “The annual report provides a look at our activities over the past year and the work ahead of us. Our accomplishments and funding opportunities are vital to reaching our vision and mission. We remain committed to our goal of ensuring that former students of Indian Residential Schools, their families and all First Nations and Métis have access to support for their education endeavours over many years.”

In the past year, the NIB Trust Fund was able to invest in a wide variety of community-based education programs and advance the education and personal development of First Nations and Métis individuals. This includes education endeavours at university, college, trade or training schools and programming that focus on the preservation, reclamation, or increased understanding of First Nations or Métis history, cultures and languages.

The NIB Trust Fund provided funding support to 1,219 individuals in 2016-2017 and approved and supported 287 Awards for activities like cultural and language learning, 271 Bursaries and 661 Scholarships in areas like post-secondary education.

Highlights of 2016-2017 include:

- Support for 1,070 Residential School Legacy survivors to achieve their education goals
- Support for 661 post-secondary students
- Approval of \$7.1 Million in individual funding
- Approval of \$1.29 Million to individual cultural and language education goals
- Approval of \$5.07 Million in organization funding activities

The annual report highlights individuals and groups from each region who received funding from the NIB Trust Fund to pursue their education and cultural knowledge or to promote educational and healing programs. The Group Success Stories showcase language, cultural and healing programs in communities created with support of the NIB Trust, bringing together youth, adults

and residential school survivors. These programs were used to share and teach cultural and ceremonial traditions through land based activities and culture camps.

The NIB Trust Fund allocates funds in accordance with the 2007 Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, the largest settlement agreement in Canadian history. The settlement agreement provided compensation to survivors for their experiences at residential schools. Funds are available to First Nation and Métis individuals, governments and organizations through a competitive application process.

All applicants go through a rigorous process and must respect rules and guidelines to ensure suitability, accountability and transparency.

-30-

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