



ASTTBC & FNCC HONOURS NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY

June 21, 2016 marks the 20th Anniversary of National Aboriginal Day, an official day of celebration to recognize the valuable contributions to society by Canada's First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. ASTTBC CEO John Leech, ASCT, CAE and the ASTTBC team extend best wishes to our Aboriginal members and partners as we work together to promote technology education and careers with Aboriginal people and communities.

In honour of this significant day, ASTTBC and the First Nations Careers Council (FNCC) took time to reflect and celebrate the many efforts made this past year to help advance technology education, careers and their application in Aboriginal communities. Activities included:

- **BC Science Outreach Workshop, Vancouver, BC**
FNCC Chair, Bill Baglot, as well as three other elders from the Aboriginal community participated in the **STEM in the Aboriginal context** breakout session to explore and exchange knowledge about how organizations can more effectively share science, technology, engineering and math with BC Aboriginal communities. Together, working towards serving the Aboriginal community through:
 - Better Aboriginal engagement in STEM;
 - Better partnerships with the Aboriginal community;
 - Better STEM promotion;
 - Better access to STEM through culturally competent service providers;
 - Better collaboration between agencies; and,
 - Better career opportunities for Aboriginal people.

 - **First Nation Construction Industry Education (FNCIE) Project, Williams Lake, BC**
FNCC Vice-Chair, Dawn McGrath, ASCT, ROWP, and ASTTBC Manager, Professional Practice and Development, Jason Jung, ASCT, showed support to the Yunesit'in Nation and David Nairn & Associates' **FNCIE Project** by providing exposure and information on technician / technologist type occupations and career pathways at their Career Fair. The FNCIE Project engages First Nation members to expand knowledge of career opportunities in the design and construction industry by providing:
 - Training and economic opportunities aimed at engaging First Nation members in the region to expand knowledge of career opportunities in the design and construction industry;
 - Economic opportunities aimed to maximize First Nations employment in the design and construction of the Yunesit'in school gym; and,
 - Support to First Nation members in pursuance of training, education and work experience in the design and construction industry.
- In addition:**
- Providing bursaries to First Nations youth
 - Supporting First Nations youth enrolled in technology programs
 - Website featuring new events and links to Aboriginal organizations
 - Participation in career fairs and school workshops throughout the province
 - Developing relationships with related organizations
 - Supporting Aboriginal educational incentives
 - Working with industry to develop opportunities for Aboriginal technologists and technicians
 - Lobbying provincial and federal governments to provide funding for educational initiatives
 - Exploring mentoring opportunities