Management Approach: Indigenous Connections

At Stantec we are committed to building and maintaining respectful and sustainable relationships with Indigenous Peoples and communities. This is accomplished by recognizing, supporting, and respecting the diversity and distinctiveness of the Indigenous cultures of our employees, our Indigenous partners, our Indigenous clients, and the Indigenous businesses we work with. Our relationships with communities and our awareness of Indigenous cultures and histories are vital to our ability to deliver effective and sustainable project design and solutions.

Indigenous Relations
Stantec’s Indigenous Relations program fosters positive, productive relationships with Indigenous communities and businesses, and Stantec’s formalized Indigenous Relations Practice publicly commits us to action.

We are members of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB), which promotes Indigenous relationships and an economy based on shared prosperity. We are committed to CCAB’s Progressive Aboriginal Relations Program, a signal that we support a workplace that is inclusive of Indigenous Peoples and are committed to helping Indigenous communities prosper. We are also members of CCAB’s Procurement Champions Group, demonstrating our commitment to removing project participation barriers for Indigenous subcontractors and creating jobs for Indigenous community members.

We continue to partner with Alaska Native Corporations for federal government contract opportunities and other business partnerships. We proudly work with 14 Alaska Native organizations through our Alaska Native Program. We are members of the American Indian Science Engineering Society (AISES) Corporate Advisory Council and are recognized as a Top 50 Workplace for Indigenous STEM Professionals by the official magazine of AISES, Winds of Change. Our focus on promoting STEM education begins at the K-12 level through our school business partnership with the Alaska Native Cultural Charter School, Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) and Alaska Resource Education (ARE). Our STEM outreach continues through the university level via scholarship donations (for a total of $17,000) to Indigenous students at six different programs in Canada and the United States.

For several years, this program has focused on efforts in Canada and Alaska. Recently, we formally expanded this program to include a global perspective. Though Stantec has direct connections with Indigenous Peoples in countries around the world, our initial expanded focus was in the contiguous United States and Australia.

Indigenous Business Partnerships
For more than 20 years, Stantec has been the minority partner in and legal operator of numerous Indigenous Business Partnerships throughout Canada. Currently there are 11 active partnerships.

Our Indigenous Business Partnerships enable Stantec to

- Generate revenue for our Indigenous partners to support community economic growth
- Connect clients to local resources
- Combine the local knowledge of our partners and partner communities with our technical capabilities to deliver projects on Indigenous lands and traditional territories
- Provide local Indigenous community members with opportunities to build capacity through employment, training, and hands-on skills development
- Build longer-term opportunities for community members to build on existing skill sets and take on roles with increasing levels of responsibility on our projects
- Expose Indigenous Peoples to career options at Stantec
- Create shared value for our partners, our clients, and Stantec

See Also
Management Approaches
- Community Engagement
- Human Rights
- Inclusion and Diversity
- Sustainable Supply Chain