

Luminary ~ Advancing Indigenous Innovation for Economic Transformation,  
Employment And Wellbeing

Luminary Activity Update



September 25, 2023

## Luminary Activity Update

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Greetings. I am pleased to provide you with an update on our activities and some new Indigenous innovation initiatives that have been launched. I have summarized the key activities below. Please reach out if you would like more information on any of the specific activities or programs.

### 1. Strategic Science Fund Application

- Luminary is still waiting for a decision by the Federal Government Department of Industry Science and Economic Development (ISED) on its Strategic Science Fund application. We are hopeful that Luminary's \$24 million 5-year project will be funded for 2024-2029.

### 2. Lab2Market - Exploring the 'Fit' with Indigenous Research Commercialization

- Lab2Market is an initiative to grow and improve the commercialization of Canadian researchers and the research community. In the winter of 2023, Luminary was contracted by Lab2Market to explore the fit between the Lab2Market program and the Indigenous research community. A series of interviews were held with both Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers. The report will be completed in October 2023.

### 3. McConnell Foundation provides 467K Funding Support for "Building an Indigenous Seaweed Industry for Canada"

- In May 2023, McConnell Foundation announced its support of 467K over three years to support Luminary's Indigenous innovation project to build and Indigenous Seaweed industry for Canada.
- Luminary has been developing Seaweed Industry Innovation Partnerships with business schools and organizations in Canada's coastal regions. An MOU was recently signed with the Pacific Seaweed Industry Association which is one of many partnerships currently in development.

### 4. Admare BioInnovations (adMare)

- adMare is a Luminary partner and is committed to contributing toward the inclusive development of Canada's Life Sciences sector with Indigenous researchers, communities and companies. We are currently working with adMare to co-design an Indigenous Engagement Strategy for the purpose of growing Indigenous talent, research, ecosystems, and businesses.

## 5. **A New 2023 Canadian Business School Indigenous Inventory and Profile Project**

- In June 2023, Luminary hosted the first meeting of the working group that will oversee the design and development of a **Canadian Business School Inventory and Profile Survey**. We currently have no national baseline or clear picture of what is happening at Canadian business schools in terms of Indigenous programming, enrolment, pedagogy, partnerships, and strategies.
- Luminary's goal is to share knowledge and practices between and among business schools to accelerate Indigenization strategies. The 'what and how' will be tracked, analyzed, and shared with schools. This knowledge will help business schools accelerate their Indigenous engagement strategies.
- The background document and terms of reference for the working group can be found [here](#). We encourage and welcome all academic business schools to participate in this important inventory and profile exercise.

## 6. **Luminary Academic Membership Program - Join Now**

- In 2022, a new **Luminary Academic Membership Program** was co-designed with a working group comprised of business school deans, practitioners and the BSAC Executive Director. The membership was free in 2022 to allow academic institutions to build the Luminary membership into their 2023 budgets.
- The 2023 membership commenced April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and I thank all the Luminary Academic Partners who have joined! You can learn more about the membership benefits and sign up [here](#) and we appreciate your support of Luminary.

## 7. **INTACT Insurance Capacity-Building Partnership**

- THANK-YOU and another big shout-out to INTACT for your partnership commitment and financial support of 100Kper in 2022, 2023 and 2024. Your support is helping Luminary mobilize more research, program, and service delivery.

## 8. **Indigenous Innovations in First Housing Housing On-reserve**

- Luminary developed a partnership with **Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)** to conduct a policy dialogue about First Nations housing on-reserve. The dialogue platform developed by Luminary underscores the value of co-design, Two-Eyed-Seeing, and other Indigenous philosophies which emphasize the importance of traditional knowledge and knowing, the importance of Indigenous institutions, support for nation-building, an emphasis on innovation, wellbeing, the importance of systems-thinking, and other

hallmarks. The Luminary platform and its methodologies lend themselves to dialogue and policy exploration on a wide range of subjects. ISC provided \$780K toward the Luminary Housing Dialogue for First Nations on reserve.

#### **9. Current Profile and Innovation Plan for the Indigenous Agriculture and Agri-Food Sector 2021-22**

- This 2021-22 project was supported with funding investments from Nutrien - Lead Sponsor (100K); the Protein Industry Council (250K) and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (125K) and Farm Credit Corporation contributed in-kind and governance support to the steering committee. You can access the report [here](#)

#### **10. Edwards School of Business: Decolonizing and Indigenizing the Business School Curriculum”**

- In January 2023, Luminary was contracted by Edwards to explore how best to decolonize and Indigenize the business school curriculum. A group of approximately 12 academic and staff members participated in three workshops. This project is wrapping up in October. If you would like to learn more about how to customize this project for your business school or academic institution, please contact Kelly Lendsay.

#### **11. Indigenous Research Student - Work Opportunities**

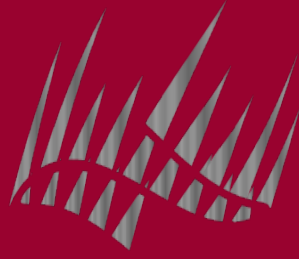
- Indigenous student researchers? Do you have students seeking some research project work? We have a number of projects and welcome you to connect with Kelly.

### **Summary**

This is snapshot of some of Luminary activities that are underway with an array of partners. If you have questions or wish to learn more about how to become involved with Luminary, please contact Kelly Lendsay.

Luminary: Advancing Indigenous Innovation  
Kelly Lendsay [email](#) or by phone at (306) 291-0424.

To learn more about the Luminary academic membership program and to become a member, click [here](#) or contact Micheline Bélanger, Project Coordinator by [email](#).



# LUMINARY

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 IndigenousWorks



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