



# 5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BRIDGING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE WITH  
THE LATEST INFORMATION ON  
COMMERCIAL TOBACCO

**FEBRUARY 5-6, 2020**

Canad Inns Destination Centre Club Regent Casino Hotel  
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

**[WWW.MBTOBACCOSTRATEGY.ORG](http://WWW.MBTOBACCOSTRATEGY.ORG)**



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**SOUTHERN MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS  
COMMERCIAL TOBACCO REDUCTION STRATEGY**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE SMFNCTRS



Greetings,

We would like to announce our 5th Annual “*Bridging Indigenous Knowledge with the Latest Information on Commercial Tobacco*” Conference from February 5-6, 2020 in Winnipeg, MB. Since 2015 we have created a space for our 36 Partner First Nations in the southern Manitoba region to come together to engage in discussion on commercial tobacco, the traditional teachings of tobacco among First Nations, and vaping.

This year we welcome guests from the Manitoba Region and across Canada. Each year we are surprised by the representation from other provinces and territories. As a result, we have decided to waive our usual Open Registration Fee so that we may continue fostering this friendship with the other regions working in tobacco in Canada.

The other relationship we care a great deal for, is the one with our Dakota, Ojibway, and Cree elders and knowledge keepers in the southern Manitoba region. This relationship has been instrumental in the success of this annual event. We cannot collectively work to reduce commercial tobacco rates in Canada unless we acknowledge the vital role that the original teachings of the First Peoples of Turtle Island has in achieving this goal.

This year's event will have an equally large focus on the area of vaping. With new research, and growing concern within Canada and the United States, it feels appropriate to examine what is currently known. This aligns with one of our core goals, to create a space to have discussions about commercial tobacco and vaping products. We aim to always provide our First Nations Partners with information that will better inform policy-making decisions within their communities.

As we move into our sixth year we also hope to highlight the Manitoba Region and the work that has been done in the area of Tobacco the last five years among the other First Nations Tobacco Programs in Manitoba. The other strategies within Manitoba include those that are with Keewatin Tribal Council, and Chemawawin Cree Nation. We also welcome Four Arrows Regional Health Authority, which will now be providing Tobacco Programming to the Island Lakes First Nations.

**Southeast Resource Development Council Corp.** and the **Southern Manitoba First Nations Commercial Tobacco Reduction Strategy** look forward to welcoming you to Winnipeg, Manitoba from February 5-6, 2020.

Miigwetch, Ekosani, Wopida,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corey Bighorn".

**Corey Bighorn**

Commercial Tobacco Reduction Coordinator

**Southern Manitoba First Nations Commercial Tobacco Reduction Strategy**



## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Southern Manitoba First Nations Commercial Tobacco Reduction Strategy (SMFNCTRS) is a regional program operating under Southeast Resource Development Council Corp. It has a multi-tribal council partnership with Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council, West Region Treaty 2 & 4 Health Services, Interlake Reserves Tribal Council and eight Independent First Nations. As of 2020 it services thirty-six First Nations.

The **SMFNCTRS** works to reduce commercial tobacco use while promoting the use of traditional tobacco.

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The 5th Annual "Bridging Indigenous Knowledge with the Latest Information on Commercial Tobacco" Conference is taking place from February 5-6, 2020 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. This event invites First Nations Health, Education, and Leadership from the southern Manitoba region and nationwide to engage with elders, knowledge keepers, and health programmers/researchers on the topics of commercial tobacco, traditional tobacco teachings, and vaping.



# CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

- Provide attendees with the latest information on commercial tobacco in Canada, including vapes through current and ongoing research.
- Provide attendees with the traditional teachings of the tobacco plant among First Nations.
- Provide attendees a space to identify and communicate their community-specific needs in the areas of tobacco (education, policy development etc.).
- Provide a platform for other projects/programs in the field of tobacco to share best practices and relevant research.
- Highlight other tobacco related resources locally, regionally, and nationally.

# WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Chief and Council (Education or Health Portfolio Holder)
- Addictions/Community Health-related Program Workers, or Health Director
- Tribal Council Health (Addictions Programs or Director of Health)
- Education (School Principal or appointed School/School Division Rep.)
- Youth
- Community Elders and Knowledge Keepers
- Organizations working in a related field and/or with Indigenous peoples.





## VENUE AND ACCOMMODATIONS LOCATION

**Canad Inns Destination Centre Club Regent Casino Hotel**  
 1415 Regent Avenue West | Winnipeg, Manitoba | R2C 3B2  
 Tel: 204-667-5560 | Website: [www.canadinns.com](http://www.canadinns.com)

## SPONSORED REGISTRATION

Sponsorship is open to all 36 Partner First Nations included in the strategy. We are sponsoring the attendance of 2 Health Workers, 1 Chief/Councillor, and 1 School Principal per First Nation (4 Spots per First Nation) and 4 Spots per Tribal Council (DOTC/IRTC/WRTC).

Sponsorship includes (all arranged by SMFNCTRS Staff):

- Accommodations at the Canad Inns Club Regent (February 4 Check-in | February 6 Check-out)(February 7 Check-out if from a fly-in community).
- Mileage reimbursement at \$0.42 cents/km.
- Flight arrangements if from a fly-in community.
- Meal per diems covered: February 4 and 5 Dinner. If travel home exceeds 200kms or if you are from a fly-in community, February 6 Dinner will be covered. February 7 Breakfast will also be covered if from a fly-in community.

For attendees that have arranged private accommodations within Winnipeg, Manitoba (no hotel coverage needed), a \$40.00 private accommodations fee per night will be paid out.

It is the sole discretion of each First Nation (FN) and Tribal Council (TC) to determine who they wish to attend out of their 4 Spots. If a FN or TC wishes to prioritize youth, elders, knowledge keepers, or other community members, they may register on the FN or TC's behalf.



# OPEN REGISTRATION

Open Registration includes those participants outside of the southern Manitoba region (from the 36 Partner First Nations) who wish to attend, and vendors. We have waived Open Registration Fees and Vendor Tables Fees for this years' event, allowing guests from outside the region and vendors to attend at no additional cost.

## REGISTRATION DATES (ALL REGISTRATIONS)

Registration Open: November 25, 2019

Registration Close: January 23, 2020

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

1. All registrants receive a personalized email confirming registration. If you do not receive an email confirming your registration you are not considered registered.
2. If you email, fax, or mail in your registration and do not receive a response within 5 business days you must resubmit or contact us directly to resolve this otherwise it will affect any coverage you may be expecting (hotel, meals, mileage etc.)
3. Sponsored Registrants receive a personalized email confirming:
  - Event Dates • Location • Times • Name/Org. Cheque Will be Issued to (*if applicable*)
  - Mileage Reimbursement Information (*if from a drive-in community*)
  - Flight Information (*if from a fly-in community*) • Hotel Check-In/Out (*if applicable*)
  - Private Accommodation Fee Coverage (*if applicable*) • Meal Per Diem Information

This email is your chance to correct/change any information (e.g. name spelling or travel information).

**Any changes requested or late registrations after January 23, 2020 will result in having to wait until Friday, February 14, 2020 for a reimbursement cheque.**

4. Reimbursement Cheques will be distributed on February 6, 2020 at a separate table in the registration area throughout the lunch hour and afternoon break. The only exception for early pick up is for those community members who have long distance travel.





## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

We are looking to fill 30-90 minute presentation slots for this years' agenda. Interested individuals, programs, or organizations may forward their application with our **"Call For Abstracts"** found at [www.mbtobaccostrategy.org](http://www.mbtobaccostrategy.org). We ask that selected applicants cover their own travel expenses if able. However, expenses may be covered if requested in your application.

**Abstract Submission Open:** November 22, 2019

**Abstract Submission Close:** January 17, 2020

**Selected Applicants Notified within 1-2 Business Days after the Application Deadline.**

Presentation topics can include other areas of health as they relate to tobacco or vaping (e.g. mental health, pregnancy, diabetes etc.). We also accept verbal applications over the phone to reduce barriers for Elders/Knowledge Keepers (e.g. access to computer etc.).

## VENDOR BOOTHS

If you are a health-related program/organization or Artisian interested in setting up a booth from February 5-6, 2020, please register through the "Open Registration Form" found at [www.mbtobaccostrategy.org](http://www.mbtobaccostrategy.org). Limited spots are available and are filled first come first serve. There is no fee for vendor booths. Travel and accommodations are not covered for vendors.

## MEDIA RELEASE

A photographer will be on-site to photograph all sessions, including presenters and participants. All participants will receive a **"Media Release Form"** to sign upon check-in at the event.



# PLANNING COMMITTEE



**DIANE BEAR**  
Peguis First Nation

**TARA DELA CRUZ**  
Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation

**ANGIE MEISNER**  
Little Saskatchewan First Nation

**NELSON JAMES**  
Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation

**GARNET MEECHES**  
Long Plain First Nation

**MARI STAGG**  
Interlake Reserves Tribal Council

**KRISTIN TISCHINSKI**  
Prairie Mountain Health

**PENNY SPENCE**  
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation

**KAREN PRINCE**  
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation

**HAZEL COCHRANE**  
Fisher River Cree Nation

**JERILYNN ESQUASH**  
Swan Lake First Nation

**COREY BIGHORN**  
Southern Manitoba First Nations Commercial Tobacco Reduction Strategy

**MARCIE TAVARES**  
Interlake Reserves Tribal Council

**AMANDA WILLIAMS-THOMAS**  
Southern Manitoba First Nations Commercial Tobacco Reduction Strategy

**BARBARA THOMPSON**  
West Region Treaty 2 & 4 Health Services



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