



First Nations of Canada and Conscious Care Systems

Indigenous cultures around the world have experienced great upheavals and reversals of fortune over time. Today the stark realities of this tragic history are well recognized by virtually all people and their respective governments. However, the bitter fruit of this legacy persists and now threatens to further decimate aboriginal people on every continent.

The history of native people in Canada is particularly compelling as they continue to derive limited benefit from a country rich in natural, economic and human resources. Despite rancor on the part of some, surely most Canadians lament the current state of affairs and wish to change the status quo of its indigenous citizens. Significant goodwill toward aboriginal populations and great regret for their previous treatment over many years may now combine to catalyze a shift in the relations between these native people who are, to a great extent, independent of federal and state governments yet are largely dependent upon these regimes for sustenance, education, healthcare, housing, employment and more – at significant national expense.

Current demographics are sobering related to many First Nations communities. With high rates of unemployment, substance addiction and more on the 630 First Nation Reserves, it is no surprise that these communities rank 48th globally. This is in dramatic contrast to Canada which ranks 6th overall.¹

There are many diverse solutions to some of the most pressing concerns of indigenous Canadians that include continuing alliances and partnerships among the First Nations such as Aki Energy Inc. (created by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs), BUILD (social/training enterprise), Green Communities Canada, Manitoba Geothermal Energy Alliance, as well as, Canadian (and other) provincial and federal governments, NGOs, corporations and private interests. These solutions encompass numerous issues that to a great extent – may be resolved through new and culturally-rich systems that can be phased in as rapidly as economically feasible. The historic hopelessness and powerlessness that have held sway for so long and now threaten to destroy the identity of many indigenous people may yet be mitigated as evidenced by a powerful resurgence - and reemergence - of First Nations identity and iron will. Even so, the elders are fast disappearing - taking their beautiful culture, history and languages with them - another irreversible and compounding tragedy. Cultural remediation and education programs and the rebuilding of a contemporary native culture by its own people can help to transcend the legacies and reminders of the past, as will multicultural reconciliation programs designed to bring people together and bond them through shared aspirations. There are, of course, many non-natives who share a commitment to such change which include Conscious Care Systems / CCS (Marie Eisele-President), Global Farming Industries (Gigi Mander-CEO) and Transformational Learning Institute (Gilles Brouillette-CEO)².

¹ http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/story/2005/04/11/UNNatives-050411.html "According to a 2005 UN report, Canada would be placed 48th out of 174 countries... if the conditions of native people were the only qualifiers, the country's ranking would plummet."

² <u>www.ccs-cares.com</u> <u>www.linkedin.com/pub/marie-g-eisele/27/a3/136</u> <u>www.transformationallearning.ca/</u> www.inc.com/magazine/201211/leigh-buchanan/why-the-world-needs-big-ideas.html

It is encouraging to see that the First Nations continue to engage in open dialogue with the varied tiers of federal, provincial and local representation and to pursue modern agreements for self-determination and self-sufficiency for their people, ensuring a green and viable future for the children and for "seven generations."³

What is Conscious Care Systems?

Conscious Care Systems (CCS) is a company that has its emphasis on the development of village-like models in all residential settings - with a focus on healthcare delivery and long-term care. Strong support of cultural legacies that help maintain traditions and common cause will be important to building effective, economic, and sustainable models for inter-generational community living as well as the delivery of healthcare - especially on the First Nation reserves. CCS will provide not only expertise and templates for change but will garner support from various sectors to ensure viable futures for challenged, impoverished and at-risk populations wherever they exist.

Improved lifestyles and more opportunities - for rural and First Nation reserve populations in particular - will allow working people to remain in, or return to, their ancestral homes, to add to the world economy, and to become better stewards of their own environments. Extensive year-round farming options, renewable energy/green programs and businesses, eco-oriented design and commerce, financial sustainability practices, the pioneering and production of affordable housing options and intergenerational neighborhood responsibilities will also add significantly to the development of optimal community models.

Dependable and affordable amenities such as clean water and electricity, safe/sustainable housing, transportation, modern community services and prevention/wellness-driven healthcare will ensure that rural and reserve life can again become feasible for many of those who are currently being driven by necessity from their local communities. The sharing of superior communal amenities, technologies and services will also help stem the tide of each family or individual striving to own the many conveniences and luxuries typically taken for granted by those in western-style cultures. Shared resources, programs, activities and common spaces will also foster closer relations and help ensure much higher quality-of-life for all – especially when incentives, structure, and organization are employed effectively (training and templates for such are offered by CCS and its associates).

Conscious Care Systems has developed certifications, (i.e. *CCS Certified*) to provide branding, accountability and on-going product/services delivery for its advanced systems. "CCS Certified" communities will include options such as:

• <u>Magnet Inter-generational Community Centers</u> with strategic initiatives to attract economic, cultural, and governmental development. These interactive centers can:

- Support the launch of business projects/cottage industries/farming initiatives and other economic enterprises

- Provide diverse inter-generational education, training and support

- Offer meaningful participation incentives for constituents to join in cultural restoration and identity programs – also leisure, spiritual/ceremonial, nutrition and communal activities

- Provide day(care) service locations/programs for children, elders and challenged individuals

• <u>Wellness, Prevention & Lifestyle Software Libraries</u> that provide over-arching portal infrastructure and functionalities for multiple services (To be phased in after Module 1A, i.e. after first quarter)

³ www.forthenext7generations.com - The 13 Indigenous Grandmothers

• <u>Conscious Communities / Conscious Care Centers and Residences</u> that coordinate programs and services with other community and government organizations, businesses, schools, colleges, etc. and foster PR and resource/funding opportunities for such

• <u>Community Business Hubs</u> that support new revenue streams, innovative incentives, high visibility profiles, scale economics, etc.

- New funding streams (e.g. productivity programs, cottage industries)

- Public relations, outreach, and cooperative business and NGO ventures

Please note the October 2012 article from Inc. Magazine regarding CCS associate, Gigi Mander's ambitious goal of worldwide sustainable village models (i.e., Global Farming Industries) (<u>www.inc.com/magazine/201211/leigh-buchanan/why-the-world-needs-big-ideas.html</u>),. Conscious Care Systems and Global Farming Industries business plans and many other documents are available to interested parties. Also please note that The Transformational Learning Institute, Gilles Brouillette, Ph. D., President, (Montreal and University of Ottawa) will also play an important role in our Canadian and US ventures. (http://trans-formation.ca/)

Thank you. Marie Eisele

The following statistics for Native and Non-Native Canadian populations were compiled by "Statistics Canada". More recent and complete statistics are needed.

Also there are many reserves such as those in Manitoba whose conditions are considerably worse than indicated by "Statistics Canada". Significant discrepancies exist between the following figures and those from First Nations representatives. Efforts to resolve these will continue and documentation will be forthcoming related to the research that CCS will prioritize, including employment, healthcare, welfare, missing women and girls, substance abuse, incarceration, child welfare issues, living conditions and more.

https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/catalogue/89-645-X https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/subjects/

Employment: (ages 25-54) 65% Aboriginals (A) 60% First Nations (FN) 82% Non-Aboriginal (NA)

Population: 1.807 Million (A) 1,048 Million (FN)

Median age of population: 27 (A) 40 (NA)

Total median income: (ages 25-54) 22K (A) 19K (FN) 33K (NA)

Projected life expectancy at birth by sex, by Aboriginal identity, 2017 Male:

73 (FN)
79 (NA)
<u>Female:</u>
78 (FN)
83 (NA)
Population w/ knowledge of Aboriginal language:
22% (A)
22% (A) 51% (FN on reserve)
51% (FN on reserve)
51% (FN on reserve) 12% (FN Off reserve)

Proportion of dwellings in need of major repairs by Aboriginal identity, population aged 15 and over 45% (FN on reserve) 17% (FN off reserve) 7% (NA)

Post Secondary education: (ages 25-54) 48%

