



Head Office	Siège social
P.O. Box 6051	C.P. 6051
Moncton, N.B.	Moncton (N.-B.)
Canada E1C 9J8	Canada E1C 9J8

January 12, 2022

Mr. Keith Henry  
President and CEO  
Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada  
8th Floor, 333 Seymour Street  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
V6B 5A7

Dear Mr. Henry:

Further to the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada's inquiry, I am responding on behalf of Canada's regional development agencies (RDAs) to confirm that Indigenous sole proprietors are eligible under the Tourism Relief Fund.

The same program parameters apply to Indigenous sole proprietors and other tourism businesses and organizations. In all cases, costs may be eligible on a retroactive basis up to 12 months prior to the receipt of a project application, but no earlier than April 19, 2021.

I would be grateful if you could advise your membership of this decision. The RDAs will also reach out to Indigenous tourism associations and contacts in their respective regions to ensure as many Indigenous tourism sole proprietors as possible are aware.

Tourism is one of the largest employers and economic drivers for Indigenous communities across Canada. With the devastating impact of COVID-19 on the tourism sector, Indigenous communities that rely heavily on tourism have been disproportionately affected. All RDAs look forward to supporting Indigenous tourism businesses and organizations, including sole proprietors, in strategically adapting their products and services to adjust to public health requirements while investing in recovery efforts for future growth.

.../2

If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to Kelly Power, Director General, Tourism Atlantic and Strategic Initiatives. She can be reached at 782-377-0647 or at [kelly.power@acoa-peca.gc.ca](mailto:kelly.power@acoa-peca.gc.ca).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daryell Nowlan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and "N".

Daryell Nowlan  
Vice-President, Policy, Programs and Communications