

Dear Honourable Minister Valdez,

As a Metis entrepreneur who has collaborated with tourism operators and leaders across the country for over 20 years, I urge you and the Government of Canada to fund ITAC (Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada)

I have been involved since the beginning of the CTC and Destination Canada and have seen the collaboration between Canada's crown corporation and ITAC since its inception.

Please provide ITAC with the annual operating capital, either directly or via funding provided to Marsha and the team at DC.

ITAC built most of the provincial Indigenous associations from inception to their current operational status. Allow ITAC to continue its economic development work in collaboration with our national agencies.

While I am building Explore Canada, our nation's first travel brand for my 20+ year Rendezvous Canada buyers, I am hoping that ITAC will be there to assist me as we seek Indigenous product and experiences to showcase to the world. Once the program launches in 2027, we will market it to Canadians for domestic travel as well.

Rechie, as an owner of several tourism businesses built from hard work and vision, I hope we can provide ITAC with annual funding for Indigenous Tourism as we build this important sector of our industry.

Most Sincerely,

Randy Vannatter
Owner/Operator

Randy Vannatter
Managing Partner
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