

April 6, 2022

First Nations Bank of Canada Welcomes New Board Members

Saskatoon, SK - First Nations Bank of Canada (FNBC) announced the addition of four new members to its Board of Directors at the Annual Shareholders' Meeting on April 6, 2022:

- **Perry Bellegarde**, former Chief of Little Black Bear First Nation and two-time National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations
- **Rod Hick**, President and CEO of Atuqtuarvik Corporation and recently named Honorary Patron of the Arctic Inspiration Prize
- **Brenda LaRose**, nationally recognized leader in Indigenous executive recruitment and former Managing Partner, National Diversity and Indigenous Board Practice with Leaders International Executive Search
- **Danika Littlechild**, member of Ermineskin Cree Nation and Assistant Professor in the Department of Law and Legal Studies at Carleton University, formerly held positions with the Assembly of First Nations and the United Nations Development Program.

"We are celebrating our 25th anniversary this year and from the beginning, have focused on the growth of the Indigenous Economy and the economic well-being of Indigenous People in Canada," says Keith Martell, President & CEO of FNBC. "Our newly appointed board members represent the increasing diversity and broad interests of Indigenous and non-Indigenous customers across Canada. We are honoured by their commitment to help us ensure our continued success as a business and as a socially, environmentally, and economically responsible financial institution that aligns with the interests and values of its employees and external stakeholders."

"We would like to thank Mark Wedge and Ken Toner, who are retiring from the Board, for their many years of guidance and advice which has been instrumental in the success of the Bank," says Bill Namagoose, the Chair of the Board of Directors.

The continued growth of FNBC allows for increased financial and social contribution to previously underserved Indigenous People and Communities. With community partnerships grounded in trust and respect, FNBC is committed to strong and diverse leadership that reflects the strength and diversity of the customers and communities served by the Bank. Now 87% Indigenous-owned, the Bank continues to increase personal and business banking services for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, corporations and governments.

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About First Nations Bank of Canada

FNBC is a Canadian chartered bank with over 87% Indigenous shareholders including groups from Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Yukon, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta and Quebec. FNBC is a leader in the provision of financial services to Indigenous People and an advocate for the growth of the Indigenous Economy and the economic well-being of Indigenous People.

BIOGRAPHIES



Peter Bellegarde

Mr. Bellegarde is a member of Little Black Bear First Nation in southern Saskatchewan and served two terms as National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. Mr. Bellegarde held various First Nations leadership roles, including Chief of Little Black Bear First Nation and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (now Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations), as well as Saskatchewan Regional Chief for the Assembly of First Nations. Mr. Bellegarde has received numerous awards and accolades for his contributions to the advancement of Indigenous Peoples on a national and global scale.



Rod Hick

Mr. Hick is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Atuqtuarvik Corporation. Based in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut, he has been with the Inuit-owned financial institution since 2004. His director experience extends to not-for-profit organizations, serving on the Inuit Nunangat Selection Committee for the Arctic Inspiration Prize and being the President and Chair of a business joint venture. Recently, he was named an Honorary Patron of the Arctic Inspiration Prize.



Brenda LaRose

Ms. LaRose is a human resource professional with 25 years' experience in executive search. Recently, Ms. LaRose was the Managing Partner, National Diversity and Indigenous Board Practice with Leaders International Executive Search. Founder of Higgins Executive Search, Ms. LaRose developed a national practice and was nationally recognized as a leader in recruiting Indigenous and diverse executives. Brenda currently serves as a Director on the Executive Committee and the Human Resources and Compensation Committee of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, as Director of Infinity Investments, and as Board Advisor to Yukon's Air North.



Danika Littlechild

Ms. Littlechild is a member of the Ermineskin Cree Nation and holds a Master of Law from the University of Victoria, a Bachelor of Law from the University of Toronto, and a Bachelor of Arts from Carleton University. She has extensive experience in Aboriginal and Indigenous Law, Cree systems of law and Indigenous governance and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Law and Legal Studies at Carleton University. She held various roles in law, education, and governance, including different positions with the Assembly of First Nations and as an Advisor for the United Nations Development Program.