



About Indigenous Insight

Indigenous Insight, a First Nation owned company operating on *ᓐᓂᓐᓂᓐ* Nation treaty settlement lands offering cultural awareness training and Indigenous community engagement advisory services to various levels of government and corporate third-party interests that assist in developing Indigenous engagement strategies.

Cultural Awareness Training (two options)

Topic modules

Indigenous Insight has developed a five-topic cultural awareness training package (roughly 30 pages) that includes individual sections detailing the most significant challenges forced upon First Nations in Canada. These sections include: the *Indian Act*; the *Indian Reserve System*; the *Indian Residential School System*; *Reconciliation*; and *Common Misconceptions and Resources*. The information contained in these documents can be used by companies wishing to customize on-line training programs, either via simple PDF documents or video format. *Indigenous Insight* would be willing to lend voice and image to the video formats.

Four-hour facilitation session

Indigenous Insight has developed a four-hour facilitation session that can be used with staff, management and/or leadership. Groups of 20 to 30 people can be accommodated. A four-hour session focuses on where First Nation people have been, challenges faced and overcome and where they are now. These sessions can also discuss pertinent issues such as difficulties faced when engaging First Nation communities, youth suicide, democracy in First Nation communities. Content of four-hour sessions can be customized to meet specific needs. This four-hour format works best when broken into two parts (part A and B).

Part A 1-hour PowerPoint Presentation

1.0	Life Pre-contact (i.e. archaeology v. traditional use, way of life).
2.0	Life at contact and subsequent challenges, including disease (small pox, influenza, measles, TB); forced learning of a new language and new systems (i.e. governance, justice, education, etc.).
3.0	Post-contact challenges such as the imposition of the Indian Act; Indian Reserve System; Indian Residential School System; and reconciliation.
4.0	Reconciliation and other relevant Indigenous issues (i.e. youth suicides, housing crisis's, political corruption, community conflict); natural resource developments (i.e. Kinder Morgan); and racism.
5.0	Why Indigenous community engagement can be difficult (do's and don'ts) and common misconceptions.

Part B 3-hour Roundtable dialogue session

- Using traditional talking feather (and on-deck feather); and
- Three to five questions/issues can be discussed. Questions are identified by the client and/or participants via survey/questionnaire. Tough questions encouraged.

Quotes available upon request.



Why is First Nation Engagement so challenging?

A very tough question with multiple answers. As an Aboriginal person (and former Chief Councillor, Councilor, Manager – Aboriginal Rights/Title), this question can be frustrating and difficult to answer. Any answer would have to include serious discussion around the many challenges thrust upon First Nation communities across Canada for many decades, including: *Indian Act*; *Indian Reserve System*; *Indian Residential School System*; and diversity of First Nations - there are 634 recognized First Nation communities in Canada; each with its own Chief and Council; own decision-making process; own unique set of challenges / opportunities; and own land base. Each community is doing its own thing, some impressively succeeding while many continuing to struggle. It would not be a stretch to say many First Nation communities have been locked in recessions lasting in excess of 130 years.

A First Nation may be difficult to engage simply because it lacks available capacity and/or resources to effectively engage third-party interests who have made formal application to develop within a traditional territory. This issue is magnified in BC, where the land question has in large part, not yet been answered. In the provincial consultation process, companies generally take one of two routes: a) maintaining status quo by simply submitting development applications and to the Crown and awaiting its determination (which quite possibly result in future litigation - depending on magnitude of development application - and ruining any future relationship with the First Nation); or b) take the consultation-lead away from the province and ensure meaningful consultation takes place, with the cooperation of the First Nation (*recommended*). Taking the lead in this situation is easy as the province will usually off-load the responsibility to consult to the permit applicant.

About Qwastānayā (L. Maynard Harry)

Maynard is former Chief Councillor with the *Tla'amin Nation*, served on its council for eight years and his intergovernmental work has been recognized on a regional ('*Freedom of the City*' - City of Powell River, 2008) and national level ('*Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal*' - Governor General David Johnston, 2013). Maynard also managed *Tla'amin's* Aboriginal Rights and Title Department for 12 years.

Maynard was recently appointed *Tla'amin Nations President*, *Tla'amin Holdings Board*; Director, *Tla'amin Real Estate Inc.* and Partner, Raven Events, owner of the *Advanced Business Match* (ABM) trademark. For more information, please call 604-223-7462 or e-mail maynard@indigenouinsight.ca.

Qwastānayā (Leon Maynard Harry), Founder
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