

NAFA



**NATIONAL
ABORIGINAL
FORESTRY
ASSOCIATION**

**ASSOCIATION
NATIONALE DE
FORESTERIE
AUTOCHTONE**

Dear Sir / Madam,

RE: "National Directory of Aboriginal Businesses in the Forest Sector 2009"

The National Aboriginal Forestry Association (NAFA), with the support of Natural Resources Canada – Canadian Forest Service is developing a **"National Directory of Aboriginal Businesses in the Forest Sector 2009."** The primary objective of this directory will be to produce a useful current listing of all forestry-related businesses that will be used by contracting authorities and other businesses seeking Aboriginal suppliers and business partners. The directory will be a marketing reference tool made available in both publication format and electronically on the web, and we are planning to update it on an annual basis.

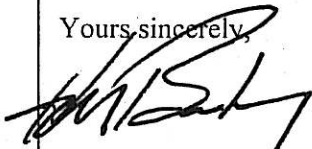
Through NAFA's working networks and research and advocacy activities it has undertaken over the past several years, NAFA has estimated that there are more than 1200 Aboriginal forest-based businesses in Canada. Most of these enterprises are small and medium-sized enterprises (SME's) that could benefit from the increased visibility that a focused directory would provide. The added exposure provided by a National Directory of Aboriginal Business in the Forest Sector will prove useful in finding customers for the listed enterprises. It will connect these enterprises with buyers, distributors and potential partners and contribute to growth and diversification in the Aboriginal forest based economy.

The directory will serve other useful purposes, in terms of data generation enabling trend analysis, the identification of focused research and development needs and best practices, and fostering linkages with other economic sectors. The development of a National Directory of Aboriginal Businesses in the Forest Sector, and the supporting on-line database, is timely considering the broad transformation occurring in the forest sector.

We are hopeful that you will see the potential benefits of this directory to your business. Your listing in this initial edition is free of charge. Attached you will find a questionnaire that is to be filled out and signed confirming the validity of the information provided. The questionnaire is to be returned to NAFA by fax or by mail by September 15th, 2009 and we anticipate printing and distribution of the directory by October 2009.

We look forward to having your company listed in the directory and should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Verna McGregor at 1-613-233-5563 or e-mail at verna@nafaforestry.org

Yours sincerely,


Harry M. Bombay
Executive Director

Branch office:

396 Cooper St., Suite 409
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 2H7
Tel: 613.233.5563
Fax: 613.233.4329

Head office:

59 Pakwanagemag Inamo
Golden Lake, Ontario
K0J 1X0
Tel: 613.625.2233

nafa@web.ca

www.nafaforestry.org