



CFAR *Society*

Circle for Aboriginal Relations

Credential Recognition Update

**CFAR Annual Conference
June 1 - 2, 2011**



Background

- ★ **A key CFAR objective is the development of the practice of *Aboriginal Relations* as a distinct profession**
- ★ **Founded on a well-respected *Credential Recognition Program* and subsequent professional designation**
- ★ **In 2009 the CFAR Board commissioned a research paper to:**
 - ★ review current practices of other organizations
 - ★ identify potential options for the CR program itself
 - ★ recommend a potential CR implementation structure for CFAR



Background

- ★ **In 2009, a CFAR member survey was undertaken as part of the research paper development**

- ★ **The member survey confirmed the following:**
 - ★ the desire of the membership to continue with the professional recognition process
 - ★ confirmation and support for 29 core competencies for Aboriginal Relations practitioners
 - ★ members expectations regarding how the professional recognition process should operate

- ★ **CFAR membership believes that professional designation has value for the individual, the community and employers**



Background

- ★ **A Credential Recognition Committee has been created**

- ★ **Vision Statement:**
 - ★ to create a professional recognition program and to establish Aboriginal Relations as a specific profession, separate from other disciplines

- ★ **Mission Statement:**
 - ★ to create a professional recognition program all encompassing of the skills and abilities of Aboriginal Relations practitioners



Present Situation

- ★ **Third party support has been retained to design and develop a full-spectrum credential recognition program framework**
- ★ **Professional designation will likely have three levels of recognition based on experience, specialization options and prior learning**
- ★ **The professional designation will also include a grandfathering provision**



Present Situation

- ★ **A Credential Recognition Focus Group session prior to the conference and participants provided valuable input on all aspects of the proposed program**
- ★ **Priority at the moment is to identify opportunities and mechanisms for community participation and support**
- ★ **Community engagement is anticipated toward the end of June**



Path Forward

- ★ **Revise and update the draft Credential Recognition Framework based on feedback received at the Focus Group session**
- ★ **Obtain CFAR Board feedback on the draft Framework in mid-June**
- ★ **Conduct community engagement sessions toward the end of June or beginning of July**
- ★ **Ratification by the CFAR membership of the Code of Ethics at the AGM in September**



Path Forward

- ★ **Final draft report to be ready for review by the Credential Recognition Committee in late September**
- ★ **Final report submitted to the CFAR Board in mid-October**
- ★ **Anticipated implementation scheduled for Q1 2012**



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