**BAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

The Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation Band Council establishes a community-driven set of priorities for economic development based on a long-term vision for the community and the priorities of the membership.

***"Respecting past community work and investments by working together to build on strengths, improve results and continue to bring benefits to the community."***

The mandate of the Band Economic Development Program is to develop sustainable and viable economic endeavours for the financial benefit of the community and its’ members. Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation will strive to build a base for members to capitalize on economic opportunities, improve employability and fill the needs of human resource capacities. More specifically to:

* To create long-term self-sustaining careers for members abroad and within our community.
* To create competitive economic growth and to provide business opportunities for our members and the community.
* To generate revenue to eliminate dependence on Federal funding.

**Community Vision Statement**

We, the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation People and our government, take pride in being a healthy, unified and self-reliant community. We are actively engaged in enhancing the lives of all members of the community through sustainable development, preservation of our language and culture, and developing relationships and institutions that are grounded in the sacred teachings.

**Economic Development Vision Statement**

The Economic Development Program works to assist the community and it's members in developing sustainable economic opportunities and enterprises. The work includes helping to expand and retain existing businesses, investigating, and capitalizing on new economic opportunities, and enhancing the skills and employability of members through targeted education and training.

**Economic Development Mission Statement**

The Aundeck Omni Kaning Economic Development Program works under the authority of Chief and Council to develop partnerships and joint ventures with business and organizations that are deemed beneficial for members and stakeholders. Operating in a fair inclusive, transparent and accountable manner the economic development program supports community growth and advancement by engaging stakeholders in the investigation, design, development and execution of community economic development initiatives that best meet the needs of the community while recognizing and building on strengths.

**Economic Development Advisory Committee**

The Economic Development Advisory Committee works in conjunction with the Band Council to develop long strategies for the advancement of the Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation.

The goals of the Economic Development Advisory Committee include becoming informed and educated in economic development; develop short and long term economic development strategies; monitor, evaluate and report on progress; manage the AOKFN Business Loans Program; keep abreast of Band owned and operated businesses; investigate new business opportunities (partnerships, joint ventures); and to ensure the initiatives and decisions of the advisory committee coincide with the band policies pertaining to economic development.

***"Creating a fair, supportive and creative business environment to nurture and support***

***entrepreneurship, self-reliance, and the business aspirations of members."***