



*Between Us
It's a Question of Fairness*

*Entre Nous
C'est une Question d'Équité*

January 9, 2007

Dr. Paul Cappon
President and Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Council on Learning
215 – 50 O'Connor Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6L2

Dear Dr. Cappon:

On behalf of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP), I am pleased to offer our endorsement of the Aboriginal Learning Knowledge Centre (ABLKC), and to commit our support to working with the Canadian Council on Learning (CCL) on this initiative whose purpose it is to redefine how success in lifelong learning is measured for Aboriginal people.

Like many in the Aboriginal community, CAP has long advocated that education is a life-long learning process that begins in the cradle and continues through to old age. Current indicators of lifelong learning used by researchers and governments have yet to recognize the holistic nature of Aboriginal learning across the lifespan. CAP supports the call for further research that moves beyond high school attainment as the sole measure of learning success. We also recognize and strongly encourage the important contributions that traditional knowledge, for example, brings to Aboriginal learners.

CAP supports the CCL, as a national, independent and non-profit organization that promotes and supports lifelong learning, to work with Aboriginal people and redefine how success is measured by:

- *Synthesizing the lifelong learning goals and expected outcomes which our people have identified as important to Aboriginal communities;*
- *Building on this research to develop a holistic framework for measuring success in lifelong learning for Aboriginal communities.*

On behalf of the Congress, I congratulate the CCL for their ongoing commitment to lifelong learning and to Aboriginal people.

Sincerely,



Patrick Brazeau
National Chief
Congress of Aboriginal Peoples