

## Part 2: Federal Initiatives

### **NATURAL RESOURCES CANADA**

#### 1.0 EXPANDING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

1.1 ACCESS TO CAPITAL (GENERAL PURPOSE—FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.2 ACCESS TO MARKETS (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>Procurement Strategy for Aboriginal Business</b>	<p>This activity is a government-wide strategy to promote Aboriginal business development. The strategy included departmental performance objectives for increasing the total value of procurements awarded to Aboriginal suppliers.</p> <p>NRCan`s performance objectives, under this strategy, were established in concert with INAC. They are 1997 (\$720K); 1998 (\$1,450K); 1999 (\$2,155K)</p>	Access is to all Aboriginal businesses including sole proprietorships, limited companies, co-operatives, partnerships, and not-for-profit organizations.	N/A	The target was met for 1997.

1.3 BUSINESS SERVICES (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

1.4 INNOVATION (FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL)				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

## 2.0 INCREASING SELF-RELIANCE

2.1 LANDS AND RESOURCES				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up
<b>First Nations Forestry Program</b>	The First Nations Forestry Program was implemented to improve economic conditions in status Indian communities by assisting First Nations <b>to enhance their capacity to operate and participate in forest-based businesses and to sustainably manage reserve forests.</b> The program is a five-year program (1996/97 - 2000/01) ending on March 31, 2001.	Eligible recipients for contributions are duly elected First Nations Band councils, First Nations organizations and any other First Nations group, or company involved in improving economic conditions in status Indian communities.	Provinces Forest Industry Federal Departments	In 1996/97, 329 proposals valued at \$51 million were received against \$5.9 in available federal funding. 175 proposals were approved.  Early estimates for 1997/98 reveal that 262 proposals were received valued at \$27.3 million against \$5.5 in available federal funding. Approximately 180 proposals were approved.

2.2 WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up

2.3 SOCIAL ASSISTANCE REFORM				
Program	Description	Clients	Partners	Aboriginal Take-up