



The Association of Professional Engineers,
Geologists and Geophysicists of Alberta



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This agreement is dated the 26th day of January, 2012

BETWEEN:

Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta

(hereafter referred to as Treaty 8)

and

**The Association of Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists of
Alberta**

(hereafter referred to as APEGGA)

and their successors

VISION:

First Nations students will achieve or exceed expected educational outcomes, levels and successes of all other students in Alberta.

First Nations people will be represented in the engineering and geoscience professions at the same level as they are represented in Alberta society (6%). APEGGA's current goal is to have 2% Aboriginal peoples in the professions by 2030.

PREAMBLE:

WHEREAS, the Parties recognize the authority and autonomy each individual First Nation has within the Treaty 8 territory, which includes their traditional lands;

WHEREAS, Treaty 8 believes it maintains inherent rights granted by the Creator, which includes education and those rights are reflected in the original spirit and intent of the Treaties;

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that education is central to a rewarding and fulfilling life and will enable all members to contribute fully to society.

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that education for First Nation learners must recognize the value of both the traditional and western-based scientific methods and approaches employed in educational delivery;

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that improvements to the quality of education for all First Nations students attending both First Nations and provincial schools is necessary;

WHEREAS, the Parties agree to encourage the respect for First Nations cultural identity;

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that education is a life-long learning process;

WHEREAS, the Parties agree to work together to identify and employ “good practice methods” that remove barriers and create strategic opportunities that foster success for First Nation’s learners;

WHEREAS, there is going to be a shortage of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists due to economic growth and the retirement of many Professional Engineers and Geoscientists, both Parties have an obligation to expose First Nations youth to the career opportunities in these professions;

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that youth in elementary and junior high schools must be encouraged to stay in the maths and sciences if they are to pursue careers in engineering and geoscience.

PURPOSE:

- 1) APEGGA’s mandate is primarily to regulate the practice of engineering and geoscience in Alberta; and is a tremendous resource base of practicing engineers and geoscientists who can share their knowledge and experience with Treaty 8
- 2) Treaty 8’s education department mandate is to build a First Nations contemporary comprehensive holistic education system that will provide life-long learning, First Nations language and culture programming and excellent quality programming including science, technology, mathematics and career planning programs supported by a strong competitive academic program
- 3) The parties to this agreement have complementary strengths:
 - a) APEGGA’s strength lies in its legislation, the size of, and ability to communicate with, its membership, its solid financial foundation, the many years invested in outreach to youth in elementary, junior and senior high schools, the expertise in event logistics and promotion
 - b) Treaty 8’s strength lies in its youth and its ability to attract young people through experiential learning aspects of the profession
 - c) Both organizations are backed up with solid national networks
- 4) Treaty 8 and APEGGA are resource constrained and can benefit from the synergies between the two groups
- 5) That both organizations can learn from each other, collaborating through traditional and western science

- 6) To consider how best to share activities with like-minded outreach groups, including but not limited to Discover-E, Alberta Science Literacy Association, TSAG (Technical Services Advisory Group etc.

THE PARTIES AGREE:

- 1) To work together to promote APEGGA'S Aboriginal Program in the Treaty 8 professional learning communities, building program synergy
- 2) To work collaboratively to improve educational outcomes for Treaty 8 students, particularly targeting those with high interest and ability in math and sciences
- 3) To link and encourage open communication between the Treaty 8 professional learning communities and APEGGA'S outreach volunteers, thereby raising Treaty 8 awareness of the engineering and geosciences professions
- 4) To liaise annually at a senior level
- 5) APEGGA will sponsor opportunities in the Treaty 8 such as the traditional science fair and teacher education awards within Treaty 8 so as to foster "teacher recruitment" and "retention" by acknowledging excellent teacher and schools
- 6) APEGGA to share outreach print and online material because APEGGA has developed new print material for release in fall 2011 and is developing the 1st national career website for launch in the fall 2012. Further, APEGGA seeks greater involvement from the Treaty 8 Elders, Parents, and the professional learning community in the development of the career website.

CHANGES IN THE AGREEMENT:

This Memorandum of Agreement may be modified at any time by mutual consent of both parties in writing and will be reviewed annually.

TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT:

This Memorandum of Agreement shall remain in effect until either party advises in writing that it wishes to terminate the agreement.

**On behalf of The Association of
Professional Engineers, Geologists and
Geophysicists of Alberta**

**On behalf of Treaty 8 First Nations
of Alberta**

**J.E. (Jim) Smith, P. Eng., FEC
President**

**Richard Kappo
Grand Chief**