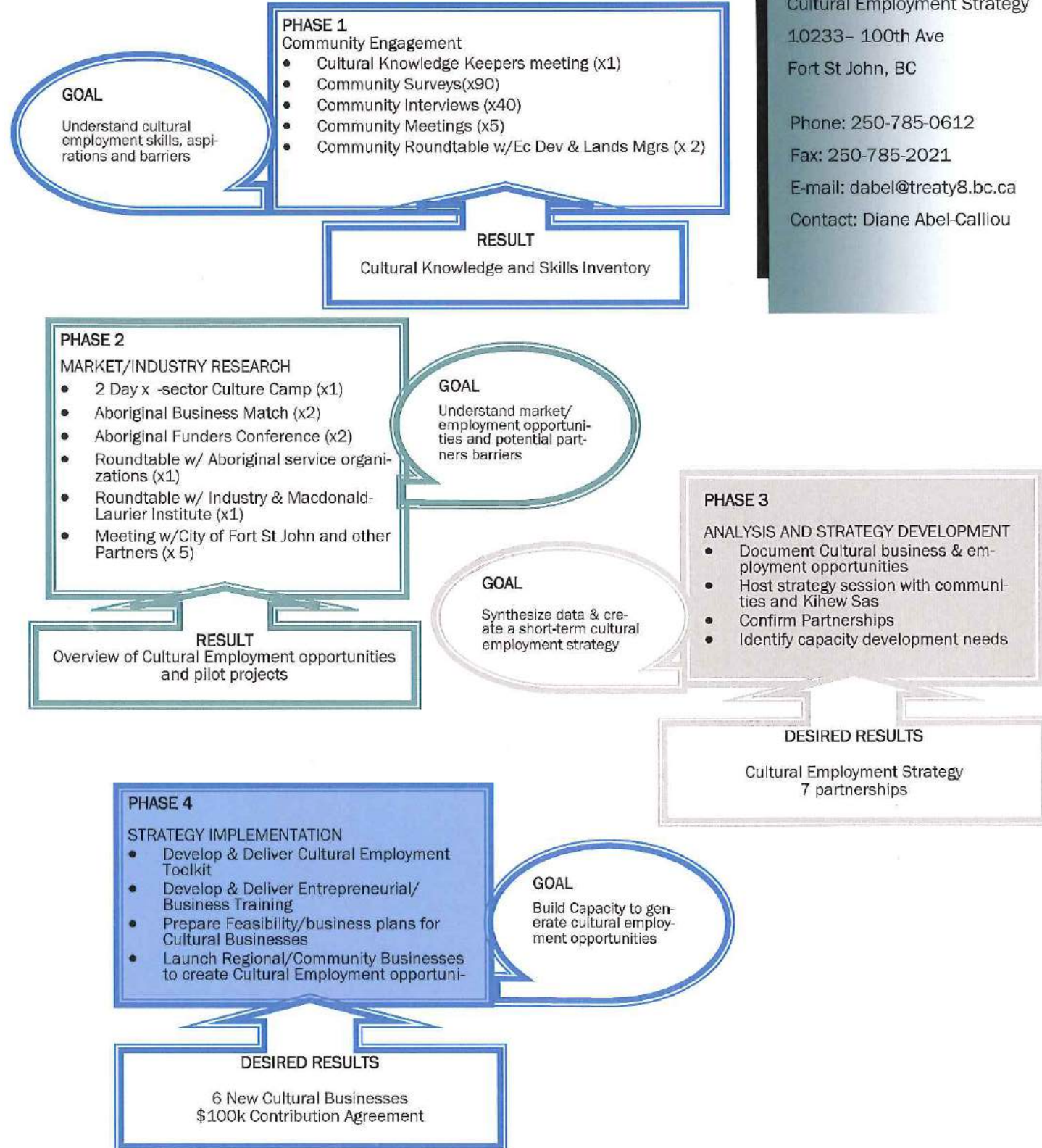


**CULTURAL EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY OVERVIEW
CURRENTLY IN PHASE 4**



TREATY 8 TRIBAL ASSOCIATION

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TREATY 8 TRIBAL ASSOCIATION

CULTURAL EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

MARCH 2017

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CES PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The specific objective of this project is to develop a inventory of T8TA community members' cultural knowledge and skills and to create long term sustainable employment by matching peoples' existing skills and interests with existing and potential employment opportunities within the local economy.

To achieve this we will:

- Create an inventory of cultural knowledge and skills within T8TA member communities;
- Engage community members in identifying employment aspirations and barriers;
- Work with industry, government, and community partners to understand local employment and entrepreneurial opportunities and challenges; and
- Develop a long-term strategy and short-term action plan for creating meaningful and sustainable employment opportunities for Aboriginal peoples drawing on their existing cultural knowledge and skills.



Creating a venue such as this trading post or the Business Center's "Aboriginal Artists Market" helps deliver on the short-term action plan. This need was identified during the early surveys conducted with community members.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Create an inventory of cultural knowledge and skills within T8TA communities
- Develop a long-term strategy and a short term action plan to create meaningful and sustainable employment opportunities
- Create effective Partnerships

OUR STRATEGY WILL INCLUDE

- Identifying emerging employment issues, challenges and opportunities at the community level;
- Examine ways of resolving conflicts related to the use of land for traditional harvesting versus industrial development;
- Build consensus to accept and adopt innovative concepts and approaches for continual improvements in developing cultural arts economy and entrepreneurial activities.
- Provide industry related land use environmental services by adding value to land use survey mapping and cultural heritage cross-cultural leadership training; and
- Create effective partnerships with multiple stakeholders and foster a collaborative approach to strategic engagement on development initiatives.

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

We have supported the North East Business Center with their Youth Entrepreneurial Training that was held in August 2016 as well as Cultural Employment project that was held at Doig River via the Business Center.

CES held 3 Camps that provided training and employment opportunities for members over the past 2 years. Some of the jobs we hired community members to carry

out were; cutting tipi poles, medicinal plant gathering, berry harvesting, traditional boreal feast, traditional teachings, ie: ceremonial and seasonal rounds to name a few. We also employed some Elders and Youth during our fish camp on the Peace River in August 2016. Teaching fishing methods and teaching youth about fish species found in the Peace River, and setting up tipi's.

In January of 2017 we offered Facilitator Training which was the first in a two part training session that will include field training in July 2017 (dates TBD)

This training will give participants the experience in organizing and facilitating a cultural bush camp that will introduce clients to who we are and what is important to us as Treaty 8 people.



Bush School Summer 2015

TRAINING MANUAL WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS TO HELP GUIDE FACILITATION

CES is currently refining curriculum that can be used to deliver step by step facilitation of Cultural Awareness Camps to industry, government, schools or other interested parties. The curriculum can be modified to fit each communities specific culture and traditions as required.

For more information contact Diane Abel-Calliou

FISH CAMP—AUGUST 8-11, 2016

Fish Camp was conducted in partnership with UoA Tracking Change /Local and Traditional Knowledge in Watershed Governance project for the Mackenzie River Basin.

We used the project to educate youth on the basic concepts of research and learning traditional knowledge from the Elders. They learned traditional fishing methods and used natural fibers to make weirs and fishing traps. They learned the names of fish species in Dunneza and Cree. We also set aside some fish to send-off for mercury testing.

The camp was documented with video camera and still photos. Youth learned how to set up a camp and to maintain it by keeping the water and wood supply stocked. We also learned about protocols and ceremonies and we carried out activities such as berry picking and medicinal plant identification as well.

The youth and Elders were able to spend 3 days boating on the Peace River and learned about the sacredness of water and mother earth.



Elders and Youth share in the traditional learning while bonding on the Peace River

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS TO SELL THEIR PRODUCTS TRADING POST DEVELOPMENT/ ABORIGINAL ARTISTS MARKET

Fort Nelson First Nations are working to set up a Trading Post in their community to help promote local crafters in the north, please contact the Band Office for more information.

The Aboriginal Artists Market is in operation!! Please contact the North East Business Center located in Fort St John at 250-785 - 1870.

This year is the Canada 150 Celebrations as well as the 75th for the Alaska Highway and need for inventory from our local Artisans will be in demand!!

Feel free to call the Treaty 8 office and speak to Diane Abel-Calliou for more information.



CES was happy to support the good work of the Northeast Aboriginal Business Center in establishing the Aboriginal Artist Market in Fort St John.

BUILDING BRIDGES—PARTNERSHIPS &

As part of the deliverables we need to develop partnerships with industry and community partners that will further the development of Cultural Employment for our Members.

We have been in discussion with partners such as TransCanada, NENAS, NEABC, Banff Center, First Peoples World Wide, First Pac West to name a few. We hope to have several Partnership Agreements in place by the summer of 2017.



It is important to develop a basic understanding of Indigenous protocols and principles in order to build stronger trusting relationships

CULTURE TRAINING CAMP

The training camps have taken a lot of preparation and planning. We've had to purchase camping supplies, tipi's, tarps, camp cookware and miscellaneous supplies.

A trailer unit was also purchased to store equipment and to use the trailer for camping as well as providing the ability to travel to differ-

ent community events and to have room to haul the goods and supplies as well as have accommodations for those events.

We got our first contract to host a Cultural Awareness Camp for 2 days for Forests Lands and Natural Resources/ MARR last July 2016. We believe that this is

a service that our communities can host individually or collectively, and T8TA is here to assist the communities to coordinate these camps as needed.

Providing these camps can be a great cultural employment opportunity for our communities.

