

STRENGTHENING INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

What does CESO offer?

CESO offers capacity development through mentorship and advisory services to Indigenous communities and clients in Western, Atlantic and Central Canada.

The program provides CESO services at no cost to eligible clients. Travel and accommodations are charged separately and paid for directly by the client.

Requests for service are accepted on a rolling basis.

Who is eligible?

Indigenous community organizations based in the **Western, Atlantic and Central Canada** regions, including:

- **Indigenous government and government offices**
- **First Nation collectives i.e. tribal and band councils**
- **Indigenous economic development corporations and Indigenous Trusts**
- **Indigenous-led organizations**
- **Community (FN/band)-owned enterprises**

What is the process?

Contact CESO Community Relations Officer, Cora Bunn, to learn more about this service and request assistance.

Once CESO receives a request for assistance, we will reconfirm eligibility.

Eligible clients will then be matched with the most suitable CESO Advisor to complete the project.

Who are CESO's Advisors?

CESO Advisors are senior-level professionals with expertise in institutional strengthening and business development who provide mentorship and advisory services to CESO clients. Their areas of professional expertise include finance and accounting, business development, management and fund development. CESO Advisors represent a variety of sectors, including tourism, health and social services, arts and culture, and governance.

CESO Makes an Impact

The Magnetawan First Nation (MFN), an Ojibwe First Nation in Ontario, partnered with CESO on a project to assist with a peer review of their 5 Year Economic Development Plan and how to implement their economic development initiatives. CESO Advisor Ed Cornies reviewed the 5 Year Economic Development Plan and the proposals on the gas station project and the Capital Planning Study and provided recommendations. Another CESO Advisor Michael Ross, reviewed the inventory control of the existing gas bar so

that it was ready for upgrade. Working with CESO helped the community to review their economic development plan and go forward with the gas station project which brought about the opening of a new Esso and Tim Horton's economic development venture in February 2017. "We believe that the collaboration between Magnetawan First Nation and CESO is unique and innovative and will result in a solid and sustainable outcome in economic development for our community," says Chief Lloyd Myke, Head Councillor, MFN.