When armed with the appropriate resources, Native peoples hold the capacity and ingenuity to ensure the sustainable, economic, spiritual and cultural well-being of their communities.

First Nations’ GUIDING PRINCIPLE
First Nations Development Institute (First Nations) supports Native people in their efforts to control and develop their assets, and -- through that control -- build the capacity to direct their economic futures in ways that fit their cultures.

Our approach takes a comprehensive view of assets that reflects the holistic nature of Native communities and Native economies and includes:

- Financial Assets
- Natural Resources
- Cultural Heritage
- Human Capital
- Physical Assets
- Institutional Assets
- Social Capital
- Legal and Political Assets
- Creative Assets (such as stories)

First Nations has been working in partnership with Native communities for 40 years. Through the decades, we have learned that asset-based development truly works and is an effective strategy for preserving community resources for the next seven generations. We believe that it is only through Native control of Native assets that the economic well-being of Native communities will be improved and sustained.

First Nations’ mission is to strengthen American Indian economies to support healthy Native communities.

**TYPES of ASSETS**

Financial Assets
Natural Resources
Cultural Heritage
Human Capital
Physical Assets
Institutional Assets
Social Capital
Legal and Political Assets
Creative Assets (such as stories)

**ADVANCING HOUSEHOLD & COMMUNITY ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES**

First Nations supports household and community asset-building strategies. Working with tribal colleges and community development financial institutions or CDFIs, ideas are shared through peer learning and programs are bolstered through grantmaking.

**ADVANCING HOUSEHOLD & COMMUNITY ASSET-BUILDING STRATEGIES**

Advancing household and community asset-building strategies. Working with tribal colleges and community development financial institutions or CDFIs, ideas are shared through peer learning and programs are bolstered through grantmaking.

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In 2019, First Nations made grants to 148 Native-controlled nonprofits and tribal government programs.
In 2019, First Nations again earned the Platinum GuideStar Nonprofit Profile Seal of Transparency, the highest level of recognition offered by GuideStar. First Nations is also an Accredited Member of the Better Business Bureau’s Wise Giving Alliance. Further, 81% of donated dollars to First Nations go directly to our programs and the communities that need this support the most.

You can be sure every donation is used effectively and wisely to promote strong, healthy and culturally-vibrant Native communities.

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Digital versions of First Nations’ full Annual Report can be found at firstnations.org/knowledge-center.