SFNS Household Economic Leakage Project

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Introduction

Southern First Nation Secretariat (SFNS) is an organization appointed to seven local member First Nation communities that commits to bridge programs and services for enriched communities while respecting the diversity of culture, values, and traditions.

First Nation people make up 4.9% of Canada’s population with 634 communities. First Nation economy circumstances are widely diverse and often uncertain. The relationship is mostly unknown. Therefore, the purpose of the economic leakage project is to help understand how much SFNS member First Nations’ governments spend outside of their communities, and how it can be recaptured to enhance their economies and well-being.

Economic leakage- money spent by SFNS and its member First Nations’ governments outside on external goods and service.

Methods

Timeline of Study

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<thead>
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<th>Phase 1</th>
<th>Phase 2</th>
<th>Phase 3</th>
<th>Phase 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>SFNS member First Nations identified project</td>
<td>SFNS member First Nations conducted first focus group</td>
<td>SFNS member First Nations developed strategy plan</td>
<td>SFNS member First Nations implemented change plan</td>
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Stage 4 (Current):
I. Community asset mapping group & focus group
   - Draw out strengths within each community
   - Design map of assets
II. Conduct and promote household and business survey
   - Collect data on strengths and leakage within each community
III. SFNS economic tool kit
   - Collect data for online business directory
   - Collect data for online asset bank

Results

Conclusion

Our hope is to provide access to information of strengths and weakness (leakage) of the economy within each SFNS member First Nations’ in order to:
- Develop strategies to share costs, resources and services
- Enhance local First Nations’ procurement and employment
- Develop and grow local First Nations’ businesses targeted to meet market needs
- Create programs to educate and train community members for local opportunities

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