



Print Edition

Help begins at home

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Toronto -- The most recent tragedies in a long list at native reserves might spur an opportunity to use the creative thinking advocated by Richard Florida and Roger Martin to turn our backs on old models and start to build healthy, green first nations communities from sea to sea to sea.

Imagine using federal and reserve funds to create a housing boom by partnering two groups of the unemployed - native workers and construction workers - using prefab construction techniques and Canadian timber, working in harmony with native principles for community design, building greenhouses for sustainable agriculture, using eco models for energy and safe water. In other words, harnessing our creativity - it exists in our universities, in government departments and in the private sector - to turn reserves into hives of innovation and hope.

Imagine exporting our expertise in developing sustainable, healthy green communities globally with aboriginal talent.