



News Release – Whalefeather Community Corporation

November 8, 2016

Whalefeather and Thomas King reconcile indigenous history Ontario Trillium Foundation funds feasibility study for linked curriculum.

Thunder Bay - Celebrated author Thomas King has licensed his book, *The Inconvenient Indian* and his other works to create a linked curriculum program for Kindergarten to Grade 8 children on and off reserves. Whalefeather Community Corporation, a not-for-profit indigenous company, has received a \$50,300 Ontario Trillium Seed Grant to do a feasibility study on the development of the linked-curriculum using Thomas King's book.

“The award-winning book, *The Inconvenient Indian* provides a true historical account of what took place when Europeans came to North America. His recounting of detailed facts reconciles indigenous and non-indigenous storytelling to provide an understanding of our common history,” said Narcise Kakegabon, President of Whalefeather Community Corporation, a not-for-profit indigenous grass roots company. “This program will create increased awareness and understanding and remove cultural barriers. It will also restore a sense of pride and improve the emotional and social well-being of our 17,739 children ages of 5-14. Having cultural esteem in being indigenous is long overdue.”

Whalefeather has partnered with K12 Global, leading experts in linked curriculum, to transform *The Inconvenient Indian* and other works into linked curriculum for use by elementary school teachers on and off reserves. “We were fortunate to partner with Whalefeather and to be licensed by Thomas King to examine the intricacies of his book into curriculum directly linked to required teaching from kindergarten to Grade 8 in Ontario,” said Julie Cochrane, owner of K12 Global. Artworks by renowned Ojibway artist, Donald Chrétien will support many of the experiential learning activities the program offers.

“This book took seven years to research and write. I'm glad it will be used to help children in kindergarten to Grade 8 understand what took place both in Canada and the United States,” said Thomas King.

-30-

Whalefeather Community Corporation is a not-for-profit indigenous corporation that works with indigenous people, companies and communities to improve their education, well-being, health, education and economic development.

Category: Education

Key words: Thomas King, indigenous, curriculum, k-8, elementary schools, children, reserves, Whalefeather, K12 Global, The Inconvenient Indian

Media Requests

Julie Cochrane, Executive Director of K12 Global. julie@k12global.com Mobile: 647-407-0014. High Res File of the press release photos are available please call or email and I can upload a version for you.