



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### *Thunder Bay's Jason Rasevych Invited to Join AFOA Canada's Harvard Business School Executive Program for Indigenous Leaders*

**March 24, 2025 - Robinson-Superior Treaty, Fort William First Nation Territory, Thunder Bay, Ontario:** Jason Rasevych, President of the Anishnawbe Business Professional Association (ABPA), has been accepted into the highly competitive seventh cohort of the Harvard Business School Executive Education Certificate Program, "Leading People and Investing to Build Sustainable Communities." This exclusive program, delivered in partnership with AFOA Canada, will take place at Harvard University in Boston, Massachusetts, from March 24-28, 2025.

This intensive four-day executive program is specifically designed for senior Indigenous leaders from across Canada, Australia, the United States, and Maori delegations. It focuses on strategic investment and sustainable community development, featuring case studies and discussions led by Harvard Business School faculty and Indigenous experts. The program will host 52 participants from Canada, including international delegates. Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion from Harvard Business School.

Jason Rasevych's participation underscores the critical need for strategic investment in Indigenous communities. He will focus on addressing the significant infrastructure gap, estimated at \$350 billion, and maximizing the potential of \$600 billion in resource development projects on First Nations lands in Canada. This initiative aligns with the growing recognition of First Nations ownership/equity as essential for social license, Free Prior Informed Consent, and the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action, further emphasized by Prime Minister Mark Carney's recent doubling of the National Indigenous Loan Guarantee program to \$10 billion.

During the program, Rasevych will explore innovative capital-raising strategies for key sectors, including critical minerals, LNG exports, renewable energy supply chains, and forestry development. He aims to diversify export opportunities and develop Indigenous ownership of enabling corridors including transmissions networks, ports, road, and railways, fostering sustainable economic growth, and creating new trade markets for Canada.

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**About the ABPA:**

The Anishnawbe Business Professional Association ([www.anishnawbebusiness.com](http://www.anishnawbebusiness.com)) is a non-profit, member-based organization based in Thunder Bay, Ontario. ABPA serves the First Nation business community within Treaty #3, Treaty #5, Treaty #9, and Robinson Huron and Superior Treaty Areas. The ABPA develops and expresses positions on business issues and other public issues relevant to First Nation business, on behalf of its members.

**About AFOA Canada (Aboriginal Finance Officers Association)**

AFOA Canada, a national Indigenous organization, plays a vital role in advancing excellence in Indigenous management, finance, and governance. Founded in 1999, AFOA Canada provides essential programs, services, and advocacy to support Indigenous professionals and communities across the country. Their partnership with Harvard Business School in this program underscores their commitment to empowering Indigenous leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary for sustainable economic development.

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