



KTUNAXA NATION

FIT COMMUNITY

FULLY INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGIES

Why a FIT Community?

The First Nations Technology Council believes that implementing a FIT Community Model Project will demonstrate to government, to the private sector and to other First Nations that investing in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in First Nations communities makes good business sense. The FNTC see the FIT Community Project as a partnership between themselves and the chosen Community Cluster.

What is a FIT Community?

A FIT (Fully Integrated Technologies) Community has developed sufficient information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure to remove lingering digital-divide obstacles. Members of the community have sufficient skills to use a wide range of ICT tools.

A FIT Community employs technology to promote and share their culture as the community deems appropriate, to improve health care for all community members, to deliver educational opportunities that would normally not be available in rural or remote communities, to create jobs and participate in the global economy in whatever areas the community chooses, and as a tool to improve governance and accountability. A broadband network to all community buildings, together with high levels of computer literacy and internet utilization among community members makes this possible but without a vision of what a FIT Community could be, community transformation may not occur.

What's in it for the FIT Community Partner?

Some of the possible benefits to be gained by the FIT Community Partner through participation in the project include:

- Providing cost-affordable broadband network connectivity to all or most homes and businesses located within the Community Cluster by contracting with anchor service subscribers who will use the network and contribute to long-term operating costs;
- Increasing computer literacy for all members of the community;
- Getting long-term commitments for improved delivery of education, health services, community economic development, and other services through expanded use of the Internet in service delivery and through increased local delivery of services;
- Creating new opportunities to use ICT capacity to revitalize traditional culture;
- Establishing local broadband network and computer desktop technical support for all Community members;
- Increasing integration of the Internet into the business processes of established local businesses and service delivery agencies;



More... What's in it for the FIT Community Partner?

- Using increased ICT capacity to reduce the workload associated with government reporting;
- Creating new business opportunities and new jobs in the community;
- Sharing ICT capacity building best-practices through formal and informal Community twinning and mentoring;
- Gaining benefits of community well-being identified by the FIT Community Partner.

The FIT Community Partner will take a leadership role in the FIT Community Project with significant support and in-kind contributions from FNTC. The respective suggested roles of the FIT Community Partner and FNTC are described below but should be confirmed once a Project Committee has been established, and upon agreement by all parties.

Roles & Responsibilities of the Partners

Partners roles and responsibilities will be clarified by the Project Steering Committee but the FIT Community Partner will be the lead on the project. Roles for both parties could include:

- Advocating on behalf of the FIT Community Project to bring together organizations and individuals interested in supporting the Project;
- Co-chairing and actively participating in development of the project plan, business plan, and technical plan for the FIT Community Project;
- Approving the project plan, and business plan, for the FIT Community Project before implementation;
- Partnering in the negotiation of agreements with various government agencies and private-sector service providers;
- Completing planned project tasks and making an effort to meet project milestones;
- Participating in a Project reviews for the purpose of confirming achievements, identifying future tasks and milestones as necessary;
- Giving direction to FNTC on the content and delivery schedule for various ICT capacity-building workshops; workshops to be facilitated by FNTC.

The FIT Community Partner will take the lead on:

- Mobilizing members of the Community to assist in the FIT Community Project when needed;
- Completing the asset-mapping of the community; asset-mapping to be facilitated and paid by FNTC;
- Giving direction to FNTC on community development and ICT capacity-building requirements and priorities.



While the FNTC's role in the FIT Community Partner-ship is supportive, they see their role as including:

- Providing significant in-kind support for the FIT Community Partner Project Team at every stage of the FIT Community Project;
- Facilitating and paying for the asset-mapping of the community;
- Accepting direction from the FIT Community Partner on the community development and ICT capacity-building requirements and priorities;
- Coordinating the Communication Plan for the Project.

The First Nations Technology Council (FNTC) was created by First Nations Summit Resolution to develop a Technology Plan to address issues such as connectivity, technical support and technical capacity building. The mission of the FNTC is: SUPPORTING THE FULL INTEGRATION OF TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL FIRST NATIONS IN B.C.



**Get involved in the
FIT Community Project,
contact Don Maki at:**

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Please note: FNTC support will be principally in-kind support and not direct financial support for the FIT Community Project or the FIT Community Partner. FNTC has certain abilities that may be of use in securing the funding necessary for FIT Community capital equipment purchases identified in the Project Plan, and in securing financial participation agreements for the FIT Community with government agencies and other partner participants. Community-incurred general and administrative expenses during the FIT Community Project will be the responsibility of the FIT Community Partner. FNTC personnel, contractor, travel, and communications expenses during the FIT Community Project will be the responsibility of FNTC.