First Nations Technology Council



Mission

We are an Indigenous-led not-for-profit driven by our mission to empower Indigenous peoples by ensuring theyhave the tools, education and support to thrive in the digital age. We are mandated by First Nations leadership in British Columbia (BC) to deliver digital skills training opportunities, establish and improve community connectivity, and provide information management, technical support and services to Indigenous communities in BC.

Vision

We envision Indigenous communities fully utilizing technology to actualize their visions, strengthen communities, advance self-determination and actively shape the technology sector as it responds meaningfully to reconciliation.

Services

1 Education Programs

Our flagship education program, **Foundations** and **Futures** in Innovation and Technology (FiT), has been designed as a comprehensive digital skills learning journey. FiT guides students on a path from entry level-certification to advanced training and work experience opportunities in the technology sector. Our programs are creating a network of Indigenous innovators equipped with the skills required for the digital economy.

FiT is broken up into two levels: **Foundations** and **Futures**. Foundations is our entry-level exploratory program, and Futures is our advanced, career-oriented programs.

This year we launched a **Drone Stewardship program**, the first in the province to offer comprehensive training in the theory, set up and application of drones with an Indigenous community context.

2 Research Projects

We strive to not only provide our students and communities with training programs, but also opportunities to advance economic development and the use of technologies in Indigenous communities. The Technology Council is participating in and leading research projects that propose recommendations and actions for sound federal and provincial investment in Indigenous communities for technology related services, training and initiatives.

From labor market research to listening to the software and capacity needs of band administrators, we choose to take on research projects that are aligned with our organizational vision and leads to tangible benefits in Indigenous communities.

3 Digital Equity

Part of our mandate is to eliminate the digital divide, which refers to the inequity in internet access between rural, remote and on-reserve communities, and urban and off-reserve communities. This inequality prevents socioeconomic parity between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and excludes many Indigenous peoples from the digital economy.

We are working collaboratively with provincial and federal agencies, telecom companies, as well as partner Indigenous organizations to eliminate the digital divide and create equitable, affordable and sustainable access to digital and connected technologies for all 203 Indigenous communities in BC.