ÉCOLE DES DIRIGEANT·E·S DES PREMIÈRES NATIONS
FIRST NATIONS EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

PROPULSÉE PAR | PROPELLED BY
École des dirigeantes
HEC MONTRÉAL

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

NEXT GENERATION PROGRAM IN GATINEAU: TRAIL FORWARD

Montreal, October 16, 2025 - First Nations Executive Education (FNEE) - HEC Montréal is launching its second edition of the Next Generation program, this time in Gatineau. Some 20 participants will gather at the **Four Points Hotel in Gatineau from October 20 to 23.**

The theme for this inspiring program is "Trail Forward" and is aimed at young Indigenous people aged 18 to 35 from various Nations who wish to explore their future and assert their leadership skills.

The result of a collaborative effort with committed partners, including the First Nations Quebec Labrador Youth Network, Mikana, New Pathways Foundation, Puamun Meshkenu, and Wapikoni, this innovative program offers four consecutive days of workshops, training sessions, meetings, and group discussions. It aims to strengthen the skills of young leaders and provide them with practical tools for their personal and professional development.

The program based on three pillars:

- EXPLORE the role they can play through civic engagement or as elected officials.
- STRENTHEN the art of public speaking.
- ACHIEVE projects that are important to them through better time management.

This cohort is part of FNEE's approach to creating a dynamic learning space, where knowledge exchange and transmission are at the heart of the experience. It follows on from the first cohort, which met at the Ilnu Museum in Mashteuiatsh last March.

New this year
Participants will have the opportunity to meet with prominent political figures, including the Honourable Senator Michèle Audette; the Honourable Mandy Gull-Masty, Minister of Indigenous Services Canada; Ghislain Picard, Adjunct Professor at HEC Montréal and Chair of FNEE's Advisory Committee; and Nathalie Huntley, FNEE Director. A workshop with Marie-Claude Mongrain, Director, Production, responsible of the journalism talent development program at La Presse, will also add to their experience.

MEDIA INVITATION

FNEE invites the media to come and talk with the participants of this cohort (accreditation required) on **Tuesday, October 21, and Wednesday, October 22**, in Gatineau. This is a unique opportunity to talk with the next generation of Indigenous politicians and entrepreneurs and highlight the ambitions and visions of young Indigenous leaders.

Program spokespersons Jay Mathias-Launière and Jean-François Gauthier, along with several prominent political figures, will also be available to discuss the Next Generation program with the media.

Address: Four Points Hotel, 35 Laurier Street, Gatineau, Quebec, J8X 4E9

Important: Mandatory accreditation

To learn more about the program, visit the website: https://ecole-dirigeants-premieres-nations.hec.ca/en/next-generation/

-30-

Source: First Nations Executive Education (FNEE)

Information and interview requests:

Meghane Thibodeau
Media Relations | SEIZE03
514-963-5061
m.thibodeau@seize03.ca