



Media Advisory

Monday, April 26, 2010

What

The Right Honourable Paul Martin, former Prime Minister and founder of The Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative, speaking in Toronto at a plenary session of *Inclusion Works '10*, Canada's largest Aboriginal HR and employment event hosted by the Aboriginal Human Resource Council.

Since leaving office, Mr. Martin has devoted much of his time to promoting the need for better education for Aboriginal people as an important step towards improved social circumstances and increased economic prosperity for Aboriginal communities. He will address these issues in his presentation.

When and Where

- 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 28 - Westin Harbour Castle, 1 Harbour Square, Toronto

Mr. Martin and Mr. Kelly Lendsay, President and CEO of the Aboriginal Human Resource Council, will hold a short media briefing in Pier 7 and 8 at the Westin Harbour Castle following Mr. Martin's presentation.

Why it's Important

- The standard and success of education among Aboriginal people must be improved.
- Currently, 60 per cent of Aboriginal students on-reserve and 43 per cent off-reserve have dropped out of high school, compared to 9.5 per cent of non-Aboriginal Canadians.
- Only seven per cent of First Nations, nine per cent of Métis and four per cent of Inuit people have a university degree compared to 23 per cent of non-Aboriginal Canadians.

What is Inclusion Works '10

- A recruitment fair bringing together 86 of Canada's top First Nations, Métis and Inuit post-secondary graduates and 20 inclusive employers-of-choice looking to hire them.
- Two days of workshops, keynotes and discussion on key issues facing Canada's Aboriginal workforce and the economy as a whole.

For more information and to set up interviews

Aboriginal Human Resource Council

- Nicole Robertson: 403.616.4999 - nicole.robertson@telus.net
- Chris Freimond: 778.840.2428 - chris@cfpr.ca
- Media centre, Wellington Room, Westin Harbour Castle (street level , Convention Centre)

Martin Aboriginal Education Initiative

- Lucie Santoro - 514.758.9978 - lsantoro@mai-iam.ca

Websites

<http://www.aboriginalhr.ca/en/inclusion10>

<http://www.maei-iam.ca/index.html>

