

4. *Play a leadership role in the development of initiatives in support of and supported by indigenous peoples both at the community and international levels, e.g. the UN Forum for Indigenous Peoples. Continue to promote the Convention on Biodiversity at the 1998 Madrid Conference with particular attention to article 8(J) that provides a framework to deal with indigenous peoples issues.*

5. *Build policy capacity by creating and sustaining a critical mass of indigenous peoples and experts to provide the necessary skills, knowledge and options for policy development.*

6. *Include the following elements in a "code of conduct" vis-a-vis aboriginal peoples:*

(a) greater promotion of and education about indigenous peoples, including educational resources that relay cultural viewpoints, practices and lifestyles;

(b) equity and fairness in cultural context, to allow diversity and to preserve indigenous peoples cultural context within "globalization";

(c) creation of "voice space" for indigenous peoples to speak on their own behalf with business.

7. *Develop a policy or set of initiatives that address indigenous youth in particular.*

CODES OF CONDUCT

Should Canada concentrate its efforts on the establishment of a domestic or an international code of conduct. Should the codes of conduct be voluntary or mandatory, who should they be applied to and who should be involved in making the decisions.

A core set of values needs to be established domestically. Canada can then work towards the adoption of these core values internationally, possibly through a body resembling the International Labour Organization. Discussions on codes of conduct should involve all sectors of civil society since they effect all spheres of life. It is highly unlikely that voluntary codes will be specific enough to be effective.

Policy Options

1. *Re-examine the role of business in the promotion of human rights. Recognize that there is no guarantee that company ethics will mirror the values of the Canadian public or government. Put in place instruments to encourage businesses to work in partnership with NGOs and communities (e.g. joint development of codes of conduct).*

2. *Ensure that appropriate corporate codes of conduct, based on agreed principles of best practice, are applied to Canadian overseas trade and industry receiving federal government support. Link access to government trade and industry programs to best practices including anti-corruption, working conditions, security of products, health and safety, the environment, child labour, gender discrimination.*