

## ***Pabineau Teens win top prize in national Aboriginal business competition***

*Two high school students from the Pabineau First Nation, NB., won the top prize at a national Aboriginal youth business competition for their business plan to set up a cultural youth camp.*

*Stephanie Peter-Paul and Michelle Kelly, who attend Bathurst High School, also won first place in the categories of Best Oral Presentation, Best Logo and Best Trade Show Display in the 8<sup>th</sup> annual BDC-E-Spirit Aboriginal Youth Business Plan Competition held in Regina May 12-14, 2008.*

*As part of winning Gold prize, Peter-Paul and Kelly also received a \$2 500 award incentive.*

*Facilitator Rose Kryszko and Cindy Peter-Paul mentored and coached the two high school students as they worked on their business plan, entitled Camp Mukluk. The student's business plan proposed to set up a camp to teach youth in New Brunswick about the lifestyles and culture of Aboriginal people. According to their business plan, Camp Mukluk would offer youth recreation and adventure while promoting tourism in the province.*

*More than 60 First Nation high school teams from across Canada participated in the national competition aimed at increasing awareness of entrepreneurial and business opportunities, management and business skills, and e-commerce and technological capacities.*

*In order to qualify for the BDC E-Spirit competition, teams were required to submit a written business plan and video presentation. Once invited to attend, teams then presented their business plan slide show presentation before a panel of judges, mentors, facilitators, elders and peers. In addition, teams also presented their business plan at their trade booth display.*

*Peter-Paul and Kelly's five-day trip included two days of travel and three days of scheduled activities. During their visit to Regina, both students had a chance to visit the RCMP Academy "Depot" Division.*

*Both Peter-Paul and Kelly, who were excited over their 1<sup>st</sup> place win, have indicated the intend to enter the 2009 BDC-E-Spirit National Aboriginal Youth Business Plan Competition.*

**Congrats Girls!!!**

