

Kelly J. Lendsay, B.S.P.E., M.B.A., CAFM, ICD.D

President and CEO, Indigenous Works
Founder and CEO, Luminary
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Kelly Lendsay is a social entrepreneur, internationally recognized as one of Canada's foremost innovators and organizational development experts in Indigenous engagement and workplace inclusion systems, models and corporate/Indigenous partnerships. His dynamic communication style and passion for innovation has earned him the reputation as an engaging thought leader and effective bridge-builder, fostering trusted partnerships for workforce and economic development across Canada, the U.S., Australia and abroad. Lendsay is recognized for creating many innovative firsts, including the current launch of a new initiative, "Luminary: Advancing Indigenous Innovation for Economic Transformation, Employment and Well-Being," with more than 140 Luminary partners from the academic, Indigenous business and NGO communities from Canada, the U.S. and Australia. He completed his M.B.A. in 1993 with a focus on Indigenous business education, leading to his appointment as director of the first Aboriginal Business Education Program in Canada at the Edwards School of Business, University of Saskatchewan from 1994-1998, where he helped create undergraduate courses and the first "Aboriginal M.B.A. Program." In 1998 Lendsay became the inaugural president and CEO of Indigenous Works (formerly the Aboriginal Human Resource Council of Canada) and has been leading the charge to design and develop workplace inclusion models, systems and engagement strategies to increase Indigenous engagement in the economy. A proud Canadian Indigenous leader of Cree and Métis ancestry, he moves seamlessly between both worlds, fostering economic inclusion, well-being and prosperity for Canada. Lendsay was honored by the University of Saskatchewan as one of their 100 Alumni of Influence, whose accomplishments have been recognized for influencing the growth and development of the university, the province and the world during the last century.