

June 15, 2023

## Re: Endorsement of the Indigenous Evaluators Network

Laidlaw Foundation is a private Family Foundation focus on young people. Laidlaw Foundation supports young people impacted by the justice, education, child welfare systems to become healthy and engaged by investing in innovative ideas, convening interested parties, advocating for system change, and sharing learnings across sector.

We grant across several issue areas and convene a range of stakeholders to support the well-being of young people, their families, and communities and research for evidence-based advocacy for system and policy change. We do this through three distinct granting strategies:

1. Youth Action Fund
2. Indigenous Youth and Community Future Fund
3. Youth Collective Impact Partnership.

For decades, Black and Indigenous Communities have been disproportionality impacted by these systems. The focus of our granting and convening has been to build relationships and partner with Indigenous and Black led and focused organizations.

Key feature of our granting and convening approach is learning and building knowledge. We want to develop impact and evaluation tools and strategies that are meaningful and support the work of funded initiatives to improve outcomes for young people across Ontario.

For that, we welcome the opportunity to contribute to and support the critical work of the Indigenous Evaluation Network, to continue listening to the leading voices of evaluators in the network to inform Laidlaw work and assist in building a unique evaluation platform that informs strategy and improve granting.

We look forward to being part of this network and work together to integrate Indigenous evaluation practices to guide our work moving forward.

Sincerely,



Jihad Aliweiwi  
Executive Director