

**2004 INDIVIDUAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER
CHIEF LAWRENCE PAUL, NS**



A theme that ran through the presentations of both ED of the Year Award winners at the 2004 CANDO National Conference was the importance of using the resources found within communities to their full advantage. Lloyd Johnson, on behalf of Chief Lawrence Paul of the Millbrook First Nation in Nova Scotia, highlighted several ventures that are operating in the community. From the Truro Power Centre Business Complex to Red Crane Studios, Keith's Gas Bar, the MikMaq Trading Post, Jason's Convenience Store, G & G Heating and Natalie Gloade Hairstyling, the Millbrook First Nation has harnessed its ability to establish viable business operations.

The key to successfully developing a strong economic base from resource development, either environmental resources or human resources, lies in the vision of those involved. There must be a belief that the First Nation can create an environment conducive to business, employee retention and profitability.

Chief Lawrence Paul has demonstrated a commitment to improving the economic potential of their respective communities. These leaders in Aboriginal community economic development have shown that it is possible to build a strong economic base by focusing efforts on the resources in existence and by maintaining a clear vision for the future of the community.