



DANCES *with*
DEPENDENCY

INDIGENOUS SUCCESS *through* SELF-RELIANCE



The INCREDIBLE story of the rise and fall of indigenous nations...
and potential rise again. Offering REAL SOLUTIONS to indigenous
and developing nations' poverty by "just doing it."

CALVIN HELIN

There should always be hope for a better future no matter who you are or what your station in life happens to be. No matter how complex and unsolvable a situation appears to be, there is always reason to hope. It is rare that something is written with the power to have a sweeping impact on seemingly intractable problems. Calvin Helin paints an impassioned and insightful portrait of the poverty and conditions of indigenous people. At the same time, he provides real, focused, strategic turnaround solutions on how to move constructively forward.

Dances with Dependency is beautifully written with a unique and intuitive analysis that should prove invaluable to indigenous people and developing nation populations. In describing an impending demographic tsunami that could threaten the prosperity of a country, it clearly describes why this question is in the interests of all to solve. The message of self-reliance is a universal message presented in a thoughtful and sensitive manner.

Real solutions are presented to a problem that has perplexed everyone for two hundred years—*until now*. There is a way forward, and there is hope to make the lives of ordinary indigenous people better. At the end of the day, the written word can change attitudes, but it will still take the action of people, working together with a common goal for a better future, to truly change lives.

❧ *A portion of the profits from this book will be donated to a charity organization providing educational and sports assistance to indigenous and inner city children and youth.*

COVER ARTWORK: Bill Helin
JACKET DESIGN: Rosanna Hanser
AUTHOR PHOTOGRAPH: Mark Mushet



ORIGINALLY FROM a small north coastal BC community, Calvin Helin was sent on a quest by his father and grandmother (both hereditary Chiefs) when he was just 12 years old, with the single-minded purpose of making a difference. From over 30 years of careful reflection, Mr. Helin, now a brilliant, driven, and determined lawyer, karate instructor, and businessman, has produced an astonishing book. For the first time, an original, impassioned, thought-provoking book, written by a well-educated Aboriginal leader, offers real turnaround solutions.

A RICHLY TEXTURED work featuring 25 full page artworks on the mystical culture and cosmology of the Northwest Coast Tsimshian peoples by internationally renowned artist, BILL HELIN.

“Calvin Helin’s *Dances with Dependency* offers a compelling portrayal and analysis of poverty among Canada’s indigenous people. His message of self-reliance as a way forward rests on thoughtful and creative economic strategies and offers hope in cynical times.”

🦋 JOY KOGAWA, Nationally renowned poet and novelist

“I am awestruck by *Dances with Dependency*. Calvin Helin has been guided by the Raven and has managed to speak honestly and respectfully about the problems faced by Aboriginal communities. The truth strikes at the heart, and is messaged in such a way that no one can be offended. I would like to thank him, *howa'a* [Haida for thank you], for speaking out on behalf of our youth. The book is truly beautiful. I loved the analogy of the canoe journey, it is so poignant and appropriate.”

🦋 KELLY A. MACDONALD, B.A., LL.B., LL.M. Aboriginal Lawyer, Member of the National Parole Board and Senior Adjudicator Indian Residential Schools Adjudications

“*Dances with Dependency* paints the most complete and honest portrait of indigenous people that has existed to date. It goes far beyond cataloging the problems to showing a path to real solutions. This book may unquestionably be the most important single piece of literature and analysis for moving indigenous people forward. It is time now to heed the call to more focused strategic action and to start making a difference now—it is time to move beyond the dependency mindset to the self-reliance of our ancestors.”

🦋 DAVE TUCCARO, President of Tuccaro Inc., Group of Companies

“All parents need to read this book. Avoiding welfare starts in the home, and the book’s message of self-reliance applies to everyone, regardless of race or country of origin.”

🦋 JOHN CORBIERE, former Batchewana Band Chief who won the landmark Supreme Court Corbiere decision, dramatically changing the Canadian Indian Act.