



2023 Cabinet Shuffle Statement

July 26, 2023

OTTAWA, ON – Today, Canadian Roots Exchange (CRE) learned of the changes Prime Minister Justin Trudeau made to the federal cabinet, including the shifting of former Crown-Indigenous Relations (CIRNAC) Minister, the Honourable Marc Miller, to the Ministry of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship.

During his tenure at CIRNAC, CRE developed a good relationship with Minister Miller that was strengthened by his clear commitment to reconciliation and tangible allyship with Indigenous youth.

In particular, we felt we were making progress together on the TRC's Call to Action 66, which calls on the federal government to establish multi-year funding for community-based youth organizations to deliver programs on reconciliation. The reciprocal relationship we built with Minister Miller gave us the opportunity to begin to make space for more Indigenous youth organizations, ensuring their voices would be at the table for years to come. The work of CTA 66 cannot be undertaken by one organization - it is a collective effort.

As a national Indigenous youth organization, CRE has witnessed three different CIRNAC ministers take part in the work on CTA 66 – the stability and sustainability of this work is critical, and we want to ensure this is reflected in the federal government's leadership. CRE will continue contributing towards dismantling barriers for grassroots organizations and Indigenous youth to have stronger access to CTA66 funding.

We thank Minister Miller for his work and look forward to carrying the reciprocity and respect fostered during his tenure into a new relationship with incoming Minister Gary Anandasangaree. We believe his experience as a human rights lawyer and advocate will be a tremendous asset to the work of empowering Indigenous youth to lead.

To date, CRE has had the honour of directly engaging over 5200 Indigenous youth, granting over \$6 million in the CREation grants to Indigenous youth organizations and grassroots collectives. This work has been guided by CTA 66 and is designed to support Indigenous youth as they thrive and create the futures they hope to see for their communities.

Ultimately, relationships and trust are the center of the reconciliation movement, and CRE will continue to work to ensure that Indigenous youth perspectives and priorities will be represented in the path forward.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hillory Tenute'.

Hillory Tenute,
Executive Director