

**For Immediate Release**

**TWCC wins as Aboriginal Economic Developer of year**

*Delegates at 2010 CANDO conference and AGM vote award to Winnipeg-based Aboriginal financial institution, citing its successful growth*

WINNIPEG, Man., (Oct. 4, 2010) – ***Tribal Wi-Chi-Way-Win Capital Corporation*** is very pleased to announce it has won a competition at the 17<sup>th</sup> annual national conference and annual general meeting of the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers in Niagara Falls, Ont.

TWCC was named the CANDO Economic Developer of the Year Award in the Aboriginal Private Sector Category after a vote by delegates.

As a finalist in the competition, TWCC was required to make a 20-minute presentation to conference delegates on Sept. 30 before voting began. The Award was presented during the President's Dinner the same evening at the Sheraton on the Falls.

“This is a very important milestone for us,” said Alan Park, Chief Executive Officer of TWCC. “We have been working long and hard to build the foundations of a solid institution and to prove that Aboriginal business lending works.”

Mr. Park congratulated the runner up, and wished good luck to all nominees in all categories.

Established in 1993 with just three employees, TWCC has written more than \$34 million in loans in 45 First Nations communities in Manitoba. Its payroll has grown from 28 employees in 2006 to 120 today across three lines of business. Revenue has grown by 200% in the same period.

“In addition to our own success,” Mr. Park said, “we wanted to show that Aboriginal financial institutions have worked well in 57 Aboriginal communities and should be supported by Ottawa. The AFIs are the big success story of federal Aboriginal policy.”

Earlier this year TWCC was selected as one of ***MANITOBA BUSINESS Magazine's 50 Fastest Growing Companies***. Last June, TWCC was granted ISO 9001:2008 certification as part of its commitment to quality management systems and high governance standards.

Based in Edmonton, CANDO is a dynamic National Aboriginal community economic development organization dedicated to building capacity to strengthen Aboriginal economies.

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