

# News Release

May 19, 2011

## **TAMARACK VALLEY ENERGY LTD TO DONATE TO MIKAI'STO FOUNDATION FOR NEW LEARNER'S RESOURCE CENTRE**

**Blood Reserve, Alberta** – Mikai'sto Foundation will be the recipient of a donation from Tamarack Valley Energy Limited who will donate funds to Mikai'sto Foundation's Capital Campaign for a New Learner's Resource Centre. The presentation will be held at 1: 00 PM on Friday June 3, 2011 in the University Hall at the Red Crow Community College (RCCC) main campus located on the Blood Reserve.

Tamarack Valley Energy is a junior oil and gas company based out of Calgary, Alberta and is listed on the TSX Venture Exchange with the new symbol, TVE. The company and its personnel have a long standing history of volunteering time and resources to help First Nations build capacity in the oil and gas sector through training and mentorship in business ventures on reserves. Tamarack has focused on First Nations education with the belief that entrepreneurship and First Nations control of their own resources will grow and create a better life for it's people.

Brian Schmidt, President, Chief Executive Officer and Director of Tamarack will be on hand for the presentation. Brian said, "I know Mikai'sto Foundation through my dealings with the Tribe in the Oil and Gas Industry and I am donating because I can support the Foundation's vision and objectives."

The Foundation was established as a charitable organization in 2007 and become operational in 2008; Mikai'sto began its Capital Campaign with a fundraising gala held in Calgary on Nov. 14, 2009. One of the foundation's main objectives is:

*Establish, operate and maintain a library or other physical infrastructure necessary to support the educational objectives of the Blood Tribe and house books, periodicals, as*

*well as other spiritual, ceremonial or cultural significant artifacts of the Blood Tribe to allow Blood Tribe members, students, researchers and scholars a place to study and preserve these historical artifacts on furtherance of these educational goals.*

Roy Fox, one of the Director of Mikai'sto Foundation is credited for this donation from Tamarack.

The initiative is fully supported by the Tribe's leadership. Blood Tribe Chief Charles Weasel Head supports the facility which will house a modern resource centre, class rooms, distance learning capabilities, botanical garden and an Elder's lounge. "A learner's resource centre will certainly provide our people opportunities to learn in an environment which promotes knowledge and the preservation of our culture. On behalf of the members of council, we encourage you and fully support your tireless efforts in realizing your goals. We also acknowledge the support from the many contributors who share in our desire to attain a facility from which growth and wisdom can prosper."

Marie Smallface-Marule, President of RCCC looking forward to the new learner resource centre/campus facility and welcomes the donation from Tamarack Valley Energy "Their support is most welcome and a very pleasant surprise. We hope that this will lead to an on-going partnership that is mutually beneficial."

Representatives from Blood Tribe Chief and Council, Mikai'sto Foundation, Red Crow Community College and Tamarack Valley Energy Limited will be in attendance for the presentation on Friday, June 3, 2011. For more information please contact Francis First Charger, CEO Mikai'sto Foundation at 403-737-2400 or email Francis at [firstchg@telus.net](mailto:firstchg@telus.net).