
NICHOLAS YEE

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Canadian | Australian Work Rights: 491 Visa

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CAREER PROFILE

Senior public policy leader with 15 years of experience across government, industry, and Indigenous communities. Proven track record leading strategic partnerships, aligning diverse stakeholders, and delivering outcomes in complex environments.

Experience spans Indigenous economic development, clean energy, natural resources, and major infrastructure projects, with a strong record providing strategic advice to senior government and business leaders.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Secured seven public funding allocations between 2016–2024 totalling \$400M+ supporting Indigenous communities, entrepreneurs, institutions, and economic development initiatives.
- Led rapid design and implementation of a \$332.8M national COVID relief measure protecting Indigenous community revenues and essential local services.
- Established a national Indigenous clean energy program and co-design and co-deliver five regional initiatives generating 2,148 jobs, 50 partnerships, and \$155M leveraged investment.
- Helped establish *Wah-ila-toos*, a whole-of-government federal hub accelerating remote community transition away from diesel reliance.
- Managed \$400M annual international assistance funding envelopes supporting humanitarian crisis and development priorities globally.
- Led senior advisory engagements with governments across Asia and Africa on governance reform and institutional effectiveness.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CHANDLER INSTITUTE OF GOVERNANCE (CIG) – Singapore

A Nonprofit government advisory firm that works with governments around the world to build public service capabilities, strengthen institutional capacity and good governance.

Director of Global Partnership/Government Projects

07/2025 – 11/2025

- Led engagement with senior government stakeholders across Asia and Africa on governance reform, public sector capability and institutional effectiveness.
- Facilitated strategic planning discussions with public institutions, including anti-corruption commissions and central agencies.
- Developed partnerships with governments and development organisations to support long-term capability building.
- Prepared executive briefings, stakeholder materials and strategic advice for leadership.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA (ISC) – Ottawa, Canada

A Government of Canada department with responsibilities for policies regarding Indigenous peoples - First Nations, Inuit and Metis communities – and to improve access and delivery of services to address socio-economic outcomes.

Senior Advisor/ Deputy Director - Strategic Partnerships Initiative

09/2023 – 05/2025

- Led operations of a \$30M annual national program including financial management, workforce planning, governance, and strategic priorities.
- Managed two teams (8 staff) across operations and renewable energy portfolios.
- Oversaw 20+ national initiatives spanning clean energy, forestry, critical minerals, tourism, and urban economic development.
- Coordinated stakeholders across 23 federal departments, regional agencies, utilities, Indigenous organisations, and private sector partners.
- Co-led five regional clean energy initiatives generating 2,148 jobs, 50 partnerships, and \$155M leveraged investment.
- Secured renewed funding through Budget 2024 submissions, evidence briefs, and stakeholder strategies.

DEPARTMENT OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA (GAC) – Ottawa, Canada

A Government of Canada department with responsibilities for diplomatic relations, international trade and development, as well as humanitarian, peace and security assistance efforts.

Deputy Director - International Assistance Directorate

01/2023 – 08/2023

- Delivered time-sensitive strategic advice to senior officials and decision-makers.
- Managed governance, allocation, and reporting for \$400M annual humanitarian and development funding envelopes.
- Improved controls, systems, and decision processes for high-priority international assistance programs.

DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA (ISC) – Ottawa, Canada

A Government of Canada department with responsibilities for policies regarding Indigenous peoples - First Nations, Inuit and Metis communities – and to improve access and delivery of services to address socio-economic outcomes.

Deputy Director/ Senior Advisor - Strategic Partnerships Initiative

01/2021 – 12/2022

- Led whole-of-government coordination across 23 departments addressing remote community priorities in clean energy, infrastructure, and off-diesel transition.
- Directed accelerated design and rollout of a \$332.8M COVID emergency relief package protecting Indigenous community revenues and local service continuity.
- Designed and launched a \$36M clean energy program supporting Indigenous-led renewable energy and national net-zero goals.
- Helped secure Cabinet and Treasury Board approvals to streamline federal off-diesel investment processes, resulting in the establishment of *Wah-ila-toos* – a national clean energy transition hub.

Senior Policy Advisor - Economic & Policy Development Branch

01/2018 – 12/2020

- Supported the Federal Executive lead in advancing priorities under Ontario's Ring of Fire – a geographical region rich in critical minerals – with responsibilities including providing policy advice, stakeholder engagement, and submissions related to resource development, infrastructure, and regulatory considerations.
- Advanced a Community Well-being Pilot Project, which resulted in the mobilization and participation of other government departments, the province, First Nation institutions, Tribal Council to implement community development action plans.

Program Manager – Aboriginal Business Financing Directorate

01/2017 – 12/2017

- Led the implementation of the Métis Economic Development Strategy (\$25M).
- Secured long-term capital pathways for eight national Indigenous organisations and affiliated institutions.
- Managed partnerships with Indigenous financial institutions supporting entrepreneurs and SMEs.
- Oversaw governance, reporting, and risk controls for a \$33M annual funding initiative.

Policy Analyst – Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Directorate

01/2014 – 12/2016

- Developed strategic briefing materials, including business case and analysis relating to national tourism strategies, entrepreneurship and economic participation.
- Led the development of a Memorandum to Cabinet on Canada's New Tourism Vision, contributing to policy approval and an \$8.6M investment in the 2017 Federal Budget.
- Led in the preparation, coordination and participation in the Canadian Council of Tourism Ministers (Charlottetown 2014, Winnipeg 2015, Iqaluit 2016).

BLUE OCEAN STRATEGY CONSULTING INC. – Toronto, Canada

A business consulting firm based on the blue ocean strategy process aims at helping businesses move from competing for market share to creating new demand and opportunities for growth.

Business Development Manager

06/2008 – 03/2010

- Managed stakeholder relationships and strategic growth initiatives for a business advisory firm.
- Coordinated executive workshops and events with corporate and public-sector clients.
- Supported market development and client acquisition strategies.

EDUCATION

Public Policy Executive Leadership Program (2022) - University of Ottawa, Telfer School of Management -- Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Master of Arts, Public Administration (2014) with concentration in International Development – Carleton University, School of Public Policy and Administration - Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Bachelor of Arts (Honours), Psychology (2008), University of Winnipeg, Canada

AWARDS

- **Assistant Deputy Minister Award (2025)** for outstanding contributions and achievements towards advancing Indigenous Economic Development and Reconciliation
- **Assistant Deputy Minister Award (2022)** for advancing Economic Prosperity and Reconciliation
- **Deputy Ministers Recognition Award (2018)** for the successful implementation of the Community Wellbeing Pilot Project (Ring of Fire)
- **Departmental Recognition Award (2017)** for the successful roll-out of Budget 2016 Métis Economic Development Strategy
- **Departmental Recognition Award (2016)** for leadership in the development of a National Aboriginal Tourism Strategy

LANGUAGES

- English – Native Proficiency
- Mandarin – Native Proficiency
- Cantonese – Native Proficiency
- Bahasa Malaysia/Indonesian – Native Proficiency
- French – Limited Working Proficiency