## **Community** Updates

mission driven

In the last few weeks, I've spent more time than anyone would consider healthy doomscrolling news of atrocities, violence, and lack of healthy

discourse. It's understandably hard to find focus and motivation—even to

continue otherwise exciting work advancing an inclusive economy.

\*|IFNOT:ARCHIVE\_PAGE|\*\*|IF:FNAME|\*Dear \*|FNAME|\*, \*|END:IF| \* \* | END:IF| \*



of conferences in October re-inspired me. Native Women Lead & The Future Is Indigenous Women's inaugural **Growth Capital Summit** in particular hit the head, heart, and hands. Many attendees were just one or two generations removed from—that is, children or grandchildren of—survivors of Indian **boarding schools** in the U.S. or residential schools in Canada. Many who witnessed trauma are using it as a motivator to craft a world of abundance and tenderness.

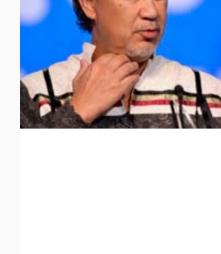
However, looking over notes from a **WIDE variety** 

That's one of many reasons we're honored to deepen our work supporting Native communities and leaders like **Keoni Lee**, CEO of Hawai'i Investment Ready (two great interviews with him **here** and **here** framing the context

troubling times and broken systems.

And damn if that's not the kind of energy we need to overcome these

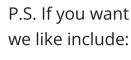
for our partner 'Āina Aloha Economy Fund). We're leaning into radical imagination: ideating how to help route the flood of once-in-a-generation federal resources so that Indigenous and overlooked communities can flourish for years to come, as <u>Vice President Harris announced</u> with the Initiative for Inclusive Entrepreneurship last month. I'm thrilled to welcome **Ted Piccolo** as our first-ever director of Indigenous futures to expand this work. He brings tremendous lived, learned, and labored experience with Native community economic



development. Ted is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (Cayuse/Wenatchi/Nez Perce). He was the founding executive director of the Northwest Native Development Fund and continues to serve on the boards of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians **Economic Development Corporation and** Opportunity Finance Network. Thanksgiving is one of the few times that many Americans think about Native people, albeit often repeating a falsely rosy holiday origin story and using only past tense verbs. I encourage everyone to celebrate by cooking seasonal foods native to this land, recognizing Indigenous leaders in the present and future tense, and taking a beat to find the light in the dark.

An inclusive economy starts with building strong, authentic relationships with each other—our partners and our teammates. To that end, we recently **shared** about our new employee fund, called the **Vested Vicuña Vehicle**, as a way for our team to share in the success of the portfolio we believe in. Stay well and take care of one another, Lauren Grattan Co-founder & Chief Community Officer

P.S. If you want to kickstart a rad journey into Indigenous futures, resources



• Indigenizing Catalytic Capital (report) • Indigenomics: Taking A Seat at the Economics Table by Carole **Anne Hilton** (or see this **8-minute video**)

 Sand Talk: How Indigenous Thinking Can Save the World by Tyson Yunkaporta

- **Welcome New Portfolio Companies**









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**Portfolio & Partner Updates** <u>Vice President Harris Announces New Efforts to Expand Capital Access</u> and Contracting Opportunities for Minority-Owned and Underserved **Businesses at the Freedman's Bank Forum** [The White House Briefing Room] <u>Alternative Ownership Enterprises</u> [Transform Finance] <u>Inequity burdens families</u>

[ImpactAlpha] **Hot Off the Presses: A First Take on the Proposed DAF Regulations** [Mill Law Center]

Just and Sustainable Economic Growth through Self-Determination

[University of Colorado Boulder]

Building an ownership movement to close racial wealth gaps

**KeyBank Partners With ROC USA® To Expand Affordable Housing and** <u>Homeownership in Manufactured Home Communities</u>

[CSR Wire]

<u>Cairnspring Mills expands into granary</u>

[Skagit Valley Herald]

The Plot Plant-Based Restaurant Named 38th Senate District's 'Small **Business of Year'** 

[Times of San Diego]

**Every Table expands to NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi, offering healthy** and affordable food

[News 12]

**Central Coast Food Web earns funding to re-localize Oregon seafood** 

[KLCC]

San Diego welcomes unhoused residents to second safe sleeping site in Balboa Park [NBC 7 San Diego]

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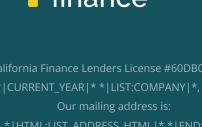


Reinvestment Fund's Healthy Food Financing Initiative is Expanding **Food Access in the Southeast** [Saporta Report]

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