



**Ron Cook is the President and founder of Pathfinders, a First Nations company registered in Akwesasne on Mohawk territory forging a path to establish First Nations as leaders in integrated energy strategies. Ron Cook's business background includes being the first Aboriginal exporter of petroleum products in Canada and an agricultural products production and manufacturing business. He is focused on economic development in traditional territories and fostering greater cooperation with all Nations. Ron Cook recognizes that the private sector remains severely limited on Native territories and strategic partnerships is committed to develop renewable energy strategies, infrastructure and housing development. Under his leadership Pathfinders is designing a showcase of sustainable technologies such as the Micro Grid incorporating solar, wind geothermal hydroelectric and hydrogen, water purification and innovative home construction.**



**ELDER BILLY TWO RIVERS**

**Elder Billy Two Rivers (Mohawk name Kaientaronkwen) is the one of the most recognized Chief and Elder in the First Nation community. He is a founder of Pathfinders, a First Nations company focused on sustainable solutions enhancing the lives of the people. Elder Billy Two Rivers is respected by Aboriginal Communities, the Canadian Government and on an International Level. Elder Two Rivers became famous internationally in the 1960's through his international wrestling. Elder Two Rivers then utilized his wrestling experience in the political arena. Elected to the Mohawk Council of Kahnawake for 20 years, he is now called upon for his experience and his wisdom. Elder Two Rivers role as an adviser is historical; he was a champion of Aboriginal rights during the debates alongside Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau and Senator Jerry Grafstein . Elder Two Rivers and Aboriginal groups successfully fought to have their rights enshrined and protected in Section 35 of the Constitution Act. He is recognized as a man of integrity and knowledge having championed First Nation causes through his participation in Assembly of First Nations conferences, the Nuclear Remediation Board and the Patriation of the Constitution. He is Pathfinders anchor and spiritual advisor.**



**Bernd Christmas is a partner in the Aboriginal Law Practice and a proud member of the Mi'kmaq community of Membertou. The primary focus of Bernd's practice is Indigenous economic development. As former Chief Executive Officer of the Membertou Band of Nova Scotia and the Membertou Corporate Division and as a negotiator for several First Nations bands, Bernd brings a deep understanding of Indigenous perspectives as well as extensive experience on national and international boards and commissions to Cassels Brock. Bernd was the first Mi'kmaw to become a lawyer in Canada. In 2003, he was appointed by Prime Minister Chrétien to the External Advisory Committee on Smart Regulation. From 2000 to 2002, he was one of three Canadian commissioners to the International Commission for the Conservation of Tuna. He is a former member of the National Aboriginal Economic Development Board and of the executive committee organizing the Governor General's Conference on Leadership and Diversity. He has been a Director of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and Keltic Petrochemicals Inc. Bernd is currently a Director on the board of Investors Group and the Indigenous charity Outside Looking in.**



### **Lawrence Martin elected Mushkegowuk Grand Chief**

The former Grand Chief for the Mushkegowuk Cree territory brings some unique experience to the position. Lawrence Martin has also led non-native communities.

He served as mayor of the towns of Cochrane and Sioux Lookout.

"Lawrence Martin made history as the first Aboriginal person in Ontario elected to lead a non-native municipality, then made history again by becoming one of the only people in Canada elected to lead two different municipalities," Nishnawbe-Aski Nation Grand Chief Harvey Yesno said in a release.

Martin is also an accomplished musician. He won a Juno music award for Best Music of Aboriginal Canada Recording in 1994, and was co-nominated for the Juno for Aboriginal Recording of the Year in 2003.

The Mushkegowuk Council represents eight Cree communities in northeastern Ontario: Attawapiskat First Nation, Chapleau Cree, Fort Albany First Nation, Kashechewan First Nation, Missanabie Cree, Moose Cree First Nation, Taykwa Tagamou First Nation (formerly New Post), and Weenusk First Nation (Peawanuck)