**FIRST Robotics Canada**

**Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI)**

**INTRODUCTION:**
One of the Five Strategic Pillars of FIRST is Increase Diversity. We need kids of all backgrounds, capabilities and social circumstances to contribute and participate in addressing the world’s toughest challenges and making the world a better place for future generations.

We’re working hard to implement a number of initiatives that will include traditionally overlooked and underserved groups in FIRST programs. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and stakeholders, FIRST Canada is proud to offer a number of grants to teams that focus on equity, diversity and inclusivity (EDI). FIRST Canada is striving to create a more inclusive and welcoming place that will further our goal of fully reflecting the communities we serve.

**EDI-FOCUS GROUPS**

1. **Indigenous Peoples**
Indigenous peoples in Canada also known as indigenous Canadians or aboriginal Canadians, are the [indigenous peoples](#) within Canada including Inuit, Métis, and First Nations. FIRST Canada is working hard to increase the number of indigenous kids and youth involved in our programs.

2. **Girls in STEM**
Females are vastly underrepresented and underserved in STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and math). Engaging and empowering young women in all of our programs is a high priority for FIRST Canada.

3. **Underserved and Underrepresented Communities**
This designation is not only based upon inherent attributes such as gender, age, race, and ethnicity but is also based on a set of circumstances which may cause certain demographic groups to experience greater challenges that result in vulnerable populations. Vulnerable populations include the economically disadvantaged, gender, racial and ethnic minorities, people with chronic health conditions, and low-income families.