EMBA ABL
EMBA in Aboriginal Business and Leadership
WHY CHOOSE THE EMBA ABL?

- Build on your existing skills
- Interactive, face-to-face MBA program format
- Designed to fit around family, community and work
- Small class size, cohort learning experience
- Unique, Aboriginal issues-focused business program
The SFU Executive MBA in Aboriginal Business and Leadership (EMBA ABL) is a face-to-face MBA designed for mid-career Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal professionals working within the context of Aboriginal Business.

The program’s design allows you to work while studying. You attend intensive study sessions in Vancouver and will gain practical leadership and management tools you can begin using immediately—and continue to use throughout your career.

AN MBA TAILORED TO YOUR NEEDS
STUDY WITH OTHER PROVEN LEADERS

The EMBA ABL explores contemporary business issues and insights, while recognizing and respecting that traditional knowledge plays a significant role in decision-making in Indigenous communities.

EMBA ABL participants are proven leaders who share a concern for Indigenous economic development, Nation-building and collaboration.

Your classmates may include:

- Aboriginal community leaders
- Individuals running an Aboriginal business
- Leaders in Aboriginal organizations (including health and education service delivery organizations)
- Board directors or senior staff of an Aboriginal economic development corporation
- Managers working for any business in Aboriginal relations
- Individuals managing large scale projects that require significant interaction with First Nations communities and businesses
HOW DOES IT WORK?

The 25-month EMBA ABL enables you to expand your skillset, without pausing your career.

The program gives you the strategic management skills to take on new responsibilities at work. You can continue to contribute in your workplace and community throughout your studies, apply new theories and approaches, and develop projects around your organization.

The learning experience includes intensive in-class components for an average of 30–35 days per year. This face-to-face learning experience is a major feature of the EMBA ABL, increasing its value to you and your organizations. Between sessions, you can communicate online to complete individual assignments and group projects.

The learning environment is respectful and reciprocal: you will learn from each other and your instructors as much as they will learn from you.
BUILD MANAGEMENT
COMPETENCE AND
CONFIDENCE

The EMBA ABL gives you a 360-degree view of organizations, a strategic mindset and a conceptual framework for new levels of responsibility. You’ll learn to apply a strategic perspective to changing environments and diverse challenges.

The program themes are developed within the framework of Aboriginal rights to self-governance in political and economic matters:

- Entrepreneurship and business development
- Building capacity of people and organizations
- Sustainable, cultural and environmental stewardship
- Principled leadership and governance

You explore these themes through specific courses over two years.

FALL 2018

- Orientation
- Philosophy of Management
- Leadership

SPRING 2019

- Strategic Governance Factors in Aboriginal Economic Development
- Managerial and Financial Accounting

FALL 2019

- Policy and Governance
- Marketing
- Managerial Finance
SPRING 2020

- Business Strategy
- Organizational Change and Development
- Entrepreneurship

SUMMER 2020

- Strategies for Sustainability
- Capstone - start

FALL 2020

- Capstone Project – presentation

SPRING 2021

- Graduation Ceremony
MEET THE FACULTY

SFU’s Beedie School of Business has a long and very successful history of providing customized MBA programs to executives to meet their specific needs. Over the years, the faculty has developed relationships with a number of First Nations organizations and communities as well as with established businesses that have a strong interest in building good relations with Aboriginal communities.

MARK SELMAN
Program Director

Dr. Selman began his professional life as an entrepreneur involved in both construction and manufacturing. After helping the Haisla First Nation develop a community learning plan that would complement their economic development initiatives, he worked on several other major projects with First Nations including courses on the use of real estate development as an economic development strategy, planning and coordination of education and economic development strategies with Turning Point, and a leadership role with Ahp-cii-uk (“going the right way” in Nuu-chah-nulth), a leadership initiative with three Nuu-chah-nulth communities.
JOHN BORROWS

Professor John Borrows is the Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Law at the University of Victoria Law School. He also is a Visiting Professor at the SFU Segal Graduate School at the Beedie School of Business and teaches in the EMBA in Aboriginal Business and Leadership. Prior to joining the University of Victoria, he was Professor and Robina Chair in Law and Society at the University of Minnesota Law School and Professor; as well as holding positions teaching Indigenous Law at the University of Toronto, University of British Columbia and Osgoode Hall Law School.

IAN MCCARTHY

Dr. Ian McCarthy is a Professor of Technology and Operations Management in the Beedie School of Business. His research and teaching focus on how organizations should be designed and managed so as to succeed in different industries. This includes linking operations, innovation, marketing and legal concepts.
Dr. Michelle Corfield is an independent consultant specializing in process design, facilitation, research, and personal, community, and organizational development. Until recently, she held the position of Vice-President for the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council. She is a board member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia. Michelle holds a Doctorate in Organizational Leadership Management, Masters of Conflict Analysis and Management, and B.A. in First Nations Studies. She is also a successful independent businessperson, operating a Seafood Harvesting company for the past thirteen years, adding to her 17 years of entrepreneurial experience.

Dr. Radermacher has worked on First Nation issues such as land and treaty, economic development, migration, and aboriginal foster care. She also conducted research on contemporary German migration to Australia and Canada, migration decision-making processes, and ethnic networking structures in Europe. Over the past twenty years she has been involved in a wide range of projects in the not for profit area, such as the Reciprocal Research Network (RRN) at the UBC Museum of Anthropology.
JOIN A COMMUNITY OF LEARNING

The evolving program is constantly refined and improved using feedback from participants. This is not a program where we teach and you listen. It is a reciprocal experience that draws on, respects and explores the unique experiences and challenges of our students.

BUILD STRONGER NETWORKS
Get the opportunity to network with different Nations, students and business representatives, as well as other universities with Aboriginal-focused programs, such as the University of Waikato in New Zealand and the Native Nations Institute at Arizona University.

INTERACTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
Classes are highly interactive and vary from lectures to presentations and simulations. Many of the readings are real-life cases that form the basis for discussion and assignments. You will study with a supportive group of people who understand the context you are working in—and the challenges around you.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
Cases and projects bring leading business knowledge to life. Cases consist of real business scenarios that put you in the role of the decision maker. Assignments and class discussions mirror the challenging situations that you and your fellow students encounter in your professional lives.

GAIN NEW PERSPECTIVES
You will travel through the program with the same cohort of just 25 to 35 students, enabling you to build strong friendships and build your network. Students will be assigned to small, self-managed teams of four to five people who will work together on projects. The rich business, cultural and life experience of each student helps create a rewarding class and team experience.

ATTEND CLASSES IN DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER
Classes take place at the Segal Graduate School of Business campus in the heart of Downtown Vancouver. Its 60,000 square feet accommodates the finest in meeting and classroom facilities, and it also provides easy access to Vancouver’s dining and entertainment scene for those all-important post class get-togethers.
EMBA ABL ALUMNI PROFILES

DAVID JIMMIE, EMBA ABL 2012
Chief and CEO, Squiala First Nation

“I feel confident that I can work through any situation using the tools I gained in the program.”

MARY TEEGEE, EMBA ABL 2017
Executive Director Child and Family Services, Carrier Sekani Family Services

“If you’re not always learning and challenging yourself, you become stagnant.”
ARE YOU THE RIGHT FIT?

If you share a concern for Nation-building and have experience running a successful business, implementing economic development strategies, working as a senior administrator for a band council government, or in another relevant area, we’d like to hear from you.

HOW TO APPLY

Your work and life experiences in addition to your formal education are considered in the application review. To connect with an advisor, please contact us at emba-abl@sfu.ca or 778-782-9819.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- Business experience: Five to ten years of work experience, with at least four of those years in a managerial or professional position.
- Academic achievements: An undergrad degree in any discipline. A two-year diploma and outstanding grades will be considered. A limited number of people who lack a formal degree or professional designation, but have other outstanding qualifications may be admitted.

Full details are available at beedie.sfu.ca/emba-abl

TUITION:

- Tuition: $54,000*
- Includes all course materials, off-site orientation and workshops
- An additional cost of $2,000-4,000 will be folded into the SFU tuition for the study trip.

ADDITIONAL COSTS:

- Travel and accommodation to attend classes are not included in the tuition.

* Subject to Board of Governors approval.
APPLICATION PROCESS:

- Complete online application form
- Required supporting documents:
  » Official transcripts
  » Self-evaluation
  » Organizational chart
  » Resume
  » 3 letters of reference
- Interview if shortlisted
  » Applicants are reviewed and admitted on a continuous basis until the class is full.
STUDY IN THE HEART OF THE CITY.

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