The SFU Indigenous Business Leadership Executive MBA (IBL EMBA) is an MBA designed for mid-career Indigenous leaders working within the context of Indigenous Business, Governance and Leadership. This 5 semester program weaves together Indigenous worldviews with business theory and skills to provide you with the tools to create economically sustainable communities. The program’s design honours your full time working, community and family responsibilities while you are studying. Join our community of Indigenous leaders who have earned their MBA and continue to contribute to growing the wealth of our nations.

Welcome to SFU featuring Chief Ian Campbell

ABOUT SFU BEEDIE

2022 marks the 40th anniversary of the creation of the Beedie School of Business and the 10th anniversary of the Indigenous Business Leadership Executive MBA. Born of SFU’s radical roots, we are a school of firsts: the 1st in Canada to offer an Executive MBA; the 1st in Canada to offer a Management of Technology MBA; and the 1st and only university in North America to offer an Indigenous Business Leadership Executive MBA. Today, we are proud to recognize over 100 Indigenous community leaders who have earned their Indigenous Business Leadership Executive MBA and are advancing Indigenous business management, economic development, Nation-building, and self-determination.
The IBL EMBA explores the modern day economy through contemporary business practices while recognizing, respecting and creating space for traditional ways of knowing, being and doing. This program is designed for leaders who are wanting to bring community wisdom into business decision-making.

IBL EMBA students are leaders who share a vision for economic development, Nation-building, collaboration and partnership.

The IBL EMBA schedule enables you to study while you continue working. This program will provide you with strategic management skills and will prepare you to take on new responsibilities at work and within your community. You will gain additional perspective to new ideas, apply learned theories and approaches and develop and implement meaningful and significant projects for your organization.

The blended learning experience takes place over five semesters. Each semester you will gather with your classmates in community for a 1 week intensive in-class learning experience. In addition to this 1 week face to face learning, you will continue to gather online twice a week for 8 more weeks of online classes per semester. Every semester you will complete 3 courses, 1 in person and 2 online. In addition to the face to face and online synchronous learning, you will be required to create time for reading, writing, critical thinking and team work. You will be contributing to both individual assignments and group projects. Plan to prepare for 10 – 15 hours of school work a week in addition to the time you spend in class.

The learning environment is one that will be respectful and reciprocal: you will learn from each other and your instructors as much as they will learn from you.

Your classmates will include:
- community and organizational leaders in the private, not for profit, government and corporate sectors
- entrepreneurs
- trustees
- board directors

Why take the program
The IRL EMBA shares with you an in-depth view of how business and organizations are structured and managed. This program provides you with the skills to develop your business mindset and conceptual frameworks for new levels of responsibility.

You will learn to apply a strategic and collaborative perspective to changing environments and diverse challenges.

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

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

You will explore these themes through specific courses over the 20 months.
The IBL EMBA gives you a 360-degree view of organizations, a capacity for aligned decision making, 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 Indigenous 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.

**YEAR 1**

**FALL**
- Orientation
- Indigenous Business Leadership
- Fundamentals of Project Management in Indigenous Organizations
- Financial and Managerial Accounting for Indigenous Leaders

**SPRING**
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Indigenous Communities
- Data and Decision Making for Indigenous Businesses
- Indigenous Policy and Governance

**SUMMER**
- Indigenous Economies
- Financial Management for Indigenous Leadership
- Negotiations for Indigenous Leaders
- Applied Project Preparation

**YEAR 2**

**FALL**
- Marketing Strategies for Indigenous Leadership
- Business Strategy for Indigenous Leaders
- Indigenous Sustainability

**SUMMER**
- Special Topics – Study Tour
- Applied Project

*Curriculum subject to change based on faculty availability*
The IBL EMBA is reflective and inclusive of students. We are committed to a learner focused design and continue to evolve the program to ensure we remain relevant and impactful for the students and communities we are in service to. This program is based in mutual respect for the learner and the teacher. Your faculty share the subject matter content and create space for students to bring their wisdom to the classroom to create new solutions that are applicable to our communities. The classroom is curated to create a reciprocal knowledge exchange and is enhanced by the experience that draws on, respects and explores the unique experiences, challenges, culture and representation of students.

**BUILD STRONGER NETWORKS**

You will have the opportunity to build relationships with different Nations, students, faculty, business representatives and industry and community leaders.

**INTERACTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

The classroom environment involves discussion and group work, where some of the most valuable teaching and learning moments take place. 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 and prepare you for future roles and responsibilities.

**GAIN NEW PERSPECTIVES**

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

**ATTEND CLASSES IN COMMUNITY**

Our face to face classes will take place in different communities. For the 2022 – 2024 IBL EMBA Cohort, you will travel to Whistler, BC, Vancouver, BC, Rama, ON, Fort Langley, BC and Chase, BC. Your online classes can be taken in the comfort of your home, at your office, or out in the bush. As long as you have internet connectivity, you can join us from wherever you are calling in from.
IBL EMBA
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Wanda Rockthunder felt that the path she was following was not leading her to the places she wanted to go. After years of dedicating her life to helping Indigenous Peoples in promoting health and wellness, Wanda decided that she wanted to expand her education in order to enhance her career and role as an educator. Wanda chose the IBL EMBA for its unique Indigenous content and because of how this content is incorporated into her learning. Today Wanda is a Business Instructor at the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology and plans to continue her business education by pursuing her PhD.

WANDA ROCKTHUNDER
BUSINESS INSTRUCTOR, SASKATCHEWAN INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGIES

“I like that we are respected as Indigenous Peoples and that SFU Beedie has worked to create this program. I have never felt more comfortable in my learning. I feel fortunate to be at such a prestigious university and to be flourishing at SFU Beedie.”

Connie Davis wanted to learn what it meant to govern and lead from an Indigenous perspective. Having always worked with First Nations, she knew that she wanted to be a part of many Nations’ journeys. Connie chose the IBL EMBA to learn the tools that she needs to build strong relationships with her clients and deepen her conversations with them. Today Connie continues to be a part of her clients’ journeys by understanding where they’re coming from and helping them reach their goals.

CONNIE DAVIS
FIRST NATIONS HOUSING SPECIALIST, CANADA MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION (CMHC)

“I wanted to make a career change. I knew that if I invested in myself with an MBA that it would give me the mobility I was looking for to pivot successfully into a new career.”
If you share a passion and vision for growing the wealth and health of our Nations through leadership, governance and business we would like to hear from you.

In your application, we take into account your work and life experiences and are included in your education considerations. Following is what it takes to get into the program.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**
- Complete the online application form
- Required supporting documents:
  - Transcripts
  - Personal reflection
  - Organizational Chart
  - Resume
  - 3 letters of reference that speak to your business/leadership acumen, managerial/supervisory experience and relationship with/to community
- Interview for shortlisted candidates
  - Applicants are reviewed and admitted on continuous basis until the class is full

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**
- Business experience: 10 or more years of business and community experience, with at least four of those years in a managerial or executive position.
- Academic achievements: An undergrad degree in any discipline. Applications may be considered where the applicant has followed an alternate educational path and the applicant has extensive experience in an educational, community or professional setting.

**FALL 2022 APPLICATION DEADLINES**
- Round 1: November 30th, 2021
- Round 2: Feb. 15th, 2022
- Round 3: May 6th, 2022
- Final Round: June 24th, 2022

Please keep in mind that we process applications on a rolling basis and admissions decisions are handed out between application deadlines. You do not need to wait for a deadline to apply.

**TUITION AND FEES**
- Tuition: $59,525*
- Student fees: $2,750
- An additional cost of $2,000 – $4,000 may be required for the study tour

*Subject to Board of Governors approval

**CONNECT**
To connect with an advisor, please contact us at emba-ibl@sfu.ca or Indigenous_Programs@sfu.ca. We will be happy to help you.
Simon Fraser University respectfully acknowledges the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), səl̓ilw̓ətaʔɬ (Tsleil-Waututh), q̓íčəy (Katzie), kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (Kwikwetlem), Qayqayt, Kwantlen, Semiahmoo and Tsawwassen peoples on whose unceded traditional territories our three campuses reside.