

**Executive MBA in Indigenous Business Leadership (IBL EMBA)
at SFU Beedie School of Business**

The IBL EMBA was started by the SFU Beedie School of Business in 2012. It is North America's first and only EMBA focused on Indigenous Business Leadership. It is designed for mid-career Indigenous leaders working within the context of Indigenous Business, Governance and Leadership. The 5 semester program weaves together Indigenous worldviews with business theory and skills to provide students with the tools to create economically sustainable communities.

The program counts 147 Indigenous leaders among its alumni, and currently has 70 students. Students come from across Canada to study in the program. 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

The program has grown leaps and bounds in stature and impact over the years, primarily because of how the program's innovations have centered around Indigenizing the curriculum and how it is delivered. This Indigenization, led by our Indigenous faculty and staff, has happened through extensive collaboration with Indigenous communities and learning from elders. Among examples are the development of an Indigenous finance and accounting course in collaboration with the Aboriginal Finance Officers Association (AFOA Canada), taking the program to the land, bringing in Indigenous elders to teach, and ceremonies associated with the start of the program, end of the program, and graduation.

In this session, Alexia McKinnon (Director of the IBL EMBA program) will describe how the inclusion of Indigenous worldviews has helped the program grow its impact. Dean Ujwal Kayande will briefly describe the overall importance of the program to the School and its impact internally on the School.