EMBA IBL
EMBA in Indigenous Business and Leadership
AN MBA TAILORED TO YOUR NEEDS

The SFU Executive MBA in Indigenous Business and Leadership (EMBA IBL) is a face-to-face MBA designed for mid-career Indigenous and non-Indigenous professionals working within the context of Indigenous 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.

WHY CHOOSE THE EMBA IBL?

- Build on your existing skills
- Interactive, face-to-face MBA program format
- Designed for busy working professionals
- Small class size, cohort learning experience
- Unique, Indigenous issues-focused business program

From left to right: Marek Tyler, Alexia Mckinnon, Shadelle Chambers, Sam Minde, Mike De Guevara, and Penina Goodeagle
HOW DOES IT WORK?

The EMBA IBL schedule 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 IBL, 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.

STUDY WITH OTHER PROVEN LEADERS

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

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

Your classmates may include:

- Indigenous community leaders
- Individuals running an Indigenous business
- Leaders in Indigenous organizations
- Board directors, trustees, or senior staff of Indigenous economic development corporations and non-profit organizations
- Managers working for any business in Indigenous relations
- Indigenous managers working in private, government and NGO sectors

We proudly recognize and gather on the unceded traditional territories of the Coast Salish peoples of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl̓ílwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.
BUILD MANAGEMENT COMPETENCE AND CONFIDENCE

The EMBA IBL 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 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.

FALL 2018
- Orientation
- Philosophy of Management
- Leadership

SPRING 2019
- Strategic Governance Factors in Indigenous 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
Joy Cramer is a citizen of Sagkeeng First Nation, with maternal ties to Sandy Bay First Nation, both of which are in Manitoba and were signatories to 1871’s Treaty 1. She has a rich background of experience in senior governmental roles and in Indigenous advocacy. She worked for almost 20 years in various positions within the Manitoba provincial government, most recently as Deputy Minister, Family Services. She has gained a deep understanding of the needs and aspirations of Indigenous people through her work in Indigenous communities with on-reserve and urban social services delivery, serving on boards, and First Nation policy experience. Joy is an EMBA IBL graduate and a DBA candidate.

MEET THE INDIGENOUS PROGRAM FACULTY AND STAFF

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 Indigenous communities.

Joie Cramer
Director, Indigenous Business Programs

Joy Cramer is from the Leg’átemel First Nation, part of the Stó:lō Coast Salish. Her research interests focus on Indigenous economic development, ancestral leadership, and Coast Salish freedom and unfreedom and the Capabilities Approach. Dara earned her PhD at the Auckland School of Business where she was a Researcher with the Mira Szászy Research Centre for Māori and Pacific Economic Development. In addition to research, she has professional experience in leadership development programming. Currently she is working on the Coastal First Nations (CFN) Legacy Project conducting oral history reviews to capture the core values of the CFN and develop case studies that will highlight key organizational challenges and successes from the perspective of those communities.

Dara Kelly

Dr. Dara Kelly is from the Leq’á:mel First Nation, part of the Stó:lō Coast Salish. Her research interests focus on Indigenous economic development, ancestral leadership, and Coast Salish freedom and unfreedom and the Capabilities Approach. Dara earned her PhD at the Auckland School of Business where she was a Researcher with the Mira Szászy Research Centre for Māori and Pacific Economic Development. In addition to research, she has professional experience in leadership development programming. Currently she is working on the Coastal First Nations (CFN) Legacy Project conducting oral history reviews to capture the core values of the CFN and develop case studies that will highlight key organizational challenges and successes from the perspective of those communities.
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 Indigenous 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.

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.

Eric Werker is Associate Professor in the Beedie School of Business at Simon Fraser University and academic lead from SFU to the Canadian International Resources and Development Institute. Eric researches how less developed countries can build more thriving and inclusive private sectors, particularly when they are rich in natural resources, and how international actors can play a positive role in creating successful societies.

Debra Hoggan is the Senior Manager of the Indigenous Business Programs. She brings to the role vast experience in business and has owned several retail businesses as well as a consulting practice. Her background in leadership stems from her extensive work with First Nation governments as well as organizations such as the World Council of Indigenous Peoples. She is fiercely committed to maximizing opportunity, building capacity and economic self-sufficiency for First Nation communities. Debra is a graduate of the EMBA IBL program. She also holds a certificate in Applied Project Management.
JOIN A COMMUNITY OF SHARING & 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 Indigenous-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 IBL STUDENT AND ALUMNI PROFILES

DAVID JIMMIE, EMBA IBL 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 IBL 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-ibl@sfu.ca or Indigenous_Programs@sfu.ca.

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-ibl

TUITION:
• Tuition: $55,500*
  • Includes all course materials, orientation and workshops.
  • An additional cost of $2,000-4,000 for the study trip to cover transportation, food and accommodations.

ADDITIONAL COSTS:
• Travel, food 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.
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