

OUR FOCUS

Private business development and entrepreneurship often take a “back seat” in Tribal economic development strategic planning. Yet, the private business sector forms the backbone of vibrant and robust free enterprise economies worldwide.

The 2008 Minnesota Indian Business Conference (MNIBC) will be groundbreaking in its strategic approach to business development, focusing on Indian entrepreneurship and private Indian businesses both within tribal communities and throughout the State of Minnesota. Conference sessions will offer thought-provoking examinations of topics such as financial institution lending to private Indian businesses, sound tribal policies that will support and sustain business growth, and the tribal governance and legal infrastructures necessary for developing healthy private sector economies.

Hear from prominent national and local leaders and experts in Indian business, law and policy development as well as Minnesota tribal leaders and Indian business owners as they critically examine and discuss challenges to and opportunities for sustainable business growth. Engage in dialogue about the need for and learn about the tools available to develop and enhance the foundational tribal legal and governmental infrastructures that are crucial for business-supportive environments.

A unique aspect of the MNIBC is the plan for immediate follow-up. On December 2, 2008 at the Initiative Foundation in Little Falls, Minnesota, MNIBC collaborative partners, conference attendees and other interested parties are invited to participate in building a new statewide Indian business alliance dedicated to the growth of thriving Indian businesses in Minnesota. Information about this meeting will be provided at the Conference.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The MNIBC is a “must” for Indian business owners and artists; tribal leaders; tribal policy and law makers; tribal judges and legal counsel; tribal economic, business and community developers and other tribal government staff; community development corporations; foundations and nonprofits; Indian college students and tribal college faculty; federal, state and local elected leaders and agency staff; and lenders interested in tapping into the unlimited business potential in our reservation communities.

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Best & Flanagan LLP
- Black Heart, Inc
- Blandin Foundation
- Bois Forte Development Corporation
- Corporate Commission of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe SBDP
- Dakota Electric Association
- Explore Minnesota Tourism
- Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
- Initiative Foundation
- Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Economic Development
- Metropolitan Economic Development Association
- Minneapolis Foundation
- MN American Indian Chamber of Commerce
- Minnesota Indian Affairs Council
- MN Department of Employment & Economic Development
- MN Procurement & Technical Assistance Center
- MN Small Business Development Center
- Nativeres
- Northeast Entrepreneur Fund
- Strand Communications
- The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
- Turtle Island Communications, Inc.
- UIDA Business Services
- UMD Center for Economic Development
- US Small Business Administration
- USDA Rural Development

HOTEL INFORMATION

Treasure Island Resort & Casino
5734 Sturgeon Lake Road, Welch, MN 55089
Call **1-800-222-7077** for room reservations.

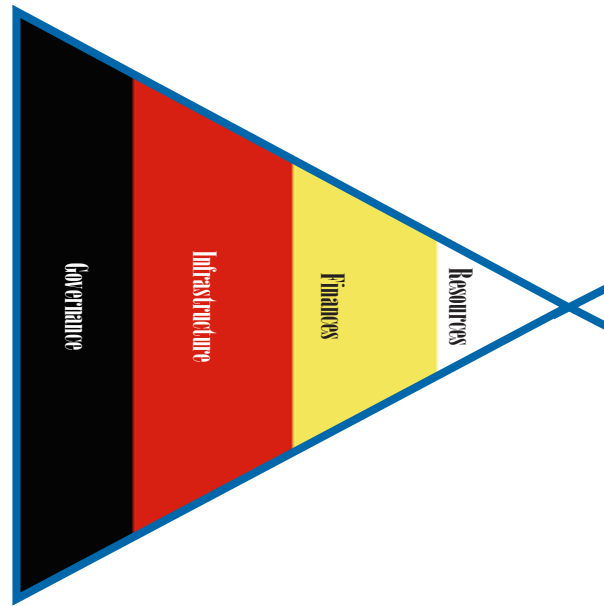
Room Rate (ask for MN Indian Business Conference room block).
\$ 54.00 if reserved by Oct. 7, 2008
\$ 79.00 after Oct. 7, 2008

For driving directions, see
www.treasureislandcasino.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

For additional information about MNIBC 2008 please contact:

Pamela Standing
1-218-847-9554
pamelastanding@msn.com
or
Madonna Peltier-Yawakie
1-763-424-6257
mpy@turtleislandcom.com



MINNESOTA INDIAN BUSINESS

2008
Conference & Showcase

Eleven Nations Strong

Bois Forte Band of Chippewa

Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Grand Portage Chippewa

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

Lower Sioux Indian Community

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

Prairie Island Indian Community

Red Lake Band of Chippewa

Shakopee Mdewakaton Sioux Community

Upper Sioux Community

White Earth Nation

Minnesota Indian Business Conference
P.O. BOX 1902
Detroit Lakes MN 56502

AGENDA

Tuesday, October 28

7:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 Posting of the Colors and Invocation

9:00 **Welcome**
Dale Old Horn, *Master of Ceremonies*

9:15 *Setting the Stage*

Dr. Bruce P. Corrie, Ph.D., *Dean, College of Business and Organizational Leadership, Concordia University*
Dan McElroy, *Commissioner, MN Department of Employment & Economic Development*

10:00 Break

10:15 *Sustainability and Predictability: Creating Vibrant Tribal Economies*

Ron His Horse Is Thunder, *Chair, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe*

11:00 *Challenges We Face as Indian Business Owners*

A Panel Discussion with Minnesota Indian Business Owners

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Keynote Presentation

Competing in Today's Market: The Impact of Indian Business in Corporate America

Margo Gray-Proctor, *President, The Horizon Companies*
Recipient, 2005 National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development's Indian Business Owner of the Year Award; and Recipient, 2004 National Indian Business Association's Outstanding National Native American Women-Owned Business Award

1:45 *Enhancing Tribal Sovereignty Through Constitutional Reform*

Shawn Real Bird, *Economic Development Director, Crow Nation*
Leonika Charging, *Attorney, Fredericks, Peebles & Morgan, LLC, Omaha NE*

2:30 Break

2:45 *Concurrent Sessions

3:45 Break

4:00 *Concurrent Sessions

5:00 Day One Closing Comments

6:00 Reception

* Concurrent Session Topics:

- ◆ Practicalities of Constitutional Reform
- ◆ Utilizing New Market Tax Credits to Enhance Business Development
- ◆ Ensuring American Indian Business Presence—TERO and Corporate Best Practices
- ◆ Creating an American Indian Equity Fund for Private Business Development
- ◆ Enhancing Tribal Governance—Codes of Ethics
- ◆ Tribal Commercial and Business Law Development

Wednesday, October 29

7:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

7:30 Coffee Talk with the Experts

This is an opportunity for conference attendees to meet with concurrent session presenters at breakfast in small groups to discuss issues pertinent to their particular interests

8:30 Welcome and Invocation

8:45 **Keynote Presentation: Nation Building and Effective Leadership**

Manley Begay Jr., *Executive Director, Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management and Policy – Udall Center for Public Policy, University of Arizona*

9:30 *Tribal Secured Transactions Law: Enhancing Access to Affordable Credit for Business Development*

A Panel Discussion about the Importance of Secured Lending Laws in Indian Country, and the Model Tribal Secured Transactions Act
John Herrera, *Attorney, Board Member, Western Bank of Cass County*
Mark Ritchie, *Minnesota Secretary of State*
Shawn Real Bird, *Economic Development Director, Crow Nation*
Susan Woodrow, *Project Director, Community Affairs, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Helena MT Branch*

10:30 Break

10:45 *Creating Sound Business Environments in Indian Country - Enhancing Tribal Court Systems*

Maylenn Smith, *Director, Indian Law Clinic, University of Montana School of Law*
Dennis Puz, Jr., *Esq., Best & Flanagan LLP*

11:30 *Partnering to Diversify and Strengthen Indian Country Economies – Creating a Statewide Indian Business Alliance in Minnesota*

A Panel Discussion moderated by Pamela Standing, *Executive Director, Minnesota American Indian Chamber of Commerce*
Maria Valandra, *Chair, Montana Indian Business Alliance and Community Development Officer, First Interstate Bancsystem, Montana and Wyoming*
Dani Daugherty, *Chair, South Dakota Indian Business Alliance and Economic Development Director, Great Plains Regional Office—Aberdeen, South Dakota, Bureau of Indian Affairs*
John Breuninger, *Executive Committee, Wisconsin Indian Business Alliance; Director of Planning, Oneida Nation of Wisconsin; and Chairman of the Board, Oneida Nation-owned Bay Bank*

12:15 Lunch

Keynote Presentation

How Indian Business Creates New Opportunities in Indian Country

Andy Wells III, *President/CEO, Wells Technology; Recipient, 2008 National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development's Indian Business Owner of the Year Award; Recipient, 2006 Metropolitan Economic Development Association's Entrepreneur of the Year Award; Founder, The Wells Academy*

1:45 *What Would Your Community Look Like With a Thriving Private Business Sector?*

A Panel Discussion with Minnesota Tribal Community Leaders

2:45 Closing Comments

3:00 Retiring of Colors

INDIAN BUSINESS AND ARTISAN SHOWCASE

The Minnesota Indian Business Conference is hosting an Indian Artist and Indian Business Exhibition. This will be a tremendous opportunity for Indian artists and businesses to show their artwork or business products and services. Exhibit space is limited and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so reserve your space early. For more information about participating in the exhibit, contact **Stephen Peterson, Business Development Coordinator, Bois Forte Development Corporation: 1-218-753-7805, speterson@fortunebay.com**

RESOURCE & SERVICE PROVIDER EXHIBITS

Exhibit space will be available for service and resource providers. Space is limited and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so reserve your exhibit space early. Contact LaDonna Boyd, Economic Development Director, Dakota Electric Association at 1-651-463-6232 or at: lboyd@dakotaelectric.com.

REGISTRATION

Registration fee	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00
Late fee after October 14, 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00
One day only fee	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00
Late one day only fee after Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00
Full-time American Indian student fee	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 75.00
Late student fee after Oct. 14	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00
Resource & Service Provider exhibit fee	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200.00 (includes one admission)
Indian Business /Artisan exhibit fee	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 75.00 (includes one admission)

REGISTER ON-LINE TODAY AT: www.umdced.com/mnibc.html

If you have questions about on-line registration, please contact 1-218-726-7298 or email: ced@umdced.com.

To register by mail, complete this registration form and enclose a check or money order payable to Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation (please write "MNIBC 2008" on the memo line). Photocopy for multiple registrations.

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

- Two-day general admission
- Exhibit – Indian Artist
 - Exhibit – Indian-owned Business
Name of business _____
 - Exhibit – Service or Resource Provider
Name of organization _____
 - Full-time student
Name of Institution _____

One day only – Tuesday, October 28

One day only – Wednesday, October 29

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Mail your check or money order and registration form to:
Minnesota Indian Business Conference, P.O. Box 1902, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502

REGISTER TODAY – SPACE IS LIMITED!