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WORLD INDIGENOUS BUSINESS FORUM
GUATEMALA 2014

EXECUTIVE REPORT



table of contents

Introduction	3	Educational Initiative that Build Indigenous Leaders	12
Agenda	4	Luis Velasquez, President of Consultoria International, and Former Minister of Economy, Guatemala.	
Reception & Official Opening	5	Clare Beckton, Executive Director- Centre for Women in Public Leadership Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada.	
Blessing	6	Clair Reid, Director - Master’s in Development Practice: Indigenous Development, University of Winnipeg, Canada.	
Don Tomas Calvo, Nim Winak (General Principal) Santo Tomas Chichicastenango.			
Welcome	7		
President Otto Molina Perez, President of the Republic of Guatemala.			
Successful Joint Ventures in the Resource Sector	8	Challenges and Opportunities for Indigenous Owned Corporations	13
Phil Fontaine, President- Ishkonigan, Inc., Former Chief of the Assembly of first Nations, Ottawa Canada.		Maria Tuyuc, Consultant and Technical Assistant of Indigenous Entrepreneurship, Business Advisor of the Chamber of Guatemala.	
Financial Independence Investing Partnering Opportunities	8	Raymundo Francisco Hernandez, President of the Indigenous Business Chamber Guatemala, Guatemala.	
David Chartrand, President – Manitoba Metis Federation Inc, Winnipeg, Canada.		Luis Tepeu, Former President of the Indigenous Business Chamber Guatemala, Guatemala.	
Global Strategies for Local Economic Development Success	9	Projects that deliver Social Economic and Environmental Benefits	13
Brad Jackson, Executive Chairman- Northern Project Contracting, Brisbane, Australia.		Jeff Cyr, Chief Executive Officer- National Association of Friendship Centres, Toronto, Canada.	
Chrisch Siririka, Chief Executive Officer, Indigenous People’s business Forum Namibia, Africa.		Gary Davis, President and Chief Executive Officer National Centre for American Indian Enterprise Development, Mesa, USA.	
Toni Ah-Sam, Ochre Business Consulting, Darwin, Australia.		Rachel Garcia Macario, Director of the Ixkik Museum, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala.	
The Framework Agreement on First Nations Land Management	10	Measures to Include Indigenous People in the Economy	14
Chief Robert Louis, West bank First Nation and Land Advisory Board, Canada.		Carlos Batzin, Former Minister of Culture and Sports Republic of Guatemala.	
Chief Austin Bear, Muskoday First Nation and Board Member for First Nation Land Advisory, Canada.		Eduardo Aguirre, Institutional Manager Cementos Progreso, Guatemala.	
Focus on connections, Partnership and Mutual Opportunities	11	Javier Zepeda, Executive Director –Industrial Chamber of Commerce, Guatemala.	
Jean Paul Gladu, President and Chief Executive Officer- Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business, Toronto, Canada.		Indigenous Business and the Global Economy	14
Working with Indigenous People to Balance Project and Profits	11	Carol Anne Hilton, MBA and CEO of transformation, Canada.	
Stephen Lindley, vice President-Aboriginal & Affairs, SNS-Lavalin Inc. Toronto, Canada.		Tristina Macek, Principal consultant, Informed Decision Consulting, Canada.	
		Announcement of WIBF 2015 and WIBF 2016	15
		Conclusion	15
		Protocol for Indigenous Economic Development	16
		Signing the Protocol	17
		The Forum in Pictures	18
		Invitation to the WIBF 2015	19

WIBF 2014 photography by: Leona McIntyre

introduction

**INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, INC.**

The indigenous Leadership Development Institute Inc. (ILDII) is a unique non-profit organization established to build leadership capacity for Canadian Indigenous People. Incorporated in Manitoba, Canada in 2000, ILDII provides advocacy and research capabilities to Indigenous organizations communities and individuals.



The World of Indigenous Business Forum (WIBF) is a platform for participants to discuss their vision, to share 'lessons learned' and 'best practices' with others and be inspired by presentations from around the world. Uniquely, WIBF focuses on creating opportunities for interactive discussions geared to practical outcomes to promote participant engagement and connection. The 2014 World of Indigenous Business Forum was hosted at the Westin Camino Real in Guatemala City, Guatemala on October 28th-30th.

WIBF speakers were encouraged to engage, CONNECT, SHARE, INSPIRE with their presentations, discussions and networking with the delegates. A variety of key themes were discussed including; Financial Independence, Global Strategies, Educational Initiatives, Business opportunities, Marketing, Building Stronger Economies, Connections, Partnerships and Mutual Opportunities. Each delegate was provided a great opportunity to gain valuable insight, make connections and learn methods to take home and use in their communities businesses and workplaces.

The following report briefly covers some of the highlights of the World of Indigenous Business Forum 2014 held in Guatemala.



agenda

Day One: Tuesday, October 28th, 2014

>Welcome Reception and Official WIBF Opening

The National Palace of Culture (Palacio Nacional de la Cultura)

Blessing

Don Tomas Calvo Mateo, Nim Winak General Principal – Santo Tomas Chichi castenango, Guatemala City, Guatemala

>Welcome Remarks

Dwight Anthony Pezzarossi García, Minister of Culture and Sports – Republic of Guatemala
Maria Tuyuc, Consultant and Technical Assistant on Issues of Indigenous Entrepreneurship and WIBF 2014, Business Advisor of the Guatemala Chamber, Guatemala

Appreciation Remarks

Federico Melville, Former President of the Board, Cementos Progreso, Guatemala

Day Two: Wednesday, October 29th, 2014

Opening Remarks

President Otto Molina Perez, President of the Republic of Guatemala

Stuart Savage, Ambassador of Canada to Guatemala and High Commissioner of Canada to Belize and Ottawa

Masters of Ceremony Introductions

Luis Antonio Velasquez Magana, Ainjil Hunt, Juan Carlos Suchite

Financial Independence Investing in Partnering

Opportunities

David Chartrand, President – Manitoba Metis Federation Inc, Winnipeg, Canada

Global Strategies for Local economic Development Success

Chrisch Siririka, Chief Executive Officer, Indigenous People's business Forum Namibia, Africa

Brad Jackson, Executive Chairman- Northern Project Contracting, Brisbane, Australia

Toni Ah-Sam, Ochre Business Consulting, Darwin, Australia

Facilitated Youth Discussion:

"Strategic Creative Communication"

David Williams, Creative Director and artist
Amanda Lear, Managing Director and Director of Strategic Communications, lead the creative team at Gilimbaa, Brisbane, Australia

Keynote "Successful Joint Ventures in the Resource Sector"

Phil Fontaine, President- Ishkonigan, Inc. Former Chief of the Assembly of First Nation, Ottawa Canada

Educational Initiatives that Build Indigenous Leaders

Clare Beckton, Executive Director- Centre for Women in Public Leadership Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada
Luis Velasquez, President of Consultoria International, and Former Minister of Economy, Guatemala

Measures to Include Indigenous People in the Economy

Carlos Batzin, Former Minister of Culture and Sports Republic of Guatemala
Eduardo Aguirre, Institutional Manager – Cementos Progreso, Guatemala
Javier Zepeda, Executive Director –Industrial Chamber of Commerce Guatemala

Day Three: Thursday, October 30th 2014

Opening Remarks

Luis Antonio Velasquez, Ainjil Hunt, Juan Suchite

Working with Indigenous people to Balance Project and Profits

Stephen Lindley, Vice president-Aboriginal &Northern Affairs, SNC Lavalin Inc. Toronto, Canada
Projects that deliver Social Economic and Environmental Benefits

Rachel Garcia Mararia, Director of the Ixkik Museum, Quetzaltenango, Guatemala

Jeff Cyr, Chief Executive Officer- National Association of Friendship Centres, Toronto Canada

Gary Davis, President and Chief Executive Officer, National Centre for American Indian Enterprise Development Mesa, USA

Working with Indigenous People to Balance Project and Profits: Keynote

Stephen Lindley, vice President-Aboriginal &Affairs, SNS-Lavalin Inc. Toronto, Canada

Luncheon, Facilitated Youth Discussion

Marc Storm, Chief Executive Officer- GMG Consulting Services, Victoria, Canada

Lee White, Negotiator, Senior Advisor-GMG Counting Services, Victoria, Canada

Focus on our connections, Partnership and Mutual

Opportunities: Keynote

Jean Paul Gladu, President and CEO – Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business Toronto – Canada

Building strong Economic Development in our Communities – Strategies that Work

Chief Robert Louis, West bank First Nation and Land Advisory Board, Canada

Chief Austin Bear, Muskoday First Nation and Board Member for First Nation Land Advisory, Canada

Indigenous Business Owners Transforming the Global Economy

Carol Anne Hilton, MBA and CEO of transformation, Canada

Tristina Macek, Principal consultant – Informed Decision Consulting, Canada

Strategies, Challenges and Opportunities for Indigenous Owned Corporations

Raymundo Francisco Hernandez, President of the Indigenous Business Chamber Guatemala. Guatemala
Maria Tuyuc, Consultant and Technical Assistant of Indigenous Entrepreneurship, Business Advisor of the Chamber of Guatemala

Announcement of WIBF 2015 and WIBF 2016

Closing Remarks

Luis Velasquez, President of Consultoria International, and Former Minister of Economy, Guatemala

Reception

Special Guest, Nick Jardine, Principal Owner - Urban Handyman (Canada)

Reception & Official Opening

Hosted by the Ministerio de Cultura and Deportes
And Cementos Progreso

WIBF delegates were honored to be part of the welcome reception held at the Palacio de la Cultura. We were encouraged by the former president of Cementos Progreso and the Minister of Sport and Culture to continue creating a bond between indigenous communities by sharing, inspiring and connecting with each other. “Humans don't just live in a world; they inhabit it and make it their own. That's the difference between a house and a home.”

- Dwight Anthony Pezzarossi Garcia, Minister of Culture and Sports – Republic of Guatemala



Blessing

Don Tomas Calvo
Nim Winak (General Principal)
Santo Tomas Chichicastenango

It's an honour to be part of the WIBF event. I feel overwhelmed to be a representative from the Maya, Xinca , Garifun, Kekchi, Kakchique Quiche and other communities from Guatemala.

This is a beautiful historic day that the Lord has given us. Guatemala appreciates the presence of so many people from other countries and we know that together we will be able to discuss inspire and connect with each other. My heart is filled with joy and happiness. We must be an example to our youth and future as we unite our thoughts and hearts together. This will help to guide us and allow us to offer better opportunities to our people worldwide.

It is important to open our heart and have gentle thoughts in our minds. We have the responsibility to bring this message to everyone in our communities. We should always think with love and compassion. We are in an era of prosperity where we must walk and hold hands together to build a better nation with better opportunities, and a good balance and strength. We must be a great example to the children and youth. We need to build a better world by bringing good energies from our ancestors to our people.



The Forum

PRESIDENT OTTO MOLINA PEREZ,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA



As Guatemala hosts the fifth World Indigenous Business Forum, we are making history as the First Latin American country to welcome representatives from different indigenous countries around the world.

We are here to connect, share and inspire each other and this gives us the opportunity to interact as citizens of the world. We can combine our strength and experiences as one global Indigenous nation. I'm certain that at the end of the forum all of our guests will have had the opportunity to make see the many facets of Guatemala and our people. We will put our dreams, visions and hopes together and grow as one Nation.

We need to leave a better future for our children so, as the indigenous peoples of the world, let us put our efforts and experiences together and work to eliminate the poverty and lack of opportunity present today and move us all forward.



SUCCESSFUL JOINT VENTURE IN THE RESOURCE SECTOR



PHIL FONTAINE
PRESIDENT ISHKONIGAN INC.
FORMER NATIONAL CHIEF OF THE ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS, OTTAWA CANADA

Organizations need well trained local First Nations people and people need the jobs. Improved education and skill levels of the local work force will enable the corporate community to reduce dependence on foreigners, and increase local knowledge in operations. The building of knowledge can save time, effort, frustration and money. We need to work together to close the knowledge gap.

There are approximately three hundred million indigenous people in the world and we represent a powerful presence. We can even become even more powerful by integrating world interests such as the economy.

We are all joined in one way or another. WIBF brings inspiration, excitement, challenge, and compel us to do more than what we have done and to become even more important. We have become more educated and have professional people that are more engaged in the political process. There has been a shift in Canada in our community and in industry, and a shift in attitudes. Even our languages have changed. New terms such as partnership, equity and others have been added to our conversations. We as Indigenous Canadians don't regard ourselves as stakeholders. We are rights holders. It all depends on us as Indigenous people, to take on this challenge so we can create and fashion healthy, safe developing communities.

SECURE FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE INVESTING PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES



DAVID CHARTRAND
PRESIDENT MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC. MANITOBA CANADA

Governance matters and capacity matters. If you don't have these, you won't make progress.

The government and the private sector procurement policies are also a big part of the solution to secure financial independence.

They help level the playing field and we need to use our political strengths to realize these opportunities for our companies and businesses. As well, partnerships are a critically important tool for helping us to catch up quicker to our non-Indigenous counterparts. Good partnerships require good relationships and you need to work on them every day. Indigenous partnerships can also be a big part of the solution. We need to put our colonial histories aside and work together because together we are stronger and we can march much faster. However, you cannot be afraid to walk away from partnership if you are not in the driver's seat or if your partner does not honor their commitments.

Indigenous people are not part of the problem. We, as Indigenous leaders are the solution and we need to promote this and educate our people. We need to throw off the yoke of the colonial bonds we have shared. We can do it, and as I look into the faces across this room I see that you know that it can be done too. Our collective time have come.

When we strengthen the Individual...We strengthen the family.
When we strengthen the family...we strengthen the Community.
When we strengthen the Community...we strengthen the Nation.

GLOBAL STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS



BRAD JACKSON, EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN- NORTHERN PROJECT CONTRACTING, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

We will have to increase the number of indigenous managers by improving the integration of cultural obligations, and commercial realities of business. We can do this by supporting employees to successfully transition to new opportunities. Our success can be extended to other traditional owner groups by connecting the community based partnership and joint ventures. There is a strong international desire to achieve prosperity for developing communities. NPC is a proven model on increasing community wealth through collaborating and sharing their ideas.

Whoever seeks to build effective and constructive relationships with indigenous peoples based on respect, meaningful engagement and mutual benefit should know it can be done, and that great success can be found because NPC has proven it.



CHRISCH SIRIRIKA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S BUSINESS FORUM NAMIBIA, AFRICA

It can be said that the primary goal of the IPBF process is to bring the majority of previously disadvantaged people to participation in the mainstream economy. It is important to note that the process of closing the gap between the rich and poor can be achieved through the redistribution of existing resources and trade. Expanding the resource base with strong mechanisms in place to ensure the expansion principally benefits those who have been previously excluded is an important goal. One way to do this is to increase private sectors SMES's access to trade markets, knowledge, skills and technology. Indigenous business owners have been disadvantaged historically and are currently underserved by market institutions. The objective here is to increase their access to markets and to the economic resources they need to pursue those markets. To reach this objective, much can be done by levelling the legal/regulatory playing field so that those with modest means are not stymied by costly, unnecessary red tape. This will also help economic institutions extend their reach to include these underserved groups. It is for this reason we are here today in this beautiful city to join forces and bring to the world a voice from Africa.



TONI AH-SAM, OCHRE BUSINESS CONSULTING, DARWIN, AUSTRALIA

Why do we need an Indigenous trade declaration? A declaration creates an agreement amongst Indigenous people globally in business that acknowledges and recognises sustainable development as a central principle. We want an alternative trade agreement that is appropriate for us and driven by Indigenous people in business. As well, this declaration is underpinned by our inherent right to self-determination and our permanent sovereignty over our traditional lands, territories, resources, forest, water and everything that sustains life for future generations.

THE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON FIRST NATIONS LAND MANAGEMENT



CHIEF ROBERT LOUIS, WEST BANK FIRST NATION AND LAND ADVISORY BOARD, CANADA

In the late 1980s, a national group of dedicated Chiefs began to focus on the concept of a government-to-government arrangement with Canada which would result in the recognition of our inherent rights to govern our reserve lands and natural resources. The solution they decided upon was the creation of the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management. The purpose of the Framework Agreement was to enable First Nation to resume control over their lands and resources for the use and benefit of their members without government interference, and to replace the land provisions of the Indian Act with First Nation made laws. Framework Agreement First Nations are increasing the average annual number of land transactions by 9% as compared to First Nations under the Indian Act, which are decreasing by 1% on average. The Framework Agreement has contributed to First Nations by increasing the number of businesses on reserve, where most of these new businesses are First Nation member-owned. With this new level of flexibility and local First Nation governance control, Framework Agreement First Nations are expanding their business development to new and different industry areas.



CHIEF AUSTIN BEAR, MUSKODAY FIRST NATION AND BOARD MEMBER FOR FIRST NATION LAND ADVISORY, CANADA

The Framework Agreement is not just about economic development it is also about becoming self-sufficient and regaining control over our lands, cultures, languages and our members' physical and social wellbeing. We need to re-establish First Nation self-governance structures and build capacity that will help communities succeed and prosper. We have to put important decisions about lands and resources back in the hands of the community members instead of those of the Government. The Framework Agreement is about providing for the future of our children and our children's children.

More than one out every five First Nations in Canada wants to implement self-determination under the Framework Agreement. Hundreds of millions of dollars are being invested in economic development projects on Framework Agreement First Nations' reserve lands and from which Canada is receiving a financial return that is ten times the amount that the federal government is investing in the Framework Agreement process.

FOCUS ON CONNECTIONS PARTNERSHIP AND MUTUAL OPPORTUNITIES



JEAN PAUL GLADU, PRESIDENT, CEO –CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR ABORIGINAL BUSINESS, TORONTO CANADA.

There are many opportunities out there, but it only takes one person to make a difference in their community. There's always going to be diamonds in a community. Your job is to find those diamonds and nourish the relationships and support those people because they will grow and then they will supply the market to the rest of the world. Companies are building market space, investing in relationships beginning de-risking projects and developing capacity. Corporate Canada as well as Aboriginal businesses and communities all need revenues. They need revenues for their shareholders we need revenues for our people and our future generations. It doesn't matter how big or small you are, everybody has a role to play in our communities.

We need to remember that we have values and they are not that different, if we look at it. The opportunity lies in our ability to align our strengths, manage our weaknesses and remain open to change. Little things that you can do today can make a great impact tomorrow. Strong Indigenous people mean strong communities.

WORKING WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLE TO BALANCE PROJECT AND PROFITS



STEPHEN LINDLEY, VICE PRESIDENT , ABORIGINAL & NORTHERN AFFAIRS, SNC AFFAIRS. TORONTO ONTARIO

SNC-LAVALIN is the largest wholly Canadian-owned engineering/construction company. Our main sectors are oil, gas, mining, electricity generation and transmission, infrastructure, environment and water, and our role is to design, build, finance, operate.

The company has early experience with First Nation communities in Canada beginning in the 1970's with their involvement in the James Bay hydroelectric development in Quebec. We have also joint ventured with first Nations in mid 1990s with the formation of Nishi Khon / SNC Lavalin Inc. through the establishment of the Corporate Aboriginal and Northern Affairs program in 2000. We have also worked on the development and maintenance of First Nations relationships, partnerships, policy, and procurement.

We currently have more than a dozen of Aboriginal partnership of many forms all across Canada. Finding a balance between the project's financial success and the sharing of benefits with communities will continue to strengthen community involvement and support. Along with sharing the economic benefits, we need to continue to respect the community's culture and values, minimize the potentially negative social and economic impacts. As well, we continue to encourage environmental sustainability and stewardship, training and capacity building, employment and procurement and work with opportunities for aboriginal ownership and control. Overall, each relationship and each project must provide a fair share of benefits and opportunities for all stakeholders.

EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVE THAT BUILD INDIGENOUS LEADERS



LUIS VELASQUEZ, PRESIDENT OF CONSULTORIA INTERNATIONAL, AND FORMER MINISTER OF ECONOMY, GUATEMALA

We are in the era of prosperity which means that all indigenous people can be incorporated into economic and social development. I am confident that countries in Central America, the Caribbean, and Africa have large energetic potential knowledge and development to supply Central America and southern Mexico and generate thousands of jobs and opportunities. Guatemala has a great potential. That is why we're called the plantation of Central America. Our ancestors originating from Puebla, Mexico all the way to Macchu Picchu, Peru used to market mining and other products, and we see how great they were as entrepreneurs. We need the international community to support Indigenous businesses peoples to work with universal indigenous communities, technological institutes and of course the state and all its institutions. Politicians need to understand the situation. We need to promote indigenous leadership and help them to stand out. We must build the leadership spirit as Indigenous peoples through education and communication.



CLARE BECKETT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR- CENTRE FOR WOMEN IN PUBLIC LEADERSHIP CARLETON UNIVERSITY, OTTAWA, CANADA

My message is very simple and yet vitally important. Women in leadership matter! We are fifty percent of the population and we have a different and important perspective in life. We need to have leadership development programs where we encourage woman to take a more visible role in leadership. We need to look at how we communicate and respect values and how women and men communicate. We need men standing up to advance women in leadership. If we're going to be able to deal with complex challenges in the global economy, we need to have woman and men at the table.



CLAIR REID, DIRECTOR - MASTER'S IN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE: INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT, UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG, CANADA

We need to educate Aboriginal youth so they will not face challenges of poverty and the lack of opportunities and business development. These are very complex challenges that they need to be overcome. Some people called it the Aboriginal comeback some others, the Aboriginal opportunity. But what we know is that we are no longer the after thought for the government. It is very clear that if we look at the elements of this comeback, Indigenous people are leaders all around the world and they are imagining, insisting and working on doing development differently and educating Aboriginal youth is the key to sustaining this for the future.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIGENOUS OWNED CORPORATIONS



MARIA TUYUC, CONSULTANT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANT OF INDIGENOUS ENTREPRENEURSHIP, BUSINESS ADVISOR OF THE CHAMBER OF GUATEMAYA
RAYMUNDO FRANCISCO HERNANDEZ, PRESIDENT OF THE INDIGENOUS BUSINESS CHAMBER GUATEMAYA. GUATEMALA

LUIS TEPEU, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE INDIGENOUS BUSINESS CHAMBER GUATEMAYA. GUATEMALA

Guatemala is the largest economy in Central America, nevertheless the country faces many social problems. The distribution of income remains highly unequal with more than half of the population is below the national poverty line. Indigenous entrepreneurs are looking for strategic alliances to promote dialogue and national and international economic development. It would be a great opportunity if technological programs are promoted to improve the quality of production.

There is incredible opportunity in Guatemala. Tourism and agriculture have become an increasing source of revenue. Guatemala's mines produce gold, silver, zinc, cobalt and nickel. The agricultural sector accounts for about two-fifths of exports, and half of the labor force. Organic coffee, sugar, textiles, fresh vegetables, and bananas are the country's main exports. Indigenous people are becoming more aware of promoting an association of Indigenous entrepreneurs, and looking for new strategies of development to overcome poverty. Strategy, production, investment in marketing and networking are the four basic elements that we need to put together to create a strong and good foundation.

PROJECTS THAT DELIVER SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND ENVIROMENTAL BENEFITS



GARY DAVIS, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER –NATIONAL CENTRE FOR AMERICAN INDIAN ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT, MESA, USA

JEFF CYR, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER- NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDSHIP CENTRES, TORONTO CANADA

RACHEL GARCIA MACARIO, DIRECTOR OF THE IXKIK MUSEUM, QUETZALTENANGO, GUATEMALA

Garry Davis: Being an entrepreneur is traditional. Doing business is not new to us, and this is imperative to create an economy, and it is important to have a strong economy with a business base to create jobs. We need to understand the potential and value of who we are and can talk about sustainability and the future generations. You can really drill down to the essence of that makes you move forward and what is your passion.

Jeff Cyr: Both innovation and partnership building have been key in our history. There have been many contributing factors that have led to our success. We know that the socio-economic gap between Aboriginal and non- Aboriginal people will widen due to the fact that the

Aboriginal population is young and the fastest growing segment of Canadian society. Ignoring the impact of important demographic changes is a risk neither Aboriginal communities nor the Canadian economy can afford.

Rachel Mararia Guatemala is a multicultural and multilingual country. It has a large indigenous population in the rural area where there is strong sense of ancient heritage, socio economic cultural and political life. We are hardworking visionary and enterprising people with an ability to produce quality products with potential for growth at a national and international level. It is important to promote interaction for a common or collective objective with economic principles and ethical values.

MEASURES TO INCLUDE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN THE ECONOMY



CARLOS BATZIN FORMER MINISTER OF CULTURE AND SPORTS REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA

EDUARDO AGUIRRE INSTITUTIONAL MANAGER – CEMENTOS PROGRESO, GUATEMALA

JAVIER ZEPEDA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR –INDUSTRIAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, GUATEMALA

Carlos Batzin: There is an enormous potential in Latin America now and it is in the hands of our indigenous communities. We are being part of the business and economic world now. A great example is the great participation we have in this forum. Now our challenge is to generate business and marketing with our indigenous brothers in developed countries and learn from their successful experience. We now have the opportunity to generate a medium and long-term project with potential entrepreneurs.

Eduardo Aguirre: A company or a factory that invests in big businesses is not sustainable when communities around it suffer from extreme poverty. We are conscious that we need to invest more in our country and to work together with Indigenous communities. We must understand that nobody can succeed alone.

Javier Zepeda: We believe that growth in the economy represents better access to nutrition and health education. We must nurture and grow what we have in human and natural resources. This will help put an end to the underground market and dramatically reduce smuggling. Behind the smuggling there is a big threat, which affects health, and safety. We need to work with greater unity and greater humility.

INDIGENOUS BUSINESS AND GLOBAL ECONOMY TRENDS



CAROL ANNE HILTON, MBA AND CEO OF TRANSFORMATION, CANADA

TRISTINA MACEK, PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT – INFORMED DECISION CONSULTING, CANADA

Tristina Macek: If you currently have business investments, you need to assess where they fall on the spectrum of low medium and high risk returns. While you are assessing the current status of your initial business investments, you also need to take into consideration the historical

financial trends. This is important so you can assess if any of your current business investments may move into either a higher or lower risk category.

Carol Anne Hilton: The world is calling for a new business model, you are the evidence of a new truth that needs to be told. How many types of economies are there? Twenty percent of Canada's land base is controlled directly by First Nations. This represents a significant shifting sphere of influence and the purpose of this new local economy is to organize, practice and to raise the economic baseline of humanity.

Announcement

WIBF 2015 - HAWAII and WIBF 2016 - SASKATOON

At the end of WIBF 2014 - Guatemala, the Indigenous Leadership Development Institute was pleased to have announced by Nalani Takushi that WIBF 2015 will be held in Oahu, Hawaii, USA; and to have Chief Austin Bear along with Gilles Dorval, Milton Tootoosis and Chief Robert Louis announce that the WIBF 2016 will be hosted in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.



Conclusion

The World Indigenous Business Forum is a platform for participants to discuss their vision, share lessons learned with others and be inspired by presentations from around the world. Uniquely WIBF focuses on interactive discussions geared to practical outcomes for participants and to promote engagement and connections.

Indigenous people of the world play an integral part in achieving sustainable economic development in their respective lands and are taking an increasingly larger role in local and national economic development.

One presenter highlighted that, "there are approximately three hundred million indigenous people in the world and we represent a powerful presence. We can even become even more powerful by integrating world interests such as the economy."

Furthering this idea, another presenter offered a potential path to success, saying that "Whoever seeks to build effective and constructive relationships with indigenous peoples based on respect, meaningful engagement and mutual benefit should know it can be done, and that great success can be found".

It was also clear to the delegates that "the objective here is to increase access to markets and to the economic resources needed to pursue these markets" It was understood that to facilitate this much needs to be done to level the legal/regulatory playing field allowing those with modest means the opportunity to compete without being stymied by costly and unnecessary red tape.

The important role that women can play was also highlighted by one presenter who said that, "Women in leadership matter! We are fifty percent of the population and we have a different and important perspective in life. We need to have leadership development programs where we encourage woman to take a more visible role in leadership."

In conclusion, one of the WIBF presenters summed up the significance and importance of inclusion and collaboration to success, "A company or a factory that invests in big businesses is not sustainable when communities around it suffer from extreme poverty. We are conscious that we need to invest more in our country and to work together with Indigenous communities. We must understand that nobody can succeed alone."

From the 2014 WIBF in Guatemala we are proud to announce the creation and signing of "**THE PROTOCOL FOR INDIGENOUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**".

THE FIFTH WORLD INDIGENOUS BUSINESS FORUM

PROTOCOL FOR INDIGENOUS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Whereas the concept for a World Wide Indigenous Economic Development Network has been discussed and recommended in 2012 at the WIBF in Sydney, Australia, and also in 2013 at the WIBF held in Windhoek, Namibia, Africa.

Whereas these annual WIBFs have become the most important events to encourage business with Indigenous People through interactive exhibitions and practices to meet the Global trends that are adapted to the 21st century, to promote entrepreneurship for Indigenous People, and to connect Indigenous People around the world.

Whereas recognizing the importance and spirit of these annual WIBFs for Indigenous People worldwide, for guilds and Indigenous People of our countries, indicating that it is important to attract more investment, create jobs, leverage our resources and help eliminate social unrest in the different countries.

Whereas the spirit of these annual WIBF events assist and protect Indigenous culture heritage, traditional knowledge and generic resources of Indigenous People.

Whereas it is beneficial for Indigenous People to join efforts to promote and develop engagements for economic development, to take advantage of opportunities and great potentials and likewise to attract investments and create employment opportunities.

We have therefore agreed:

ARTICLE: I

This Protocol is to establish implementation for the coordination of a Global Network of Indigenous People seeking an opportunity for dialogue to exchange ideas in order to generate proposals, investments, market research and business linkages for economic, social and cultural development of Indigenous People in the World.

ARTICLE: II

To achieve this goal, we commit to develop cooperative activities directed to design mechanisms for cooperation and the exchange of strategies, through actions that promote:

1. Strengthening new existing capabilities through an exchange of successful experiences, in order to empower the members of the Global Network locally, nationally and internationally.
2. In the case of Guatemala and the World members of the new Global Network, find the strategic mechanism such as partnership at the public - private level to achieve the prosperity permitting potential of different economic activities by entrepreneurship and Indigenous business people and generate alliance with guilds and existing business organizations in the country, for economic, social cultural development, and exchange of information on trends and new national and international business opportunities.
3. All Indigenous People over the world who may adhere to this agreement to be part of the network, please contact Indigenous Leadership Development Institute (www.ildii.ca)

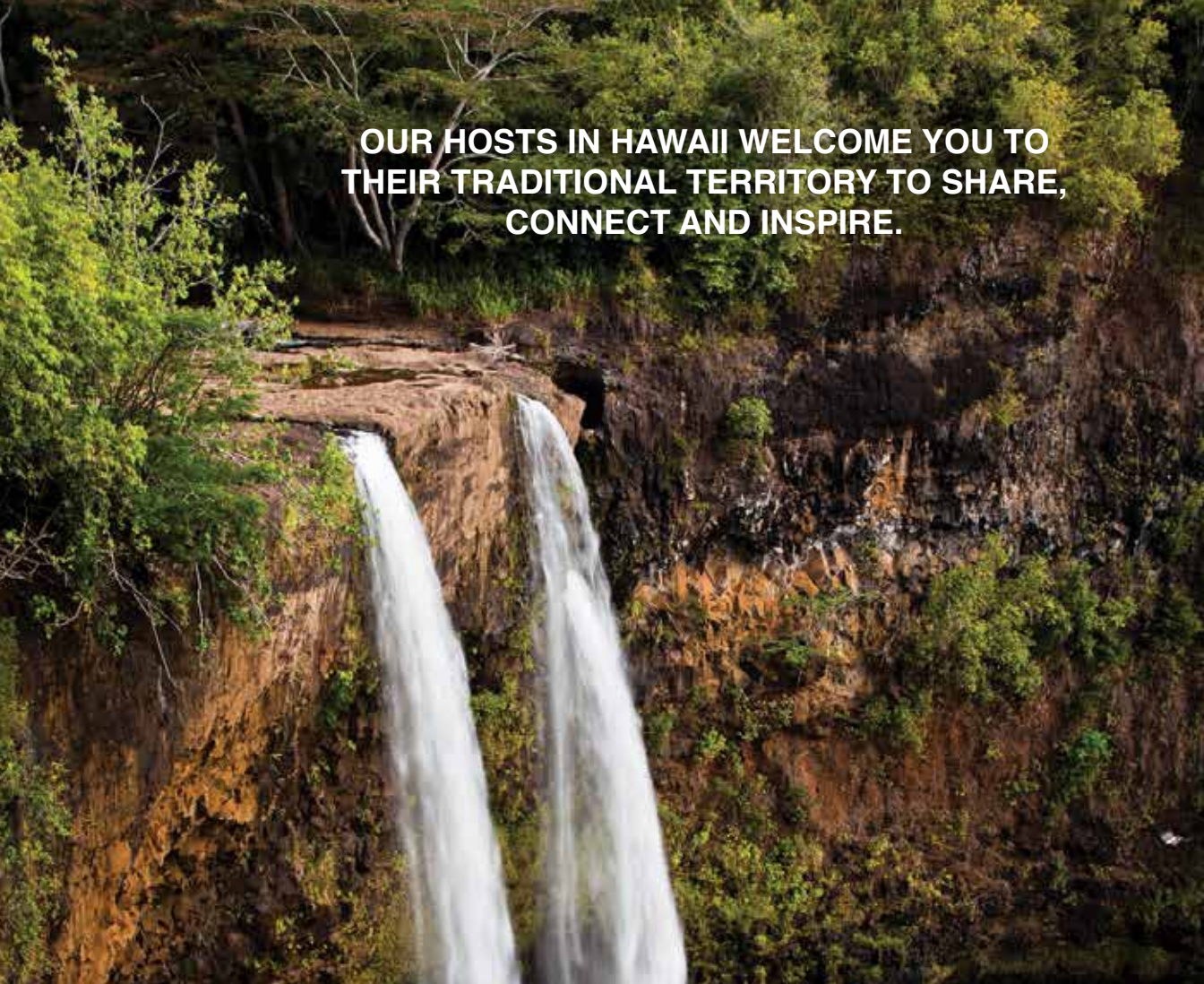
The Jun Acabal has initiated with the new era prosperity and development of Indigenous Peoples through the entrepreneurship worldwide.

Signed at WIBF 2014 hosted by Guatemala in Guatemala City.

Signing the Protocol







**OUR HOSTS IN HAWAII WELCOME YOU TO
THEIR TRADITIONAL TERRITORY TO SHARE,
CONNECT AND INSPIRE.**

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