

---

## HISTORY

Indigenous Leadership Development Institute Inc. (ILDII), an Indigenous run not-for-profit organization located in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada (incorporated in 2000), initiated the World Indigenous Business Forum (WIBF), in partnership with leaders of host countries representing Indigenous communities. The most recent edition was held in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, October 28th to 30th, 2025. The WIBF draws attention to Indigenous Economic Development and is a non-for-Profit initiative. Presently, Tourism Winnipeg is working in partnership with ILDII in the organization of WIBF 2026, to be held, October 26th to 28th, 2026 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

## HOST COUNTRIES

In 2010, ILDII partnered with the World Business Forum in New York City, NY, USA and launched the first ever World Indigenous Business Forum. The following years it was held:

- New York City, NY, USA, 2011
- Sydney, Australia, 2012
- Namibia, Africa, 2013
- Guatemala City, Guatemala, 2014
- Honolulu, Hawaii, 2015
- Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, 2016
- Santiago de Chile, 2017
- Rotorua, New Zealand, 2018
- Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, 2019
- Virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 & 2021
- Villavicencio, Meta, Colombia, 2022
- Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 2023
- Albuquerque, New Mexico, US, 2024
- Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 2025

In Guatemala, attending leaders signed the Guatemala Protocol, which initiated the World Indigenous Business Network (WIBN).

The “WIBF day” was created by the Governor of Hawaii to acknowledge the Forum.

The WIBF in Saskatoon attracted over one thousand enterprise minded people from 11 different countries and a new definition for “Indigenous Development” was proposed, discussed, voted, and agreed to. As a result, it changed the Wikipedia definition.

## SPEAKERS

An impressive series of speakers have graced the stages of WIBF with very important information and knowledge about Indigenous economic development, to name a few:

- James Cameron, Canadian Film Producer and Director
- Phil Fontaine, Fmr. National Chief, Canada
- Don Schroeder, President and CEO, Tim Hortons, Canada
- César Gaviria, Fmr President of Colombia
- Rigoberta Menchu, Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Guatemala
- Val Kilmer, Actor and Philanthropist, USA
- David Chartrand, President of Manitoba Metis Federation
- Luis Felipe Duchicela, Global Advisor on Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Development, Ecuador
- Dr. Ernesto Sirolli, CEO, Sirolli Institute, USA/Italy
- Navi Radjou, Scholar, USA/France/India
- Hon. Minister Mahuta, Minister of International Affairs, New Zealand
- Jacqui Caine, New Zealand Ambassador to Chile
- Patricia Peña, Canadian Ambassador to Chile
- Stedman Graham, CEO, S. Graham and Associates
- Adam Beach, Canadian Actor, Canada
- Magie Cook, CEO and Founder of Maggie's Salsa, LLC, Mexico
- Francia Marquez, Vice President of Colombia