WORLD INDIGENOUS BUSINESS FORUM 2026

World Indigenous Business Forum

OCTOBER 26-28, 2026

RBC CONVENTION CENTRE
375 YORK AVENUE

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA

REGISTRATION

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WELCOME REMARKS

GRAND CHIEF KYRA WILSON

Grand Chief, Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
Canada

INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE INC.

WINNIPEG
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

GRAND CHIEF KYRA WILSON

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Grand Chief Kyra Wilson is a proud Anishinaabe Ikwe and Nehiyaw leader from Long Plain First Nation, with deep roots in Sandy Bay First Nation. Raised in Treaty One Territory, her path has always been grounded in land, language, ceremony, family, and community.

A devoted mother, Grand Chief Wilson began her career in social work after earning a Bachelor of Social Work degree from the University of Manitoba. She continued her education through the Indigenous Knowledge Master of Social Work program, reflecting her belief in the power of First Nations knowledge systems to heal, guide, and uplift communities.

Before entering political leadership, Grand Chief Wilson worked on the front lines supporting children, families, and communities. Her work focused on strengthening families, responding to crisis, and advocating for meaningful change within the child welfare system.

In April 2022, she was elected Chief of Long Plain First Nation, becoming one of the youngest women to hold that role and the community's first female Chief since the 1970s. As Chief, she led with compassion, humility, and a clear vision forward, focusing on youth and families, infrastructure, health and wellness, and justice for families impacted by MMIWG2S+. She worked closely with Elders, fellow Chiefs, and community members, always listening first and leading with care.

In January 2025, Grand Chief Wilson was elected Grand Chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs in a landslide by-election victory. She represents 63 First Nations across Manitoba and became only the second woman to lead the organization since its formation in 1988, following the late Grand Chief Cathy Merrick.

As Grand Chief, Kyra continues to focus on what matters most: children, families, health, wellness, economic sovereignty, and the future of First Nations people. Whether advocating for child welfare reform, strengthening mental health and addictions supports, protecting Treaty rights, or advancing First Nations participation in economic development, she brings heart, determination, and purpose to the work.

Grounded in culture, driven by community, and committed to making space for the next generation to thrive, Grand Chief Kyra Wilson continues to be a strong voice for First Nations people in Manitoba and beyond.