BUSINESS CONNECT

Leading Our Nations: Sovereignty, Purpose & Integrity in First Nations Leadership

1808 Wellington Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 0G3, Canada

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SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

Continental Breakfast & Registration	08:00AM – 09:00AM
Opening Ceremony	09:00AM – 10:30AM
Morning Break	10:30AM – 10:45AM
Keynote: Senator Sol Sanderson	10:45AM – 12:00PM

SPEAKER
Senator Sol Sanderson

Lunch Buffet	12:00PM – 01:00PM
Keynote: Katherine Whitecloud	01:00PM – 02:15PM

SPEAKER
Katherine Whitecloud

Afternoon Break	02:15PM – 02:30PM
Breakout Session #1 - The Decision to Run: Understanding your	02:30PM – 03:45PM
Breakout Session #2 - Young Leaders & Rising Expectations	02:30PM – 03:45PM
Breakout Session #3 - Leadership Wellness & Boundaries: The 24/7 Myth	02:30PM – 03:45PM
Breakout Session #4 - Council Protocols, Meetings & Professional Conduct	02:30PM – 03:45PM
Breakout Session #5 - What Leadership Looks Like in First Nations Governance	02:30PM – 03:45PM

POWERED BY

Wellness Circles, Cedar baths, Reiki, Open mic reflection circles, Q&A with Leadership experts	03:45PM – 04:30PM

SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

Breakfast & Registration
08:00AM – 09:00AM

Keynote: Steven Newcomb
09:00AM – 10:15AM



SPEAKER

Steven Newcomb - Doctrine of Discovery & Decolonizing Governance

Steven Newcomb (Shawnee/Lenape) has been researching the history of U.S. federal Indian law and policy for four decades. He is recognized as one of the world's leading experts on the Doctrine of Christian Discovery and Domination and on the continuing influence of the Vatican papal decrees of the fifteenth century on U.S. and Canadian law. He has published several law review articles on the subject. His book Pagans in the Promised Land: Decoding the Doctrine of Christian Discovery (Fulcrum/Chicago Review Press, 2008), is the basis for The Doctrine of Discovery: Unmasking the Domination Code, a documentary movie directed by Sheldon Wolfchild (Dakota). Originalfreenations.com and Indigenous Law Institute are two websites where some of his work can found. He can be contacted at stv4newcomb@yahoo.com or info@originalfreenations.c

Morning Break
10:15AM – 10:30AM

Breakout Session #1 - Campaign Foundations: From Vision to Action
10:30AM – 12:00PM

Breakout Session #2 - Governance, Accountability & Transparency
10:30AM – 12:00PM

Breakout Session #3 - Managing Criticism, Conflict & Community Politics
10:30AM – 12:00PM

Breakout Session #4 - Public Speaking & Leadership Communication
10:30AM – 12:00PM

Breakout Session #5 - Legacy, Mentorship & Sustainable Leadership Pathways
10:30AM – 12:00PM

Lunch & Elder Teaching: Unmasking Entitlement & Power Dynamics
12:00PM – 01:00PM

Keynote: Michael Birch
01:00PM – 02:15PM

SPEAKER

Grand Chief Michael Birch

Afternoon Break
02:15PM – 02:30PM

Breakout Session #1 - Running an Ethical, Values-Based Campaign	02:30PM – 04:00PM
Breakout Session #2 - Unmasking Entitlement & Power Dynamics	02:30PM – 04:00PM
Breakout Session #3: Managing Leadership Stress	02:30PM – 04:00PM
Breakout Session #4: Life After Leadership, Developing an Exit Plan	02:30PM – 04:00PM
Breakout Session #5: Council & Administration: Understanding the Distinction	02:30PM – 04:00PM

POWERED BY

SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

Breakfast & Networking	08:00AM – 09:00AM
Panel #1 - Supporting Your Leaders	09:00AM – 10:15AM

POWERED BY

SPEAKER

TBD (Call for Presentors)

SPEAKER

TBD (Call for Presentors)

SPEAKER

TBD (Call for Presentors)

Morning Break

10:15AM – 10:30AM

Panel #2 - Moving On Without Losing Yourself

10:45AM – 12:00PM

SPEAKER
TBD (Call for Presentors)

SPEAKER
TBD (Call for Presentors)

SPEAKER
TBD (Call for Presentors)

SPEAKER
TBD (Call for Presenters)

Lunch

12:00PM – 01:00PM

Closing Keynote - Sophie Pierre

01:00PM – 02:00PM

SPEAKER
Chief Sophie Pierre - TBD

Closing Remarks & Ceremony

02:00PM – 02:30PM