

A COMMUNITY FUTURES  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
INITIATIVE PRESENTED BY



CEDAR LAKE CFDC



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# Vision Quest Conference & Trade Show

PROMOTING INDIGENOUS BUSINESS,  
COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

May 15 & 16, 2024 RBC CONVENTION  
CENTRE WINNIPEG



KEYNOTE

*Lisa Meeches*

MENTOR, ENTREPRENEUR,  
PRODUCER



KEYNOTE

*Tatanka Means*

AWARD WINNING  
ACTOR/COMEDIAN

BANQUET  
ENTERTAINMENT

CANADA'S  
FUNNY MAN

*Howie Miller*



PLUS THE IVAN FLETT  
MEMORIAL DANCERS

CONNECT WITH 1400+ PARTICIPANTS THROUGH:

- ◆ PRE-CONFERENCE COURSES
- ◆ 14 INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS
- ◆ CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS AND SHARING WITH ELDERS
- ◆ OVER 100 TRADE SHOW EXHIBITS
- ◆ NETWORKING & BUSINESS ADVICE OPPORTUNITIES
- ◆ DRAGON'S QUEST BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION
- ◆ CELEBRATION BANQUET

## DELEGATE REGISTRATION GUIDE



Vision Quest Conferences Inc. is a  
registered charitable organization.

## REGISTER ONLINE [VQCONFERENCE.COM](https://vqconference.com)

FOR REGISTRATION INQUIRES CONTACT: [REGISTRATION@VQCONFERENCE.COM](mailto:REGISTRATION@VQCONFERENCE.COM)  
GENERAL INQUIRIES: [ADMIN@VQCONFERENCE.COM](mailto:ADMIN@VQCONFERENCE.COM) | 1-800-557-8242 ♦ 204-942-5049

# Connect with 1400+ participants at one of Canada's longest running Indigenous conferences!

Vision Quest is an Indigenous business, community and economic development Conference and Trade Show, providing engaging information, encouragement, and enlightenment with custom programming for Indigenous businesses and entrepreneurs, youth, community leaders and organizations, and the public-at-large.

As a registered charitable organization, Vision Quest is presented by five Manitoba Indigenous Community Futures Development Corporations. The Vision of Vision Quest is to create sustainable Indigenous communities that are filled with engaged citizens, knowledgeable community leaders, successful businesses, empowered youth, and proud cultural traditions.

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- ◆ Two high profile, motivational keynote presentations with opportunity to interact during the Question & Answer session following each keynote presentation
- ◆ 14 workshops in four categories: Business, Community/Personal Development, Cultural Awareness and Youth
- ◆ Cultural presentations and award-winning entertainment
- ◆ Announcements of Dragon's Quest Business Plan Competition award, Steve Prince Memorial Bursary and Kim Bullard Memorial Bursary recipients
- ◆ Eligibility for Prize Draws including travel and cash prizes
- ◆ Opportunity to register for Pre-Conference Courses and to purchase Banquet tickets

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

Indigenous Business Owners and Operators ◆ Indigenous Youth ◆ Community Leaders ◆ Economic Development Officers ◆ Educators (teachers and administrators) ◆ Investors and Financial Institutions ◆ Government and Corporate Representatives ◆ Business and Community Service Providers ◆ Those interested in doing business with Indigenous communities

## OFFICIAL HOST HOTEL

**Delta Hotels by Marriott Winnipeg** is located at 350 St. Mary Avenue, right next door to the RBC Convention Centre Winnipeg and is connected via indoor skywalk. To receive the special Conference rate of \$189 (single or double occupancy), you must reserve your room by **APRIL 25, 2024**. After that date, reservations at the Conference rate will be based upon availability. To book online visit [vqconference.com/conference/venues-and-accommodations](http://vqconference.com/conference/venues-and-accommodations) or call 1-800-268-1133 under **VISION QUEST** at **The Delta Winnipeg**.

## OFFICIAL AIRLINE

Vision Quest is pleased to welcome **Calm Air** as our official Conference airline. Calm Air is offering 60% off Calm Air's YSoar, MPlus & HPlus branded public fare for representatives and delegates of Vision Quest 2024. To be eligible, you must book your travel between April 15/24 to May 10/24 and travel between May 11/24 to May 20/24.

Reservations can be made three ways using the promo code **VISIONQUEST24**:

1. **Email reservations@calmair.com** with your travel requirements and and promo code
2. **Call Toll-free 1-800-839-2256**. Identify yourself as part of Vision Quest 2024 and use the promo code to access your special rate.
3. **Book online at www.calmair.com** using the promo code

## BANQUET

Join us for our Banquet, taking place the first evening of the Conference, which includes: a three-course dinner, awards and cultural presentations, entertainment by the amazing **Ivan Flett Memorial Dancers**, and featured renowned comedian **Howie Miller**.  
*Please see ticket pricing on back page.*

## PRE-CONFERENCE COURSES

**TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2:00 – 5:00 PM**

Vision Quest is pleased to kick off this year's Conference with TWO Pre-Conference Courses, exclusive to Conference delegates only. Refreshments provided. Participants must be a minimum of 16 years of age and must bring photo I.D. to check in. Participants will receive a certificate of completion.

### COURSE A:

#### LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOARDS

*Jason Denbow,  
Community Futures Leadership Institute*

Board members need to become familiar with the legal environment that exists for non-profit organizations.

Participants will:

- ◆ Be aware of the legal framework within which they provide leadership;
- ◆ Know where to find and apply the legal guidelines governing non-profit board of directors;
- ◆ Identify the circumstances that create liability for directors; and
- ◆ Review how boards can protect themselves against liability.

### COURSE B:

#### TIPPING THE SCALES FOR SUCCESSFUL FUNDING APPLICATIONS

*Sharalyn Reitlo,  
Community Futures Winnipeg River*

Coordinating projects and applying for grants to fund them are critical skills that you can develop. This one day workshop will set you up for success, as you learn about:

- ◆ Funders and what they are looking for;
- ◆ Key components of projects & funding proposals;
- ◆ Proposal writing tips to strengthen your grant applications;
- ◆ Project funding sources in addition to grants;
- ◆ Finding the right funders to match your project goals.

For Exhibitor and Sponsorship Opportunities visit [vqconference.com](http://vqconference.com), please call 1-800-557-8242 or 204-942-5049 or email [coordinator@vqconference.com](mailto:coordinator@vqconference.com)

# Conference Overview

AT MARCH 5 /2024 Schedule subject to change.

TUESDAY, MAY 14	
2:00 PM – 5:00 PM	<b>PRE-CONFERENCE COURSES*</b> See previous page.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 15	
8:30 AM - 9:15 AM	Continental Breakfast
9:15 AM - 11:30 AM	Grand Entry, Opening Ceremonies & <b>OPENING KEYNOTE:</b> <b>LISA MEECHES</b> Mentor, Entrepreneur, Producer
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Trade Show Visiting
12:00 PM - 1:15 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM – 2:45 PM	<b>WORKSHOP SESSIONS #1 – 4 Options</b> <b>1. Inspiring Indigenous Business Leaders</b> Dwayne Bird, IndigPro, 1st Peoples Print Shop, Mino Dawaa; Desiree Brightnose, Tilting Teepee Productions; Southern Chiefs' Organization; Lorne Pelletier, Manitoba Métis Federation <b>2. How To Sell Your Project Idea</b> Eiliyah Deewan, Catalyste+; Edward Suzuki, Manitoba Mineral Development Fund <b>3. Demystifying AI and Exploring Career Pathways in Technology</b> Marie Hacault, Tech Manitoba; D'Arcy Lussier, Microsoft Canada; Josh Derbecker, Red River College Polytech Pathways to IT Program <b>4. Dragon's Quest Business Plan Competition Finals</b> Indigenous Business Development Services
2:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Refreshment Break on Trade Show Floor
3:15 PM - 4:30 PM	<b>WORKSHOP SESSIONS #2 – 4 Options</b> <b>1. Business Start Up – Build A Better Business Program</b> Michelle Pruder, Community Futures North Central Development <b>2. Trailblazing Community Environmental Projects</b> Chief Raymond Flett & Councillor Victor Walker, St. Theresa Point - Solar Powered Schools; Sara Fontaine & Tikkan Morrissette - Sagkeeng Solar Powered Green House; Ian Maxwell & Virginia Muswagon, Life Water Gardens – Norway House Hydroponic Gardens <b>3. Introduction to Filmmaking; A Beginners' Guide to Camera Work</b> Desiree Brightnose, Tilting Teepee Productions & RBC Emerging Indigenous Filmmaker Award Winner <b>4. How Indigenous Song and Drum Enhance You and Your Spirit</b> Ray 'Coco' Stevenson, Walking Wolf Dancers & Singers
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>BANQUET*</b> : Three Course Dinner, Awards & Cultural Presentations Featuring Ivan Flett Memorial Dancers and Canada's Funny Man <b>HOWIE MILLER</b>
THURSDAY, MAY 16	
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Continental Breakfast
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM	<b>WORKSHOP SESSIONS #3 – 3 Options</b> <b>1. Business Financing Options</b> Shaun Hampton, Louis Riel Capital Corporation & Natalie Kulczycki, Metis Women's Entrepreneurship Program; Tiffany Monkman, First Peoples Economic Growth Fund; Kimberly Gorgichuk & Michelle Pruder, Indigenous Women Entrepreneurs Program (IWE); Jason Denbow, Community Futures Manitoba; Chris Thevenot, Communities Economic Development Fund <b>2. Seven Sacred Ways of Healing Trauma through Mind, Body, and Spirit</b> The Three Wyndi's <b>3. You're Going to Make It! Hands-on Building, Assembly &amp; Manufacturing</b> SPONSORED BY CANADIAN MANUFACTURERS & EXPORTERS
10:45 AM - 11:30 AM	Refreshment Break/Trade Show Visiting
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	<b>WORKSHOP SESSIONS #4 – 3 Options</b> <b>1. Seeking Investment: How to Find and Vet Expansion Capital</b> Frank Busch, Strategies North <b>2. Exploring All Aspects of Indigenous Wellness</b> Vanessa Anakwudwabisayquay Cook <b>3. Inspiring Indigenous Youth</b> Simon Monteith, youth scientist; Madison Moore, Miss Universe Canada finalist/actor/dancer/youth worker; Robyn Boulanger, Zaagi'idiwin Sport Performance; Trechelle Bunn, Reconciliation Run & law student
12:45 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch & Prize Draws
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	<b>KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:</b> <b>TATANKA MEANS</b> Award Winning Actor/Comedian
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Trade Show Visiting/Autographs with Keynote

## Registration/Info Desk & Trade Show Hours

### CHECK IN FOR PRECONFERENCE COURSES

**TUESDAY, MAY 14**  
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

### REGISTRATION & INFO DESK

**TUESDAY, MAY 14**  
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 15**  
8:00 AM - 7:00 PM

**THURSDAY, MAY 16**  
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

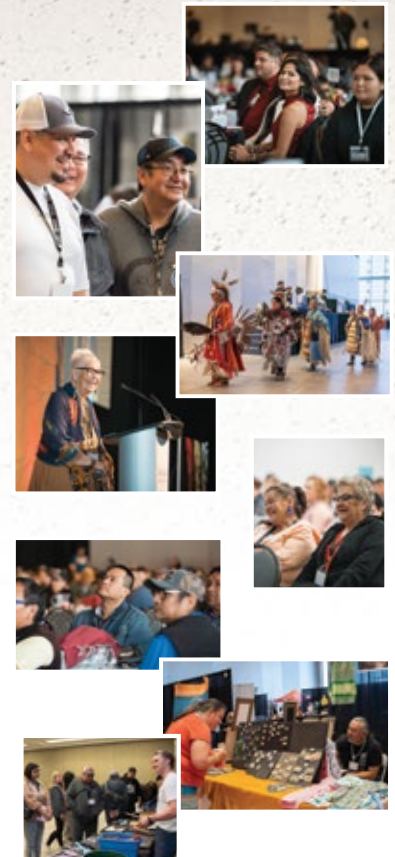
### TRADE SHOW FREE PUBLIC ADMISSION

**MAY 15 & MAY 16**  
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

\***ADDITIONAL COST. NOT INCLUDED** IN DELEGATE REGISTRATION FEE

Check the Vision Quest website for updates on workshop presentations.

Selections will be made on-site on a first-come, first-served basis.



For more information, or to register online visit **VQCONFERENCE.COM**

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# Conference Fees 2024

## PRE-CONFERENCE COURSES\* (*Vision Quest delegates eligible only.*)

Tuesday, May 14, from 2:00 – 5:00 pm Includes afternoon refreshments. Must be 16 years of age or older.

### COURSE A: LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOARDS

*Jason Denbow, Community Futures*

\$ 150.00 per delegate

### COURSE B: TIPPING THE SCALES FOR SUCCESSFUL FUNDING APPLICATIONS

*Sharalyn Reitlo, Community Futures Winnipeg River*

\$ 150.00 per delegate

## REGISTRATION FEES

Includes all plenary and workshop sessions, continental breakfasts, lunches, refreshment breaks, and access to Trade Show.

### EARLY BIRD

(APPLIES ONLY TO PAYMENTS RECEIVED BY **APRIL 12, 2024**)

\$585.00 per delegate

### REGULAR RATE

\$715.00 per delegate

### YOUTH/STUDENT RATE

(PROOF OF AGE OR STUDENT ID REQUIRED.)

\$285.00 per delegate

## BANQUET TICKETS\*

\$95.00 per delegate

\* Additional cost. Not included in Delegate Registration Fee.

REGISTER ONLINE AT

**VQCONFERENCE.COM**

FOR IMMEDIATE CONFIRMATION OF YOUR  
DELEGATE REGISTRATION(S).

For registration inquiries email [registration@vqconference.com](mailto:registration@vqconference.com).

For general inquiries email [admin@vqconference.com](mailto:admin@vqconference.com) or call 1-800-557-8242 or 204-942-5049.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Upon submission of the registration form, you are committing to paying the delegate registration(s) in full, regardless of attendance at Vision Quest 2024. As well, all delegates listed acknowledge that they may be photographed or videotaped at the Conference for promotional purposes either in print or on-line. Should a delegate wish to refuse permission for the use of her/his image she/he must register this request with the Manager of Registration Services upon arrival at the Convention Centre.

**CANCELLATION POLICY:** Cancellations received in writing prior to April 30, 2024 will be refunded the full amount less a \$50.00 administrative fee. Cancellations received after April 30, 2024 are non-refundable. If you are unable to attend, we encourage you to find an alternate registrant as a replacement. Changes to your registration name must be received in writing by April 30, 2024. No refunds will be provided to registrants who do not attend the Conference without prior written notification of cancellation by April 30, 2024. Registrants who do not attend the Conference without prior cancellation notification and who have not paid in full, will be invoiced for the full registration. Where registrations are cancelled on compassionate grounds, the refund will be at the discretion of the Vision Quest Board of Directors.

