



















PRE-SUMMIT WORKSHOPS NOVEMBER 3 1pm to 5 pm.

UNPACKING TRUTH & RECONCILIATION: CALL TO ACTION 92

This workshop is proudly sponsored by SREDA and available at no additional charge to Summit registrants.



Milton brings a unique perspective about the First Nations culture and the historical relationship with settler society. He shares his personal journey and experience combined with the historical facts he has learned over the past forty years studying the "Indian Problem" first hand. He also conveys the lessons learned from his research into solutions being lead by native nations throughout the globe in the Indigenous Nation Rebuilding movement. Attendees will get a complete overview of what just happened in Indigenous-Settler relations but more importantly a surprisingly optimistic projection of where we are going together.



Facilitator: Milton Tootoosis

Milton Tootoosis was raised on the Poundmaker Indian Reserve west of the Battlefords in the 1960's and 1970's. Since his university education days he has enjoyed a forty year career in management roles and continues to research and share his findings. He served a term as a TLE Trustee and as an elected Headman for the Poundmaker Cree Nation (2016-2020). He was instrumental in getting the legendary Chief Poundmaker posthumously exonerated, for alleged crimes associated with the North West Rebellion / Resistance of 1885, by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in 2019. He owns his own consulting firm aside from serving as SREDA's first ever Chief Economic Reconciliation Officer.

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Registration Fee: \$95 with Summit Registration

This four-hour workshop is designed to equip rural communities and economic development professionals with the tools and strategies needed to identify and execute business retention and expansion (BRE)activities within their community. With a focus on practical, hands-on learning, this interactive session will cover the key principles of BRE, providing participants with actionable insights they can implement immediately.

Facilitator: Christina Birch

Christina Birch, founder of The Community Cafe, provides vital support to regions, communities and entrepreneurs by crafting innovative solutions to address the unique challenges they face. A rural enthusiast and community builder at heart, her passion for supporting rural communities has been evident throughout her many years of experience in community and economic development.



November 4-5 THE SUMMIT

The Paths to Prosperity Summit is designed for urban, rural, remote, and First Nation leaders, elected officials, planners, community development professionals, economic developers, and non-profit organization representatives. It also offers significant value to educators, researchers, and students who have an interest in making a positive impact within their communities. It offers a platform to discuss challenges and opportunities specific to these areas, learn innovative solutions, share best practices, and develop strategies for resilience and sustainability.

November 3:1 - 5pm Workshops

November 4: Program 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Top of the Inn Networking 5-7:30 pm

November 5: Program 8:30 am-4:30 pm



2025 Economic Development Awards of Excellence

Don't miss the opportunity to celebrate your leaders and community initiatives. Download the nominations package at www.seda.ca and submit prior to August 1, 2025.

Awards will be presented on November 4, 2025 at the 2025 Provincial Summit in Saskatoon.

WEATHERING THE STORM WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIES

David Beurle is a world-renowned expert on community, regional and organizational economic revitalization. His work extends from the local and regional, through to Corporate and Governmental levels with a focus on 'future thinking' and long term planning. As the CEO of Future IQ, he specializes in creating innovative future planning approaches for use in regional and organizational settings. He pioneered the application of Scenario Planning to regions and rural industries around the world. Having worked in the field of regional and community planning and revitalization for over 20 years, he is a leader in the field of regional and organizational development.

Future IQ serves clients n North America, Europe and Australia, working across cultures, sectors and languages in order to shape unique and effective planning solutions.



BRIDGING THE DIVIDE: BUILDING COMMUNITY ONE IDEA AT A TIME

Community builders have the same DNA regardless of what side of the border they live and work. The 2025 Summit welcomes **Becky McCray**, co-founder of Save Your Town to share her practical real-world perspective as a life-long rural entrepreneur and cattle rancher.

Becky earned her BS in Business Administration and certificates in Facilitating for Results and Workforce Quality Leadership. Her own hands-on successes and failures as a retail business owner, city administrator, nonprofit executive and community volunteer—all in small towns—make her a sought-after expert on rural communities.

Rural and small town conferences, economic development organizations, councils of government and chambers of commerce in the US, UK, Canada and Australia have chosen Becky to boost optimism, change thinking and unleash immediate action.





THE ROLE OF LEADERSHIP IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic development is a process driven by local and regional leaders. Our panel of elected officials will share how successful development efforts have been guided in their municipalities and First Nations.

POWER OF AUTHENTIC PLACE BRANDING IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A successful place brand boosts investment and business attraction by highlighting competitive advantages and opportunities; drawing talent by showcasing the region's lifestyle and community. Join Chris Lane, CEO of Economic Development Regina and Erin Lawson, CEO of SREDA as they share what has worked and what hasn't!

WHAT ABOUT TRADE CORRIDORS?

Economic corridors are more than just transport routes, they are strategic organized regions where infrastructure, policies and organizations can converge to stimulate economic development. Learn how economic and food corridors have been implemented in Alberta and their impacts on industry and communities.

HEALTH CARE AS AN ECONOMIC DRIVER

Located at Whitecap First Nation, this groundbreaking Virtual Health Hub facility is scheduled to open in 2026 and has the potential to serve as a model for Canada and the rest of the world.

Discover how this facility will facilitate greater access to healthcare for Indigenous, remote and rural communities throughout Saskatchewan.

INVESTING IN RURAL COMMUNITIES: WHAT IS THE SECRET SAUCE?

Join our panel of serial entrepreneurs and discover what has driven their investment in multiple rural businesses.

Hear from STARTUP TNT's Jesse Wiebe on the importance of activating private investment to economic development and what is preventing that from happening naturally.

Discover the socio-economic impacts of First Nation-Municipal joint investments in residential and commercial development.

ECONOMIC DISRUPTIONS: RESILIENCE, RESPONSE & RECOVERY

Alberta's Leann Hackman Carty will lead a half day Resilience & Recovery workshop, sharing her valuable insights and practical tips based on communities that have been impacted by wildfires and floods.

SETTING SASKATCHEWAN MUNICIPALITIES' UP FOR SUCCESS WITH COMMERCIAL-SCALE RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

As interest in renewable energy surges across Western Canada and the globe, Saskatchewan municipalities hold a unique position to leverage this economic development opportunity while safeguarding agricultural lands and municipal priorities. This session will provide practical, actionable advice for navigating these opportunities and challenges, helping communities across the province understand both the risks and benefits of renewable energy investments in their jurisdiction

LIGHTS, CAMERA, SASKATCHEWAN!

Learn how the film industry is a powerful economic driver for Saskatchewan. Join Creative Saskatchewan and ScreenSask for an engaging session that explores the film industry's structure and how the new incentive program provides revenue-generating opportunities for Saskatchewan's rural and urban communities.

RURAL INDUSTRY CLUSTERS

Cluster development has been widely adopted as a successful strategy for economic growth and job creation. Learn about the pilot project led by SEDA over the past two years and hear from representatives from the clusters on the benefits and what lays ahead.

BRIDGING GAPS IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

CAREERS is a unique, industry-led public/private not-for-profit foundation established in 1997. Find out how they bring together industry, schools, government, and communities to guide youth into successful career paths close to home!

COMMUNITY SAFETY & WELLBEING: FOOD SECURITY

Presenters will share strategies to address food insecurity through community driven solutions, collaboration and industry partnerships.

THE EXPERIENCE ECONOMY AT WORK

The experience economy involves shifting from selling just goods and services to selling experiences that customers actively participate in. Hear from one of rural Saskatchewan's thriving creative entrepreneurs on how she has shifted her business in two short years and enhanced value to her rural locale.



HOUSING ROUNDTABLE

Presenters will discuss the housing conundrum and potential steps to solutions.

We ask attendees to be prepared to share incentives and strategies being implemented in their own communities.

COMING TOGETHER FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Build community, they said. Get everyone to buy into a shared vision, they said. But no one tells you how! Especially when your rural community is divided and pulling itself apart. A one hour workshop with community builder Becky McCray will assist attendees in tweaking projects to reach across divides while building community with other participants.

VISIT WWW.SASKLEADERS.COM FOR ADDITIONS TO THE PROGRAM AND AGENDA

"16 years in Economic Development... I gotta say, this was the best conference I have attended, and I have attended several."

"One of the standout aspects of the 2023 conference was the open sharing of challenges faced by various organizations and industries along with the innovative solutions that were implemented. This collaborative environment not only fostered learning but also inspired conversation at the table and encouraged others to think outside the box and adapt strategies for their own initiatives."

"The summit was impeccably organized, providing a platform for professionals from across the provinces to come together and discuss pressing issues and successful projects. I highly recommend SEDA's Provincial Summit to anyone looking for a value-added conference experience. Whether you're seeking inspiration, practical solutions, or meaningful connections, SEDA delivers on all fronts. It's a testament to their commitment to fostering economic development and driving success across the region."

Deanna Fridfinnson Rural Manitoba Economic Development