



2024

Visionary Indigenous Business Excellence Awards

Advance student success by honouring the achievements of Indigenous business leaders and celebrating their impact in Manitoba.

Nominations due May 15, 2024.

ASPER
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



**INDIGENOUS BUSINESS
EDUCATION PARTNERS**



**University
of Manitoba**

The I.H. Asper School of Business will host its 18th annual Visionary Indigenous Business Excellence (VIBE) Awards on November 14, 2024. VIBE is one of Manitoba's most prestigious events to celebrate and honour the success of Indigenous entrepreneurs. The 2024 VIBE Awards Selection Committee has issued an open call for nominations of Indigenous-owned businesses until May 15, 2024.

Nominate your Indigenous-owned business (or a business you know) today. Award recipients will be announced in mid-June 2024. Please note that successful nominees must be available to attend our gala dinner on November 14, 2024. Nominations that are not in receipt of the 2024 award will be held and considered for the two following nomination cycles.

2024 VIBE NOMINEE INFORMATION

Nominee Name:

Business Name:

Address:

Primary Phone Number:

Primary Email:

Secondary Phone Number:

Secondary Email:

1. Business Overview (25%)

How many employees are in your workforce?

1 – 10 11 – 25 25+

Please provide an overview of your business/organization in (1,000-word limit). In this section, please be sure to describe founding history and what makes your business unique. Suggested areas to discuss include:

- Vision and mission statements
- Brand identity
- Description of products and services
- Competitive advantage(s)
- Who are your customers/clients?
- Where do your customers live (i.e., regional territory/markets)?
- Challenges you've experienced and resources accessed to overcome them
- Growth/expansion phases (past)

Business Overview (1,000-word limit – attach additional page if necessary)

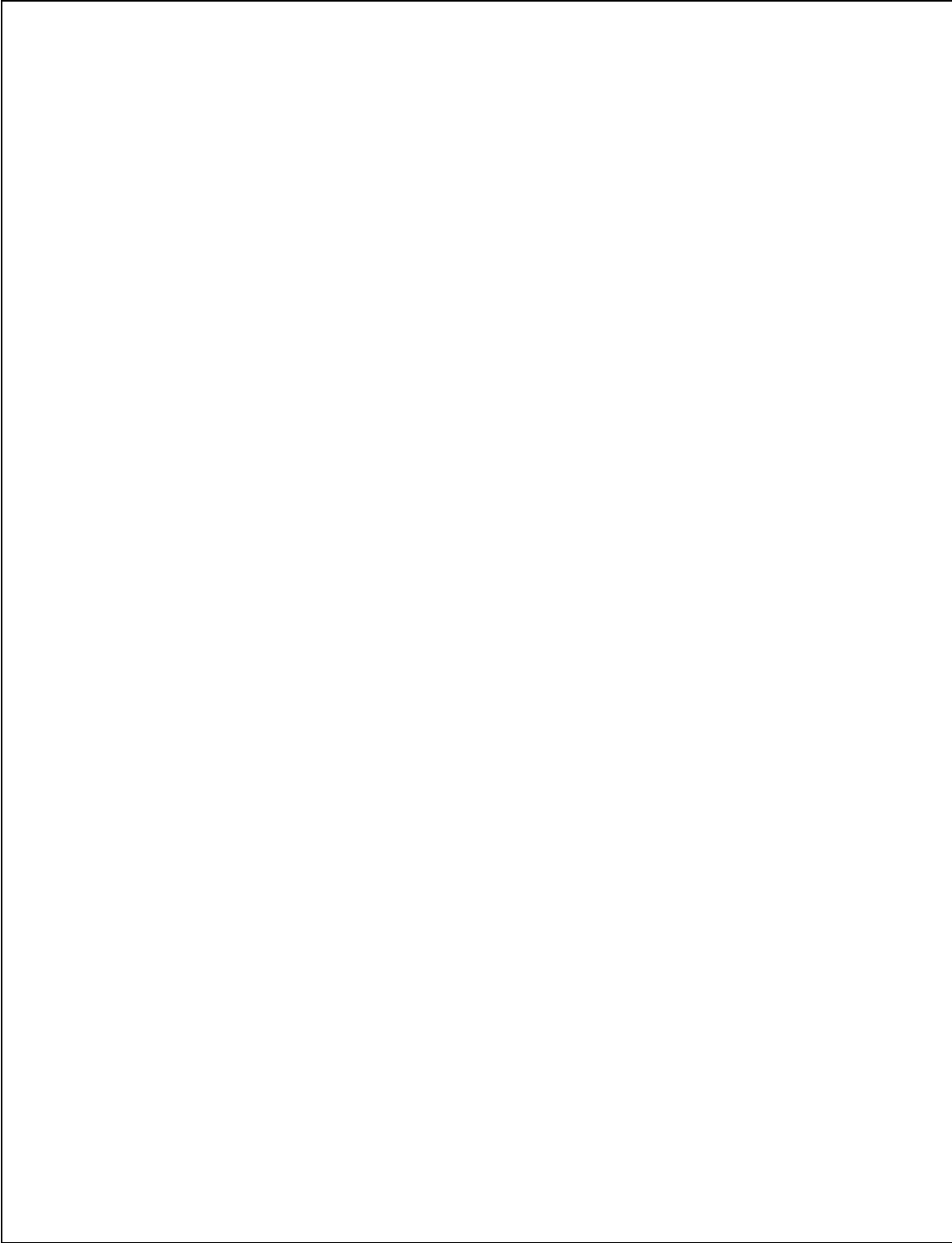
Business Overview (1,000-word limit – attach additional page if necessary)

2. Financial Success and Stability (30%)

NOTE: Information provided in this section will be held in the strictest of confidence and will only be used for the purposes of determining the financial status of applicants. It will not be shared with any third parties. All copies (electronic and paper) of this section will be destroyed at the conclusion of the selection.

- a. Please provide a narrative description of your financial success over the **previous** three years (500-word limit). Feel free to provide as much information to assist the selection committee that will demonstrate the financial success and stability of your business. You may use retained earnings, net assets, or revenue. In the event that you do not feel comfortable sharing detailed information, please submit a letter from your accountant or bank that certifies your business is in a financially healthy position.
- b. Changes (in profit/net revenue) may be reported in either actual dollar amounts or as a percentage.
- c. Nominees who do not feel comfortable disclosing full financial details are encouraged to use the following revenue ranges by using the corresponding number.
 1. = \$1,000,000+
 2. = \$500,000 - \$999,999
 3. = \$250,000 - \$499,999
 4. = \$100,000 - \$249,999
 5. = Less than \$100,000
 6. = Loss
 7. = Prefer to not discloseWeighted Value: 15%

	2021	2022	2023
Retained earnings/ Net Assets/ Revenue (please circle)			
+/- Change previous year			
Financial success narrative (500-word limit)			



- d. What plans do you have for your business' future growth and stability within the next five years? Please describe your goals and provide a brief summary of your plan to achieve that goal (500-word limit).

Weighted value: 15%

Plans for business growth and stability (500-word limit)

3. Community Engagement - Business (20%)

Please describe the community investment activities that your business is involved in. These activities may include, but not limited to, volunteer efforts, collaborations with other businesses/organizations, fundraising activities, event sponsorship, donations, etc. (1,000-word limit).

Note: *A mixture of activities that directly create profit for the business and not-for-profit activities will be considered but more emphasis will be placed on not-for-profit activities.*

Community Engagement – Business (1,000-word limit - attach additional page if necessary)

4. Indigenous Community Engagement (25%)

a. Describe your individual (separate from your business) involvement in activities that strengthen an Indigenous community/ies you are apart of and interact with. Explain why you chose to become involved with these activities. Please be as thorough as possible in your description, including length of time you have been involved with specific activities (750-word limit).

Weighted Value: 15%

Indigenous Community Engagement (750-word limit)

b. Please provide two letters of support and any other documentation that demonstrates your community impact for Indigenous communities you have discussed above such as a news article, thank you letters, etc. These letters need not originate from elected leaders, but rather from those who can sufficiently describe your involvement and engagement with the Indigenous community.

Weighted value: 10%