



WORKING IN SOUTH DAKOTA'S INDIAN COUNTRY

Three working committees of SDIBA tackle critical issues relevant to the Native American community development field.

- The **Uniform Commercial Codes Committee** provides information and assistance to tribes that are seeking to adopt a Uniform Commercial Code—a critical step for tribes to take in order to create a business-friendly environment for the reservation communities.
- The **Workforce Development Committee** sponsors and co-sponsors soft-skills training seminars—*Workin' with Tradition*— on reservation communities throughout the state to help Native Americans build the skills necessary to become successful employees.
- The **Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) Committee** works to raise awareness of the Community Reinvestment Act as a potential tool for expanding access to capital and credit in Native communities.

CONNECTING ENTREPRENEURS TO RESOURCES

The Native Entrepreneur Investment Fund is the first-ever statewide lending program for Native communities. It offers loans and assistance to Native entrepreneurs to start or expand a business, or to build their credit in anticipation of launching a successful business venture.

GET INVOLVED!

The South Dakota Indian Business Alliance has an open membership policy. That means everyone is encouraged to participate on our working committees and attend our events. We welcome people of diverse backgrounds to join our efforts. In fact, the diversity of our membership is our greatest strength. Members of SDIBA enjoy a wide range of benefits that include:

- Learning about innovative strategies that support economic development in Native communities.
- Staying informed about policy issues that have a critical impact on Indian business development.
- Tapping into a region-wide network of dedicated professionals who share a similar vision.
- Being part of the solution and actively participating in an endeavor that ultimately improves the quality of life for Native Americans in South Dakota.

CONTACT US!

For more information on how to get involved and support Indian business development, give us a call or visit our website.

South Dakota Indian Business Alliance



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INSPIRING A NEW NATIVE AMERICA



A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE INDIAN BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The mission of the South Dakota Indian Business Alliance (SDIBA) is to enhance Indian business development by leveraging partnerships and resources of diverse institutions and organizations. SDIBA is comprised of a region-wide group of community partners dedicated to developing and supporting a flourishing entrepreneurial sector on South Dakota's Indian reservations. To guide our work, SDIBA utilizes a strategic framework that focuses on four key areas – **governance, infrastructure, finance, and resources** – designed to promote sustainable business development for Indian Country.

SDIBA's day-to-day activities are based on the following goals:

1. Educate, communicate, and empower the voice of Indian businesses.
2. Support Native entrepreneurs and expand Indian businesses.
3. Inform policy makers and advocate for Indian businesses.
4. Increase connections and collaboration between Indian business owners and resources.
5. Sustain and build SDIBA's dynamic network.

South Dakota Indian Business Alliance



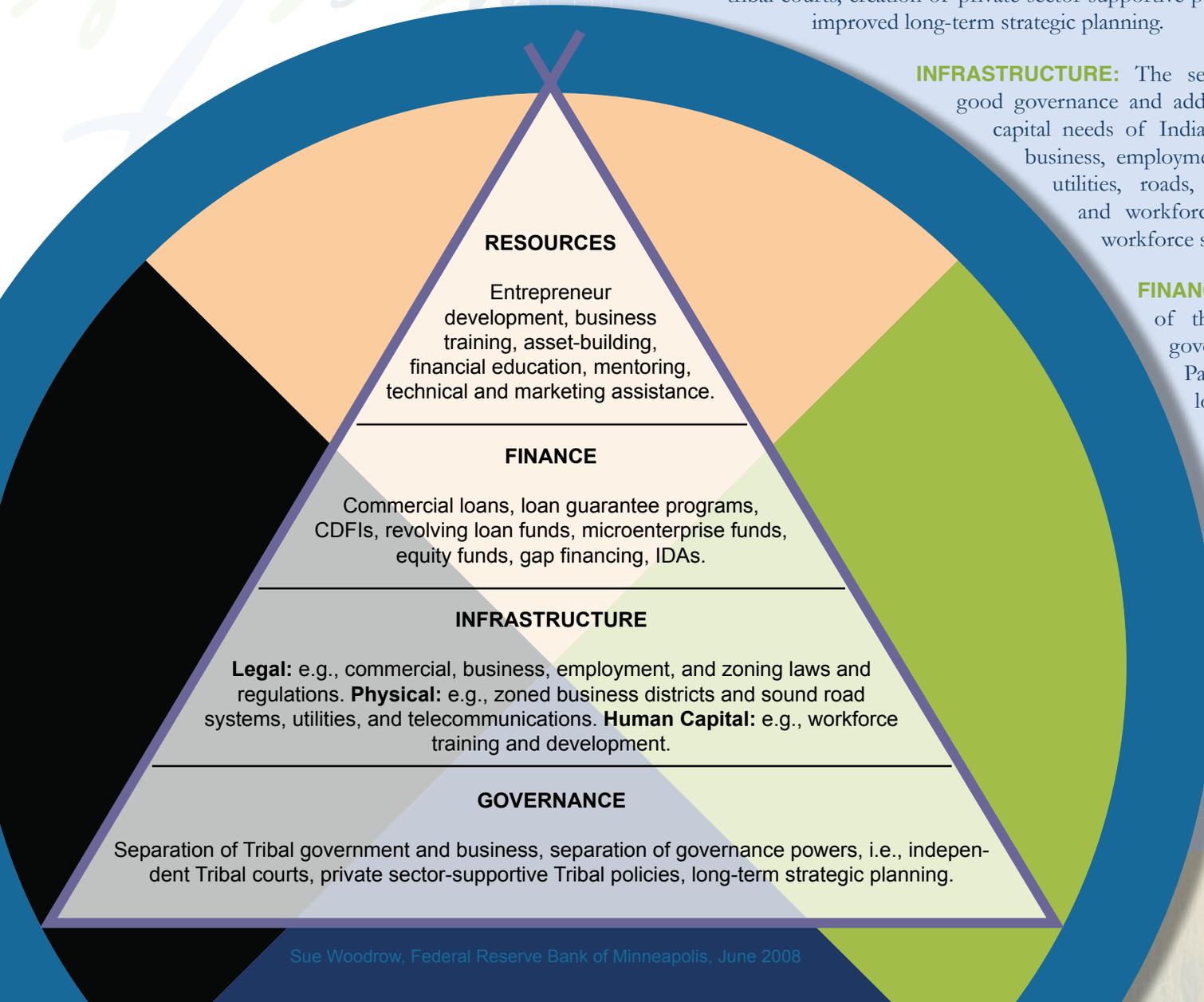
SDIBA is guided by a strategic framework that is illustrated in the diagram below. Four key areas—Governance, Infrastructure, Finance, and Resources—are the underpinnings of the strategy for creating and expanding healthy Indian businesses in South Dakota.

GOVERNANCE: the first tier of the model is the foundation for Indian business sustainability and identifies development needs in the areas of separation of tribal government and business, enhancement of independent tribal courts, creation of private sector-supportive policies at the tribal and state levels, and improved long-term strategic planning.

INFRASTRUCTURE: The second tier of the model builds on good governance and addresses the legal, physical, and human capital needs of Indian businesses, including: commercial, business, employment, and zoning laws and regulations; utilities, roads, and communications infrastructure; and workforce development and industry-specific workforce strategies.

FINANCE: Access to capital—the third tier of the model—is increased when sound governance and infrastructure are in place. Partnerships with commercial lenders, loan guarantee programs, CDFIs, tribal loan funds, equity funds, and other debt- and equity-capital providers are essential to meet the financing needs of entrepreneurs in low-income, low-wealth communities.

RESOURCES: The final tier of the strategy seeks to connect micro- and small-business owners with the numerous personal, professional, and business management tools that are integral to the success of these businesses, including access to networks and mentors.



GATHERING TO FORMULATE COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS

SDIBA creates various opportunities for practitioners, advocates, and policy makers to convene and discuss challenges and opportunities in South Dakota's Indian Country. All of SDIBA's events are open, and everyone is encouraged to attend. Information on dates and times of upcoming events is provided on our website.



MONTHLY CONFERENCE CALLS are hosted to discuss and coordinate the organization's upcoming events and to collaboratively strategize on issues or future activities.



QUARTERLY MEETINGS serve as a learning exchange in which members are able to share best practices, strategize on challenges, discuss legislative issues, highlight successful or innovative models in economic development, and develop partnerships.



SEMI-ANNUAL POLICY ROUNDTABLES convene attendees from diverse backgrounds to discuss current barriers to Indian business development and propose viable solutions. This feedback informs SDIBA's policy recommendations, which are used to engage state and tribal policy-makers.



THE SOUTH DAKOTA INDIAN BUSINESS CONFERENCE occurs biannually and is considered to be one of the premier events in the state's Native economic development field. The conference provides a unique opportunity for attendees to increase their knowledge about Indian business development and form new networking relationships.