

Cris Stainbrook

Cris Stainbrook, a Lakota, is the President of the Indian Land Tenure Foundation (ILTF) based in Little Canada, Minnesota. The Foundation provides grants and services to Indian nations and individual Indian people focused on recovering land within reservation boundaries and off-reservation sacred sites to Indian ownership and management.

Stainbrook has had an extensive career in philanthropy, business and natural resource management. He served as Senior Program Officer at Northwest Area Foundation for nine years followed by four years as the Foundation's Program Director. He was a founder and longtime board member of Native Americans in Philanthropy and the Two Feathers Fund. He also served on the board of directors of The St. Paul Foundation and Minnesota Community Foundations and is a board member emeritus of the Grotto Foundation. He is the immediate past president of the ACLU of Minnesota and is the chairman of the Indian Land Capital Company, a for-profit, CDFI subsidiary of ILTF and the Native American Community Development Corporation.

Prior to his work in philanthropy, Cris worked with a number of Pacific Northwest tribes and Alaska Native villages to develop businesses ranging from small check cashing firms to a multi-million dollar retail gas and oil company. He assisted several tribes in undertaking land use and land acquisition planning. He also worked as the fisheries biologist for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Stainbrook has owned and operated several successful small businesses of his own. Stainbrook is the current co-owner of Heath Glen Farm and Kitchen.

Mr. Stainbrook holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa and a Master's degree in Fisheries Science from Oregon State University.