

BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
and Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre are
proud to host:

Gathering Our Voices

12th Aboriginal Youth Conference

Vancouver, British Columbia
March 18-21, 2014
Hyatt Regency Vancouver and the
Fairmont Hotel Vancouver



Registration Package



REGISTRATION PROCESS

To register for Gathering Our Voices please complete the
online registration form at
<http://gatheringourvoices.bcaafc.com>

* To simplify the registration process, please ensure that
you have the first and last names, birthdates, emergency
contact information and any allergy concerns for everyone
you are registering before starting the online registration
process.

If you unable to register electronically, please contact our
office for other registration options.

IMPORTANT:

- To be officially registered, we must receive your
- completed registration and your registration fee. Once
your fee and registration has been received, we will
provide registration confirmation.
- For every five youth registered (aged 14-17) years
there must be one chaperone.
- All chaperones must register for the conference, and
must be 21 years of age or older.
- Workshop pre-registration is available in early February
2014.
- Registrations must be received by March 12, 2014.
Any registration received after the deadline cannot be
confirmed.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

\$125.00 Early Registration Fee
September 1, 2013 - February 7, 2014
(Group registration incentive – for every group of 5
registered, the 6th registrant is FREE!)

\$175.00 Regular Registration Fee
February 8, 2014 to March 18, 2014

PAYMENT OPTION #1 By PayPal

When registering online have credit card information ready
to process PayPal payment.

PAYMENT OPTION #2 Cheque or Money Order

Please make cheque or money order payable to BCAAFC and
mail payment to:

BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
Attn: Della Preston, Youth Conference Coordinator
551 Chatham Street, Victoria, BC V8T 1E1

PAYMENT OPTION #3 VISA or MasterCard only

Please call the BCAAFC at 1-800-990-2432, and ask for Della
Preston, Conference Coordinator

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Della Preston, Youth Conference Coordinator
BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres

E-mail: dpreston@bcaafc.com
Phone: (250) 388-5522
Toll Free: 1-800-990-2432
Fax: (250) 388-5502



WORKSHOPS

Gathering Our Voices 2014 will have a variety of more than 40 workshops. A description of workshops and workshop registration will be available in early February 2014 at: <http://gatheringourvoices.bcaafc.com>

MEALS

Delegates will be provided with the following meals:

Tuesday, March 18th: Dinner at the Hyatt Regency and Fairmont Hotel.

Wednesday, March 19th: Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.

Thursday, March 20th: Breakfast and Lunch will be provided.

CONFERENCE VENUE ACCOMMODATIONS

Youth delegates and chaperones are responsible for securing their own accommodation. The Hyatt and the Fairmont are the main venues for the conference.

Hyatt Regency Vancouver 655 Burrard Street

Tel: 1-888-421-1442

Rates: Single/Double \$189.00; triple \$224; quad \$259

Rates Available until: February 16, 2014

Reservation Code: Aboriginal Youth Conference

Amenities: 24 Fitness Gym, Outdoor Heated Pool, Whirlpool, Suites, Restaurants, Room Service

Web link to Book Rooms at Special Conference Room Rate:
<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/gov2014>

Fairmont Vancouver Hotel 900 West Georgia Street

In house Reservations: 604-684-3131

Toll Free Reservations: 1-800-441-1414

E-mail: hvc.reservations@fairmont.com

Rates: Single/Double \$189.00 (\$35/per addition adult)

Rates available until: February 16, 2014

Reservation Code: Gathering Our Voices Aboriginal Youth Conference

Amenities: Fitness Centre; Indoor Pool, Suites, Restaurants, Room Service

Web link to Book Rooms at Special Conference Room Rate:
<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/gatheringourvoices>

CONFERENCE CODE OF CONDUCT

In completing your registration form, it is duly accepted that you have read and understood the Conference Code of Conduct and will honour this code at the conference.

You are a Representative of your Community

Your personal conduct, both in and out of the conference, reflects upon your community and it is your responsibility to safeguard the reputation and pride of all Aboriginal people.

It's a Matter of Respect

You are a guest and you can go a long way towards assuring yourself and the other delegates a warm and memorable welcome through a simple show of respect.

- Respect for all the participants of the conference.
- Respect for the social/cultural values of youth from other communities.
- Respect for regulations and standards set down by the organizing body and host community.
- Respect for people of the host organization (staff, volunteers, guests, presenters, service personnel).

Curfew

We ask that ALL participants and chaperones respect the conference curfew of 11:30p.m. Participants are asked to be at their accommodations by the curfew time.

Recreational Activities

In recreational activities, participants will represent their community with dignity, personal integrity, and spirit of good sportsmanship and fair play. Please bring proper clothing and shoes; personal equipment is optional.

Chaperone(s)

There must be one chaperone for every five participants ages 14 to 17 years and he/she is:

1. Responsible for the safety, welfare and conduct of their youth AT ALL TIMES.
2. Expected to be a positive role model and set positive examples to ALL YOUTH.
3. Expected to assist youth in locating workshops, arriving in a timely manner and ensure youth remain in their workshops until the session is complete.
4. Be in attendance with their youth during ALL evening activities as there is a 'no re-entry' policy once performances begin. This includes opening night entertainment, the youth talent showcase and the Dance.
5. All Chaperons must be 21 years of age or older.

Disciplinary Policies and Procedures

THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY ZERO TOLERANCE FOR DRUG, ALCOHOL AND USE OF NON-PRESCRIPTION COSMETIC CONTACT LENSES USE BY DELEGATES, CHAPERONES AND GUESTS.

Weapons brought into the conference sites and/or criminal activity of any kind will not be tolerated. Offenders of the Code of Conduct will have all privileges suspended, along with their group, and will be asked to leave the conference.



CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

** This agenda is subject to change. A revised agenda will be distributed at the conference **

Tuesday, March 18, 2014

10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Conference Registration	Hyatt
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Buffet Dinner	Hyatt & Fairmont
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Opening Ceremonies	Hyatt
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Keynote Addresses, Activities	Fairmont

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

7:00 am - 8:30 am	Breakfast Provided	TBA
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Career and Education Fair Open	Hyatt & Fairmont
9:00 am - 12:30 pm	Workshops - Session 1 (3 hr) OR Workshop Session 2 (9:00 am - 12:00 pm) (9:00 am - 10:30 pm) Workshop Session 3 (11:00 am - 12:30 pm)	Hyatt & Fairmont
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch Provided	TBA
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Workshops - Session 4 (3h) OR Workshop Session 5 (1:30 pm - 4:30 pm) (1:30 pm - 3:30 pm) Workshop Session 6 (3:30 pm - 5:00 pm)	Hyatt & Fairmont
4:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Dinner – Delegates on their own	
8:00 pm - 10:30 pm	Youth Talent Showcase - <i>doors open at 7:00</i>	TBA

Thursday, March 20, 2014

7:00 am - 8:30 am	Breakfast Provided	TBA
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Career and Education Fair Open	Hyatt & Fairmont
9:00 am - 12:30 pm	Workshops - Session 7 (3h) OR Workshop Session 8 (9:00 am - 12:00 pm) (9:00 am - 10:30 am) Workshop Session 9 (11:00 am - 12:30 pm)	Hyatt & Fairmont
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch Provided	TBA
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Workshops - Session 10 (3h) OR Workshop Session 11 (1:30 pm - 4:30 pm) (1:30 pm - 3:00 pm) Workshop Session 12 (3:30 pm - 5:00 pm)	Hyatt & Fairmont
4:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Dinner – Delegates on their own	
7:00 pm - 11:00 pm	Much Music Youth Dance - doors open at 7:00	Hyatt
7:45 pm - 8:30 pm	Live performance	Hyatt

Friday, March 21, 2014

	Breakfast – Delegates on their own	
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Cultural Morning, Closing Plenary	Hyatt & Fairmont



VANCOUVER HOTEL AND MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The following is a list of some of the hotels in the city of Vancouver. Some have provided a special/off season/discount rate. Rooms are available on a first come basis and are subject to taxes. Please book as soon as possible as accommodation will fill quickly. When contacting each hotel, please make sure to ask first if they are supplying a special rate for the conference and make sure you are getting that rate. Some hotels require a code or a special name for the discount, so be sure to quote if one is listed below. For a list of other accommodation options, Vancouver information and city maps check out: <http://www.tourismvancouver.com/vancouver/travel-tips-tools/vancouver-maps/>

CONFERENCE VENUE ACCOMMODATIONS

Youth delegates and chaperones are responsible for securing their own accommodation.

The Hyatt and the Fairmont are the main venues for the conference

Ramada Limited Downtown Vancouver 435 West Pender Street
Main Contact: P: 1-888-389-5888 F: 1-604-488-1090
Rates: 2 double beds: single/double \$74, triple \$89, quad \$104
1queen: single/double \$74
Rates Available Until: February 18, 2014
Reservation Code: Aboriginal Youth Conference
Amenities: Free Wi-Fi, free breakfast – hot continental, computer kiosk with printer in lobby, flat screen TVs, valet parking-fee
E-mail: info@ramadadowntownvancouver.com
Website: <http://www.ramadadowntownvancouver.com>
Distance from main Conference Site: 800 m: 4 min drive, 10 min walk

Best Western Plus Downtown Vancouver 718 Drake Street
Main Contact: P: 1-888-669-9888 F: 1-604-669-3440
Rates: 2 double Beds (Single to quad occupancy) \$99
Rates Available Until: March 14, 2014
Reservation Code: 2636
Amenities: complementary bicycle rental, Wi-Fi, roof top fitness centre with ping pong table, walking distance to Robson street shopping
E-mail: reservations@bestwesterndowntown.com
Website: <http://www.bestwesterndowntown.com>
Distance from main Conference Site: 1.4 km: 7 min drive, 18 min walk

Vancouver Airport Marriott 7571 Westminister Highway
Main Contact: P: 877-323-8888 F: 604-276-2112
Rates: 2 beds or 1 bedroom suite: \$129 (\$10 additional person)
Reservation code: GAVGAVA
Rates Available Until: March 1, 2014
Amenities: wireless internet, smoke free, fitness centre, and pool
E-mail: Krista.danyluk@vancouver-marriott.com
Website: <http://www.marriott.com/yvrsa>
Distance from main Conference Site: 14.8 km: 24 min drive, 24 min sky train

The Burrard 1100 Burrard Street
Main Contact: P: 800-663-0366 F: 604-681-9753
Rates: Queen: \$109, Queen Plus \$119, Double \$129, King room available, please call (\$30/per additional person)
Rates Available Until: January 18, 2014
Amenities: Free Wi-Fi, free N.America calling, courtyard, free Steve Nash Fitness Centre, free bike use (based on availability)
E-mail: info@theburrard.com, anita@theburrard.com
Website: <http://www.theburrard.com>
Distance from main Conference Site: 800 m: 10 min walk, 3 min drive

Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel 7551 Westminister Highway
Main Contact: P: 800-663-0299 F: 1-604-278-0188
Rates: Lrg deluxe Rm 1 king or 2 queen, single/double/triple \$129
Rates Available Until: February 19, 2014
Amenities: Heated outdoor pool & hot tub in our courtyard, across the street from Richmond Centre Mall, less than a 5 minute walk from the Canada Line Rapid Transit System with access to downtown Vancouver in 20 minutes, Starbucks in the lobby area with complimentary Wi-Fi in the Link @ Sheraton, fitness centre with new equipment, Large guestrooms with 2 queen sized beds which can accommodate up to 4 adults
E-mail: reservations@sheratonvancouverairport.com
Website: <http://www.sheratonvancouverairport.com>
Distance from main Conference Site: 14.7 km: 24 min drive, 24 min sky train

Ramada Inn & Suites Downtown Vancouver 1221 Granville Street
Main Contact: P: 1-888-835-0078 F: 604-685-0707
Rates: standard (1king, 1queen, 2 double: \$80; suites (studio 2double+sofa and 1bdr Jr suite), \$100 (\$15/per additional person)
Rates Available Until: March 18, 2014
Amenities: Free Wi-Fi, complimentary breakfast, local and N.American calling, access to Fitness World (17 years and older)
E-mail: reservations@ramadavancouver.com
Website: <http://www.ramadavancouver.com>
Distance from main Conference Site: 1.3 km: 6 min drive, 17 min walk



CONFERENCE VENUE ACCOMMODATIONS

Youth delegates and chaperones are responsible for securing their own accommodation.

The Hyatt and the Fairmont are the main venues for the conference

Best Western Plus Sands Hotel 1755 Davie Street

Main Contact: P: 1-800-661-7887 F: 1-604-682-3546

Rates: 1 or 2 queens (single or double): \$79 (addition person \$15 per youth)

Rates Available Until: March 4, 2014

Reservation code: Aboriginal Youth Conference

Amenities: Wi-Fi, close to English Bay beach and Stanley Park, local transit, restaurant and shopping, exercise room with sauna, laundry, parking \$15/night, can request bus parking

E-mail: sands@rpbhotels.com

Website: <http://www.bestwesternsandshotelvancouver.com>

Distance from main Conference Site: 2.5km: 6 min drive, 27 min walk

BEST WESTERN PLUS Chateau Granville 1100 Granville

Main Contact: P: 1-604-669-7070 F: 604-669-4928

Rates: Suite-2 double beds and double sofa bed: single/double \$105, triple \$125, quad \$145

Rates Available Until: March 1, 2014

Reservation code: Aboriginal Youth Conference-2014

Amenities: Wi-Fi, suites are 450sq feet, 2 HDTV's, business centre, microwave and mini fridge

E-mail: res@chateaugranville.com

Website: <http://www.chateaugranville.com>

Distance from main Conference Site: 1.4 km: 6 min drive, 14 min walk

Renaissance Vancouver Harbourside Hotel 1133 West Hastings St

Main Contact: P: 1-604-689-9211 F: 604-689-4358

Rates: city view: \$199

Rates Available Until: February 14, 2014

Reservation code: ask for: "Gathering Our Voices" rate

Amenities: high speed internet, health and fitness centre, indoor pool, mini fridges available on request

E-mail: vancouver.reservations@renaissancehotels.com

Website: <http://www.renaissancevancouver.com>

Distance from main Conference Site: 600m: 2 min drive, 7 min walk

Sandman Vancouver City Centre 180 West Georgia

Main Contact: P: 1-800-326-7626 F: 604-669-8284

Rates: 2 doubles/2 queens/1 queen: \$89

Rates Available Until: March 4, 2014

Reservation code: Group #703752 – Aboriginal Youth Gathering

Amenities: indoor heated pool, complimentary internet, business centre with computer

E-mail: sales_vancouver@sandman.ca

Website: <http://www.sandmanhotels.ca>

Distance from main Conference Site: 1.4 kms: 4 min drive, 12 min walk

Sandman Suites on Davie 1160 Davie Street

Main Contact: P: 1-800-726-3626 F: 604-669-8284

Rates: queen suite limited view/2 single beds suite limited view/queen suite city view: \$99

Rates Available Until: March 4, 2014

Reservation code: Group #238157 – Aboriginal Youth Gathering

Amenities: complimentary wireless internet, business centre, gym facility, pHresh Spa-on-site, Moxie's-on-site

E-mail: sales_vancouver@sandman.ca

Website: <http://www.sandmanhotels.ca>

Distance from main Conference Site: 1.2kms: 5 min drive, 15 min walk



TRAVEL INFORMATION

Traveling to Vancouver is best by land, sea or air. Check out this quick list of various transportation options to help you plan your trip to Gathering Our Voices.

AIR SERVICE

Vancouver Airport

The Vancouver Airport, about 25 minute drive from downtown Vancouver.

Phone: 1-604-207-7077

Website: <http://www.yvr.ca>

Air Canada Jazz

Phone: 1-888-247-2262

Website: www.aircanada.com

Westjet

Phone: 1-888-937-8538

Website: <http://www.westjet.com>

For list of airlines flying into Vancouver

<http://www.yvr.ca/en/flight-information/destinations.aspx>

SEA & LAND

Greyhound Bus Lines

Phone: 1-800-661-8747

Website: www.greyhound.ca

BC Ferries

1-888-223-3779

Website: <http://www.bcferrries.com>

Car Rental outlets are conveniently located at the Vancouver Airport. For those who would prefer, there are plenty of shuttles and taxi services available.

RENTAL CARS

Budget Rent A Car: 1-604-668-7000

National Rentals: 1-604-668-7000

Alamo Rent A Car: 1-604-231-1400

Avis Vancouver Airport Rent-a-car:
1-604-606-2847

Hertz: 1-800-654-3131

Enterprise: 1-604-303-1117

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Vancouver Shuttle & Charter

Phone: 1-604-841-2121 OR 1-888-941-2121

www.vancouvershuttle.ca

TAXIS & CAR SERVICE

Vancouver Taxi: 1-604-871-1111

PARKING

City of Vancouver

<http://vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/parking.aspx>

Easy Park

<http://www.easypark.ca/easypark-lots/locations-and-rates.aspx>

Imperial Parking (Search & Map View)

https://impark.myparkingworld.com/Pages/Lots/lot_search.aspx

DPS Parking

<http://www.diamondparking.ca/find-parking-locations>



CHAPERONE INFORMATION BRIEF

General Overview of Conference:

The Gathering Our Voices Aboriginal Youth Conference is hosted by the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCAAFC) and their Provincial Aboriginal Youth Council (BCAAFC - PAYC). The Conference will be held from March 18-21, 2014 in Vancouver, BC at the Hyatt Regency and Fairmont Hotel.

With up to 2000 youth (14-24years), chaperons, presenters and guests will network and learn new techniques and skills in workshops, share knowledge through cultural activities, witness performances by talented individuals, explore career and education possibilities and participate in sports and recreational activities.

Rules and Respect:

Please see the full conference code of conduct on page 2. Always remember that youth and chaperones must be respectful in every sense and that you are representing your communities to the best of your abilities.

What to Expect:

Expect to have a lot of fun, be active and learn a lot from the whole conference experience.

Responsibility of Chaperones:

Please make sure that your designated youth are with you **AT ALL TIMES** when not attending workshops. We request you do not simply drop off your youth at the conference site and leave them alone. **Note** that this applies to all evening activities, including the dance, where chaperones are expected to arrive and remain in attendance with their youth until the group leaves as a whole.

Vancouver is a city and it is important to keep a very close eye on your youth. We also want to make sure that the youth are going to the workshops and if they are not participating that they are with you.

There will be no alcohol and drug use tolerated by YOUTH or CHAPERONES at any time on your way to the conference, during the conference or on your way home from the conference. We are all trying to set a good example for our youth and promote healthy living in our communities.

You are responsible for your youth delegates at all times. Remember that you are a role model for the youth and should conduct yourself in a manner accordingly.

Speaking to Youth Before Arrival at Conference:

We are asking all chaperones to please speak to their youth before arrival in Vancouver. If you could please let your youth know what to expect at the conference, how to behave, how to be respectful, debrief on curfew, as well as rules and regulations that would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration and let's make the 12th Annual Gathering Our Voices Aboriginal Youth Conference run smoothly and go off without a hitch!

Please contact me if you require any further details.

Della Preston, Youth Conference Coordinator
BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres

E-Mail: dpreston@bcaafc.com
Phone: (250) 388-5522
Toll Free: 1-800-990-2432
Fax: (250) 388-5502

Visit our website often for updates.

www.bcaafc.com/newsandevents/gathering-our-voices

This Registration Package contains valuable contact information.

We recommend you bring it with you when you come to Vancouver.



CHALLENGE TO ABORIGINAL YOUTH

The Gathering Our Voices challenge to Aboriginal youth will focus on two themes of this year's conference: Health and the Environment. The hope is that by engaging youth in these challenges they will be able to share their unique experiences with these issues when we come together for Gathering Our Voices 2014.

For access to the full information package for the Health and GO-Green Challenges including challenge registration forms and activity tracking charts please visit:

www.bcaafc.com/newsandevents/gathering-our-voices

HONOUR AN ABORIGINAL YOUTH CHAMPION

The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres will recognize Aboriginal Youth Champions in the areas of Health and the Environment. If you know an Aboriginal youth (ages 14-24) who has made an outstanding commitment or achievement in the fields of Health or the Environment please nominate them to receive an Aboriginal Youth Champion award at the 2014 Gathering Our Voices Provincial Aboriginal Youth Conference. Please visit the website for the nomination form. Youth must be a conference delegate and be present at the conference. The deadline is March 1, 2014 for nominations. Download a nomination form visit our website.

YOUTH SHOWCASE

- Youth must apply by March 7th and you will be called to confirm your performance in the showcase.
- Youth are required to attend the Showcase workshop Wednesday, March 19th, 2014 in workshop session four (4).
- Youth are required to bring music in mp3 format and on CD.
- Performance time can range from 1-5 minutes. Time is limited – apply early!
- The following equipment is available – microphone, CD player, piano. All other equipment is the responsibility of the youth entertainer.
- The Youth Showcase will be held Wednesday March 20, 2014 between 8:00pm and 10:00pm.
- To download the application visit the conference website:

www.bcaafc.com/newsandevents/gathering-our-voices

Deadline for youth showcase application is **March 7, 2014**

Successful performers will be notified by March 12, 2014

