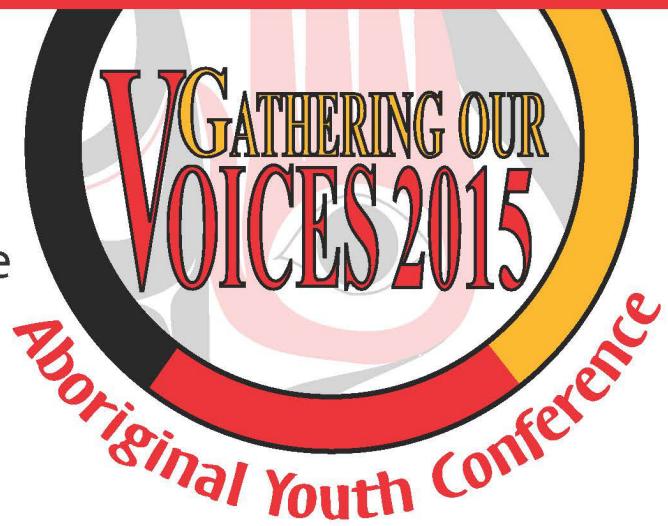


BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and Prince George Native Friendship Centre are proud to host:

The 13th Annual Gathering Our Voices Aboriginal Youth Conference

Prince George, British Columbia
March 17-20, 2015



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 allergies for everyone you are registering before starting the online registration process.

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

IMPORTANT:

- This year's conference is on a first come first served basis, due to limited space available. Conference capacity will be capped at 1000 youth, please ensure you register as soon as possible to ensure your space at the conference. If the conference reaches capacity before the event, there will be no onsite registration.
- To be officially registered, we must receive your completed registration and your registration fee. Once your fee 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 registration will begin early February 2015.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

\$125.00 Early Registration Fee

Until February 6, 2015

(Group registration incentive – for every group of 5 registered, the 6th registrant is FREE!)

\$175.00 Regular Registration Fee

February 7, 2015 until all delegate spots are filled.

PAYMENT OPTION #1 By PayPal

When registering online have credit card information ready to process a 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: Kathryn Lacerte, 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 the Registration Coordinator.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Kathryn Lacerte, Interim Conference Coordinator
BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres

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



ACCOMMODATIONS

This year the conference is being held at the Civic Centre and other venues around the city. Please note that youth delegates and chaperones are responsible for securing their own accommodations. A listing of accommodations in the city is on page 4. Please reserve your rooms as soon as possible as accommodations will fill quickly.

WORKSHOPS

Workshop descriptions will be available in early February 2015 at: <http://gatheringourvoices.bcaafc.com>

MEALS

Delegates will be provided with the following meals:

Tuesday, March 17th: Dinner

Wednesday, March 18th: Breakfast and Lunch

Thursday, March 19th: Breakfast and Lunch

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 be expected to 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 ensuring 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 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 11:30 pm. 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. Must be 21 years of age or older.
2. Responsible for the safety, welfare and conduct of their youth AT ALL TIMES.
3. Expected to be a positive role model and set positive examples to ALL YOUTH.
4. Expected to assist youth in locating workshops, arriving in a timely manner and ensuring youth remain in their workshops until the session is complete.
5. 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.

Disciplinary Policies and Procedures

THERE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY ZERO TOLERANCE FOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE BY DELEGATES, CHAPERONES AND GUESTS.

Smoking of tobacco and other products (including e-cigarettes) is prohibited on all premises and facilities. The exception to this policy is the cultural and ceremonial use of Aboriginal traditional medicines such as tobacco, sage, cedar, and sweet grass.

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 17

10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Conference Registration	Civic Centre
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Door Open	Civic Centre
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Opening Ceremonies	Civic Centre
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Reception	Civic Centre

Wednesday, March 18

7:00 am - 8:30 am	Breakfast Provided	Civic Centre
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Career and Education Fair Open	Civic Centre
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 am) Workshop Session 3 (11:00 am - 12:30 pm)	Various Locations
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch Provided	Civic Centre
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Workshops - Session 4 (3h) OR Workshop Session 5 (1:30 pm - 4:30 pm) (1:30 pm - 3:00 pm) Workshop Session 6 (3:30 pm - 5:00 pm)	Various Locations
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>	Civic Centre

Thursday, March 19

7:00 am - 8:30 am	Breakfast Provided	Civic Centre
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Career and Education Fair Open	Civic Centre
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)	Various Locations
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch Provided	Civic Centre
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)	Various Locations
4:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Dinner – Delegates on their own	
7:00 pm - 11:00 pm	Much Music Youth Dance - <i>doors open at 7:00 pm</i>	Civic Centre
7:45 pm - 8:30 pm	Live performance	Civic Centre

Friday, March 20

	Breakfast – Delegates on their own	
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Cultural Morning, Closing Plenary	Civic Centre



PRINCE GEORGE HOTEL AND MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The following is a list of hotels in the city of Prince George. 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, Prince George information and city maps check out: <http://tourismpg.com>

CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATIONS

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

The Civic Centre is the main venue for the conference.

Coast Inn of the North

Main Contact: 250-563-0121 or 1-800-663-1144

Rates: Comfort Room \$115.00 Superior Room \$135.00

Premium Suite \$165.00

Reservation Code: Gathering Our Voices

Amenities: Free Wifi, indoor pool and hot tub, fitness centre

Website: coasthotels.com/hotels/bc/prince_george/coast-inn-of-the-north

Distance from main Conference Site: 240 m

Sandman Signature Hotels and Suites

2990 Recreation Place, Prince George, BC V2N 0B2

Main Contact: 1-800-726-3626 OR 250-645-7263

Rates: 2 queen \$139.00; king or family suite \$154.00

Rates Available Until: February 2, 2015

Reservation Code: #135889

Amenities: pool, hot tub, fitness centre, Wi-Fi

E-mail: sales_pg@sandman.ca or

res_pgsignature@sandman.ca

Website: www.sandmansignature.ca/hotels/prince

Distance from main Conference Site: 4.2 km

Econo Lodge City Centre

910 Victoria Street, Prince George, BC V2L 2K8

Main Contact: 250-563-1267

Rates: twin doubles \$89.00; family suite (2brdm. Foldout couch) \$129.00

Amenities: continental breakfast, indoor pool

E-mail: gm@citycentrepge.com

Distance from main Conference Site: 450 m

Carmel Inn

1502 Hwy 97 South, Prince George, BC V2L 5L9

Main Contact: 1-800-665-4484 or 250-564-6339

Rates: two doubles \$89.00 or queen \$75.00

Rates Available Until: based on availability

Reservation Code: 2015 AYC

Amenities: free Wi-Fi, restaurant, 32'tv, close to mall

E-mail: frontdesk@carmelinnc.ca

Website: www.carmelinnc.ca

Distance from main Conference Site: 3.4 km

Ramada Prince George

Main Contact: 1-250-563-0055 or 1-800-830-8833

Rates: Premiere 2 queen beds \$109; Premiere 1 king bed \$109

Rates Available Until: January 16, 2015

Reservation Code: CGAA01

Amenities: Pool, Fitness Centre, Starbucks, Business Centre, Valet

E-mail: reservations@ramadaprincegeorge.com

Website: www.ramadaprincegeorge.com

Distance from main Conference Site: 500 m

Sandman Hotels & Suites Prince George

1650 Central Street, Prince George, BC V2M 3C2

Main Contact: 1-800-726-3626 or 250-563-8131

Rates: 2 double, 1 double, 1 queen \$109.00; 2 double with kitchen \$119.00; studio kitchen \$129.00; 1 king \$149.00

Rates Available Until: February 2, 2015

Reservation Code: #313107

Amenities: Wi-Fi, business centre, pool, close to restaurants

E-mail: sales_pg@sandman.ca or res_princegeorge@sandman.ca

Website: www.sandmanhotels.ca/hotels/prince-george

Distance from main Conference Site: 2.4 km

Grama's Inn

901 Central Street, Prince George, BC V2M 3C8

Main Contact: 1-877-563-7174 or 250-563-7174

Rates: 2 queens \$83.00

Rates Available Until: based on availability

Reservation Code: 2015AYC

Amenities: coffee shop, onsite coin laundry, free Wi-Fi, walking distance to restaurants, shopping and recreational facilities

E-mail: info@gramasinn.com

Website: www.gramasinn.com

Distance from main Conference Site: 3 km



CONFERENCE VENUE ACCOMMODATIONS

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

The Civic Centre is the main venue for the conference.

Bon Voyage Motor Inn

4222 Highway 16 West, Prince George, BC V2N 5N7

Main Contact: 1-88-611-3872 or 250-964-2333

Rates: standard or two double \$75.00 or standard queen or King with Kitchenette \$75.00

Rates Available Until: based on availability

Reservation Code: 2015 Aboriginal Youth Conference

Amenities: quite location, family restaurant, laundry mat, free Wi-Fi, city bus out front, close to UNBC

E-mail: frontdesk@bonvoyageinn.ca

Website: www.bonvoyageinn.ca

Distance from main Conference Site: 8.8 km

Camelot Court Motel

1600 Central Street, Prince George, BC, V2M 3C2

Main Contact: 1-800-668-3361 OR 250-563-0661

Rates: 1 bed \$75.00 for 1 person, \$80.00 for 2 person; 2 beds starting at \$85.00; suite starting at \$105.00

Rates Available Until: based on availability

Reservation Code: none provided

Amenities: free Wi-Fi, restaurant on-site, saltwater pool and hottub

E-mail: camelotcourt@pgweb.com

Website: www.camelotcourtmotel.com

Distance from main Conference Site: 2.3 km

Esther's Inn

1151 Commercial Crst. Prince George, BC, V2M 6W6

Main Contact: 1-800-663-6844, or 250-562-4131

Rates: 1 queen room \$104.00, 2 Queen room \$114.00, 1 king room, \$114.00, Kitchen suite, \$144.00

Reservation Code: Gathering our Voices

Amenities: mini fridge, pool

E-mail: info@estersinn.com

Website: esthersinn.com

Distance from main Conference Site: 3 km

Treasure Cove Hotel

2005 Highway 97 South, Prince George, BC V2N 7A3

Main Contact: 1- 250-614-9111

Rates: deluxe 2 queen \$129.00

Rates Available Until: March 2, 2015

Reservation Code: Gathering our Voices

Amenities: mini fridges, Ipod docking, pool, waterslide, hot tub, fitness centre

Website: treasurecovehotel.net

Distance from main Conference Site: 2.9 km



TRAVEL INFORMATION

Check out this quick list of various transportation options to help you plan your trip to Gathering Our Voices.

Drive BC Road Report: 1-800-550-4997

Website: www.drivebc.ca

Tourism Prince George: 1-250-562-3700

Website: www.tourismpg.com

AIR SERVICE

Prince George Airport (YXS)

4141 Airport Rd-10, Prince George, BC V2N4M6

Tel: 250-963-2400

The Prince George Airport, about 15 minutes from downtown Prince George is serviced by Air Canada Jazz from Vancouver with nine flights daily. Central Mountain Air and Northernbird Air have flights from the interior. West Jet flies out of Vancouver.

Air Canada Jazz: 1-888-247-2262

Website: www.aircanada.com

West Jet: 1-888-937-8538

Website: www.westjet.com

Central Mountain Air: 1-888-865-8585

Website: www.flycma.com

Northern Thunderbird Air Inc.: 1-800-963-9611

Website: www.ntair.ca

Guardian Aerospace: 1-866-567-9889

Website: www.guardianaerospace.net

LAND

Greyhound Bus Lines

Phone: 1-800-661-8747

Website: www.greyhound.ca

Car Rental outlets are conveniently located at the Prince George Airport. For those who would prefer, there are plenty of shuttles, taxis and limousine services listed below too.

RENTAL CARS

Budget Rent A Car: 1-800-268-8900

Website: www.budget.com

National Rentals: 1-800-227-7368

Website: www.nationalcar.com

Hertz: 1-800-654-3131

Website: www.hertz.ca

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Airport Shuttle Service: 250-563-2220

Paxton Shuttle Service: 250-563-3850

TAXIS & CAR SERVICE

PG Taxi: 250-564-4444

Emerald Taxi: 250-563-3333

LIMOUSINE SERVICE

Sweet Dreams: 250-613-5607

Website: www.sweetdreamslimousine.com

Royal Rose Limousines: 250-563-5590

Website : www.paxtonshuttle.ca

PARKING

Civic Centre: Hourly/daily metered parking is available at the lot on 6th Avenue and Quebec Street (directly behind the Days Inn) as well as at other lots within a 2 block radius of the Prince George Civic Centre. On-street parking and the Civic Facilities parking lot (next to the Prince George Civic Centre) has a 2 hour maximum time limit from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, 7 days a week.

For a map of parking lots within close proximity to the Prince George Civic Centre, click here:

<http://princegeorgeciviccentre.ca/planning/Documents/Parking%20Info%202014.pdf>



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 17-20, 2015 in Prince George, BC at the Prince George Civic Centre and other venues.

Up to 1000 youth (14-24 years), as well as chaperones, 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. The conference will also feature an Aboriginal social enterprise competition.

Rules and Respect:

Please see the full conference code of conduct on page two. 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.

Prince George is one of BC's largest cities 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 and look at the code of conduct with them before arriving at the conference. Please let your youth know what to expect at the conference, including details around daily events and conference curfew

Thank you for your time and consideration and let's make the 13th annual Gathering Our Voices Aboriginal Youth Conference run smoothly and go off without a hitch!

Please Contact me if you require any further details

Kathryn Lacerte, Interim Conference Coordinator
BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres

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

Visit our website often for updates.

<http://gatheringourvoices.bcaafc.com>

This Registration Package contains valuable contact information.

We recommend you bring it with you when you come to Prince George.



HONOUR AN ABORIGINAL YOUTH CHAMPION

The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres will recognize Aboriginal Youth Champions. If you know an Aboriginal youth (ages 14-24) who has made an outstanding commitment or achievement please nominate them to receive an Aboriginal Youth Champion award at the 2015 Gathering Our Voices Aboriginal Youth Conference.

For access to the full information package, and registration forms, please visit:

<http://gatheringourvoices.bcaafc.com>

YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE

- Youth must apply by March 6th and you will be called to confirm your performance in the showcase.
- Youth are required to attend the Showcase Rehearsal.
- 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. Please contact us for further questions regarding equipment.
- The Youth Showcase will be held Wednesday March 18, 2015.
- To download the application visit the conference website:
<https://gatheringourvoices.bcaafc.com/documents/talent.pdf>

Deadline for youth showcase application is **March 6, 2015**

Successful performers will be notified by March 11, 2015

