**The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres** is the umbrella association for 25 Friendship Centres in the Province of British Columbia. The Friendship Centre Movement is built on community support, trust, strong leadership, tradition and faith, and is mandated to improve the quality of life for Indigenous Peoples.

**REGISTRATION PACKAGE**

**REGISTRATION**  
To register for Gathering Our Voices please complete the online registration form at: <https://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 electronic registration process.

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

**IMPORTANT**  
1. This year’s conference is on a first come first serve basis due to limited space availability. 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.

2. 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.

3. For every five youth registered (aged 14-17 years) there must be one chaperone.

4. All chaperones must register for the conference, and must be 21 years of age or older.

5. Workshop registration will begin online in early February 2017.

**PAYMENT OPTIONS**  
**PAYPAL**When registering online have credit card information ready to process PayPal payment.

**CHEQUE or MONEY ORDER**Payable to: BCAAFC  
Mail to: BC Association of Aboriginal   
Friendship Centres  
551 Chatham Street  
Victoria, BC V8T 1E1

**VISA or MASTERCARD**Please call Hannah, Registration Coordinator 250.388-5522 ext. 222

**MORE INFORMATION**Della Preston, Lead Conference Coordinator  
BC Association of Aboriginal   
Friendship Centres  
[govcoordinator@bcaafc.com](mailto:govcoordinator@bcaafc.com)  
Phone: 250-388-5522 ext.210  
Toll Free: 1-800-990-2432 ext.210

**PAYMENT**  
**$150** Early Registration Fee   
Deadline November 30, 2016  
**$200** Regular Registration Fee Deadline January 31, 2017

**\*Group Incentive – For every group of 5 registered, the 6th is FREE! \***

**ACCOMMODATIONS**  
This year the conference is being held at the Delta Grand Okanagan Resort and Conference Centre and other venues around Kelowna. 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.

**MEALS**  
Delegates will be provided with the following meals:  
**Tuesday, March 21st**: Dinner  
**Wednesday, March 22nd**: Breakfast and Lunch  
**Thursday, March 23rd**: Breakfast and Lunch

**WORKSHOP REGISTRATION**  
Workshop descriptions and registration will be   
available early February 2017: <http://gatheringourvoices.bcaafc.com>

**CONFERENCE CODE OF CONDUCT**  
In completing your registration form, it is duly accepted that you have read and understand the Conference Code of Conduct and will be expected to honour this code at the conference.

**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 Indigenous Peoples.

**MATTER OF RESPECT**You are a guest and you greatly contribute to your own and other delegates experience of 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 11:30pm. 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 14-17 years  
**EVERY CHAPERONE MUST:**1. Be 21 years of age or older.  
2. Responsible for the safety, welfare, and conduct of their youth at all times.  
3. Be a positive role model and set positive examples to all youth.  
5. 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**1. 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 Indigenous traditional medicines such as tobacco, sage, cedar, and sweet grass.   
2. Weapons brought into the conference sites and/or criminal activity of any kind will not be tolerated.  
3. Offenders of the Code of Conduct will have all privileges suspended, along with their group, and will be asked to leave the conference.

**DANCE RULES**

1. All youth and chaperones will be searched prior to their entry to the dance and will be required to check all bags, purses, sweaters, and jackets – no exceptions.

2. Doors will close promptly at **8:30pm and re-entry will not be permitted.**

3. Chaperones are required to attend with their youth under 18 years of age.

4. Youth without chaperones will not be admitted.

5. Chaperones must remain with their youth until the end of the dance or until the group decides to leave.

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

**CONFERENCE AGENDA AT A GLANCE**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Tuesday, March 21, 2017** | | | | **Delta Grand Okanagan Resort and Conference Centre** | | |
| **10:00am** | **-** | **4:00pm** | Conference Registration | | | Delta |
| **5:00pm** | **-** | **6:00pm** | Doors Open | | | Delta |
| **6:00pm** | **-** | **7:30pm** | Opening Ceremonies | | | Delta |
| **7:30pm** | **-** | **8:30pm** | Reception | | | Delta |
| **Wednesday, March 22, 2017** | | | | | | |
| **7:00am** | **-** | **8:30am** | Breakfast Provided | | | Delta |
| **9:00am** | **-** | **5:00pm** | Career and Education Fair Open | | | Delta |
| **9:00am** | **-** | **12:30pm** | Workshops – Session 1 (3h) | **OR** | Workshops – Session 2 (9:00 am - 10:30 am) | Various |
|  |  |  | (9:00 am – 12:00 pm) |  | Workshops – Session 3 (11:00 am - 12:30 pm) | Locations |
| **12:00pm** | **-** | **1:30pm** | Lunch Provided | | | Delta |
| **1:30pm** | **-** | **5:00pm** | Workshops – Session 4 (3h) | **OR** | Workshops – Session 5 (1:30 pm - 3:00 pm) | Various |
|  |  |  | (1:30 pm – 4:30 pm) |  | Workshops – Session 6 (3:30 pm - 5:00 pm) | Locations |
| **4:30pm** | **-** | **8:00pm** | Dinner – Delegates on their own | | |  |
| **8:00pm** | **-** | **10:30pm** | Youth Talent Showcase - *doors open at 7:00 pm* | | | Delta |
| **Thursday, March 23, 2017** | | | | | | |
| **7:00am** | **-** | **8:30am** | Breakfast Provided | | | Delta |
| **9:00am** | **-** | **5:00pm** | Career and Education Fair Open | | | Delta |
| **9:00am** | **-** | **12:30pm** | Workshops - Session 7 (3h) | **OR** | Workshops – Session 8 (9:00 am - 10:30 am) | Various |
|  |  |  | (9:00 am – 12:00 pm) |  | Workshops – Session 9 (11:00 am - 12:30 pm) | Locations |
| **12:00pm** | **-** | **1:30pm** | Lunch Provided | |  | Delta |
| **1:30pm** | **-** | **5:00pm** | Workshops - Session 10 (3h) | **OR** | Workshops – Session 11 (1:30 pm - 3:00 pm) | Various |
|  |  |  | (1:30 pm – 4:30 pm) |  | Workshops – Session 12 (3:30 pm - 5:00 pm) | Locations |
| **4:30pm** | **-** | **8:00pm** | Dinner – Delegates on their own | | |  |
| **8:00pm** | **-** | **11:00pm** | Youth Dance Party *- doors open at 7:00 pm and Doors Close at 8:30 pm* | | | Delta |
| **7:45pm** | **-** | **8:30pm** | Live Performance | | | Delta |
| **Friday, March 24, 2017** | | | | | | |
|  |  |  | Breakfast – Delegates on their own | | |  |
| **9:00am** | **-** | **12:00pm** | Cultural Morning and Closing Plenary | | | Delta |

**KELOWNA HOTEL AND MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**The following is a list of some hotels in the city of Kelowna. 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, be sure to quote if one is listed below. For a list of other accommodation options in Kelowna. More information and city maps available at: <http://www.tourismvictoria.com/>

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| --- | --- |
| **DELTA GRAND OKANAGAN RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTRE** 1310 Water Street 250.763.4500 1-888-236-2427 <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ylwok-delta-grand-okanagan-resort/> | Rates: $160 Rate Available Until: February 21, 2017 Reservation Code: Gathering Our Voices Amenities: WiFi, Pet friendly, fitness center, pool Distance from main venue: Onsite \*Children under 17 are free |
| **ROYAL ANNE HOTEL** 348 Bernard Avenue 250.763.2277  1-888-811-400 <http://royalannehotel.com/> | Rates: $159 Rate Available Until: February 1, 2017 Reservation Code: Gathering Our Voices Amenities: WiFi, parking, breakfast, pet friendly Distance from main venue: 750m \*Approximately 10min walk |
| **COAST CAPRI HOTEL** 1171 Harvey Ave250.860-6060 | Rates: $105-$120 Rate Available Until: February 18, 2017 Reservation Code: Gathering Our Voices Amenities: WiFi, parking  Distance from main venue: 3km \*Approximately 6min drive |
| **ROYAL ANNE HOTEL** 348 Bernard Avenue 250.763.2277  1-888-811-400 <http://royalannehotel.com/> | Rates: $159 Rate Available Until: February 1, 2017 Reservation Code: Gathering Our Voices Amenities: WiFi, parking, breakfast, pet friendly Distance from main venue: 750m \*Approximately 10min walk |
|  |  |

**KELOWNA HOTEL AND MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**The following is a list of some hotels in the city of Kelowna. 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 in Kelowna and more information and city maps visit: <http://www.tourismvictoria.com/>

**\*NOTICE: The city of Kelowna will be very busy during March break. Book early to avoid disappointment.**

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| **DELTA GRAND OKANAGAN RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTRE** 1310 Water Street 250-763-4500 / 1-888-236-2427 [http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ ylwok-delta-grand-okanagan-resort/](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ylwok-delta-grand-okanagan-resort/) | Rates: $160 Rate Available Until: February 21, 2017 Reservation Code: Gathering Our Voices Amenities: WiFi, Pet friendly, fitness center, pool Distance from main venue: Onsite \*Children under 17 are free |
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| **COAST CAPRI HOTEL** 1171 Harvey Ave250-860-6060 | Rates: $105 - $120 Rate Available Until: February 18, 2017 Reservation Code: Gathering Our Voices Amenities: WiFi, parking  Distance from main venue: 3km \*Approximately 6min drive |
| **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS**  2429 Hwy 97 N  250-763-0500 | Rates: $119 - $129 Rates Available until: February 3, 2017 Reservation Code: [Gathering Our Voices Youth Conference](https://www.hiexpress.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=ex&localeCode=en&regionCode=1&hotelCode=ylwex&_PMID=99801505&GPC=gov)  Amenities: Free Breakfast, WiFi, Parking  Distance from Main Venue: 6.4km \*Approximately 13min drive\* |

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| **FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON AIRPORT**  5505 Airport Way  1-855-900-5505 | Rates: $109 - $129 Rates Available until: February 20, 2017 Reservation Code: BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres- Gathering Our Voices 2017 Amenities: WiFi, parking Distance from the Main Venue: 15km \*Approximately 20min drive\* |
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| **BEST WESTERN PLUS** 2402 Hwy 97 N  250-860-1212 <http://www.bestwesternkelownahotel.com> | Rates: $125 - $155 Rates Available until: February 24, 2017 Reservation Code: Gathering Our Voices Amenities: Parking, WiFi, Breakfast Distance from Main Venue: 6.9km \*Approximately 15min drive\* |
| **FAIRFIELD INN AND SUITES**  1655 Powick Rd  250-763-2800 | Rates: $123 Rates Available until: February 19, 2017 Reservation Code: BC Association of Aboriginal  Friendship Centres Amenities: WiFi, Free Breakfast, Pet Friendly Distance from Main Venue: 6.6km \*Approximately 14min drive\*  \*Children under 18 are Free |
| **SANDMAN** 2130 Harvey Ave  250-860-6409<http://www.sandmanhotels.ca/hotels/kelowna> | Rates: $83-$129 Rates Available until: February 1, 2017 Reservation Code: 492007 Amenities: free parking, internet Distance from Main Venue: 5.2km \*Approximately 11min drive |