



BC Association of Aboriginal
Friendship Centres

BCA AFC

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Volunteers needed at Canada's largest Indigenous Youth Conference

KAMLOOPS, B.C. – The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCA AFC) is seeking more than 200 volunteers to assist with their annual Gathering Our Voices (GOV) Indigenous youth leadership conference in Kamloops.

The conference, which is held in a different city each year, will be primarily located at Thompson Rivers University from March 18 to 21, with some additional spaces being used across Kamloops. More than 1,000 Indigenous youth ages 14 to 24 will be in attendance, many of whom are in care or have a disability. While BCA AFC partially subsidizes the event, the youth delegates spend weeks fundraising for their tickets, travel, and accommodation costs, and sell out the event every year.

“Part of what makes GOV so special is our volunteers,” said Richelle Williams, GOV Event Manager. “We have volunteers that the youth look forward to seeing each year because of the joy and kindness they bring.”

Volunteer roles include ushering, helping with set-up/take-down, and handing out swag. Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age, willing and able to commit to two shifts, and able to submit a clean criminal record check. Corporate volunteer and sponsorship opportunities are also available for organizations who want to put their commitment to reconciliation into action.

“It is really powerful to have corporations show up for these youth,” said Williams. “When people represent their companies at GOV, they are demonstrating that their organization cares about social issues and the cultural safety and wellbeing of Indigenous youth.”

The deadline to apply to volunteer is January 31, 2025.

For more information, to donate, or to volunteer visit: <https://gatheringourvoices.ca>
To create a customized volunteer plan for your organization, email volunteers@bcaafc.com

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