

BC Friendship Centres

BC Friendship Centres work collaboratively to support urban Indigenous people as they realize their vision of health, wellness, and prosperity.

Indigenous Doula Training *Seeking Applicants*

In an effort to make traditional and cultural birth supports more accessible to Indigenous families across BC, the BCAAFC is offering an **Indigenous doula training** on **March 10-13, 2020 in Vancouver** - and we are seeking your support finding interested candidates!

We are seeking **Indigenous applicants** who are passionate about supporting the health of Indigenous women and babies and are interested in completing doula training facilitated by the [ekw'i7tl collective](#). By completing this training, individuals will be trained as a doula and will be able to support families through the [Doulas for Aboriginal Families Grant Program](#) (DAFGP) and access the new [DAFGP travel grant](#).

The **cost of training is covered by the BCAAFC**, including travel and accommodations. Limited spots are available on a first come first serve basis.

If interested, please contact:

Kassandra Woods, Director of Health Policy, at kwoods@bcaafc.com.



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Thank you for reading the February newsletter!

Mark Your Calendars | 2020

- Feb. 6, Members Reporting Questions Conference Call
- Mar. 31-Apr. 2, FitNation Leader Training, Vancouver
- Mar. 10-Mar. 13, Indigenous Doula Training, Vancouver

Mental Health & Wellness Engagement Sessions

- Feb. 3, Port Alberni Friendship Center
- Feb. 5, Prince George Native Friendship Centre Society
- Feb. 6, Wachiay Friendship Centre Society
- Feb. 7, Victoria Native Friendship Centre
- Feb. 12, Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society

The BC Indigenous Youth 3C Challenge

- Feb. 7-9, Kamloops & Penticton
- Feb. 14-16, Chilliwack
- Feb. 21-23, Merritt

Gathering Our Voices

- Feb. 12, Workshop Registration



In the News

[Urban voice needed in talks on UN Indigenous rights, says leader](#) (CBC News, February 2, 2020)

[Opinion: I used to believe safe drug sites were bad, but I was wrong](#) (Calgary Herald, January 27, 2020)

[New APTN documentary explores emergence, legacy of Idle No More movement](#) (APTN National News, January 24, 2020)

[Many BC Families Missing Out on Free Money for Kids' Education](#) (The Tyee, January 23, 2020)

Opportunities for Youth

BladeRunners Training | Victoria

BladeRunners will be doing two free training sessions for youth ages 17 to 30 on **February 10-21 & March 9-20!**

Participants will receive training in –

- Emergency First Aid
- WHMIS
- Back & Ladder Safety
- Fall Protection
- Forklift Training
- Resume and Cover Letter Development

Plus a \$400 completion bonus!

Email gforsberg@gmail.com to set up an interview!

Honour an Indigenous Youth Award | Nominations

The Provincial Aboriginal Youth Council (PAYC) is seeking nominations for this year's Honour an Indigenous Youth (HIY) Award which will be presented at Gathering Our Voices 2020, held on Secwépemc territory in Kamloops.

If you know an Indigenous youth who has made an outstanding commitment or achievement in their community, please nominate them to receive an HIY Award.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Please submit to govassistant@bcaafc.com by **March 3, 2020**

TO APPLY: Full list of criteria, requirements & application: gatheringourvoices.ca/youth-awards/



Education

BC Training & Education Savings Grant (BCTESG)

The BC Government will contribute \$1,200 to a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) for children between the ages of six and nine.

The child's RESP account must be registered with a BCTESG partner – there are 56 partners, including most major banks and financial institutions: [full list here](#).

Parents or guardians can contact a bank or financial institution to fill in a straightforward application. Parents may shop around to find a RESP provider that does not require any contributions to open the RESP. If the child has already been named to a RESP, parents should make sure the RESP provider offers the grant. If not, parents may open another RESP at a participating provider in order to receive the grant.

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/scholarships/bc-training-and-education-savings-grant>

Aboriginal Health and Community Administration | UBC Certificate Program

The award-winning UBC Certificate in Aboriginal Health and Community Administration Program (AHCAP) helps Indigenous communities increase their capacity to deliver services, coordinate programs and promote the health of their people.

NEXT PROGRAM START DATE: April 2, 2020

TO APPLY: [UBC Extended Learning](#)



Reports

Expanding our Vision: Cultural Equality & Indigenous Peoples Human Rights

BC Human Rights Tribunal (BCHRT)

BCHRT reviews complaints about human rights violations in BC under the Human Rights Code. The *Expanding our Vision* report was drafted in response to the Tribunal realizing that Indigenous People were not filing human rights complaints.

The report was completed after more than 100 Indigenous persons shared their experiences by completing a survey detailing the extensive levels of discrimination that they have experienced. BCHRT has begun to recognize their shortcomings and has frankly detailed them in this report; we believe that we should all be more aware of the work that BCHRT is doing so Indigenous People are better represented and heard.

It should be noted that survey respondents have been quoted throughout this report, and many of those references could bring out strong emotions from the reader.

READ THE REPORT:

<http://www.bchrt.bc.ca/shareddocs/indigenous/expanding-our-vision.pdf>

Global Gender Gap Report 2020

World Economic Forum

Gender parity matters as it has a fundamental bearing on whether or not economies and societies thrive. The *Global Gender Gap Report* reveals that we are still 99.5 years away from attaining gender parity.

Canada is currently listed 19th in the world on gender parity. The report details the short comings and also the gains across the globe, and what different countries and regions are doing. As well as what is being done and the efforts currently underway to close those gaps.

We hope you find this information interesting and useful in advocating for Indigenous women and girls in the workplace and beyond.

READ THE REPORT:

https://bcaafc.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/WEF_GGGR_2020.pdf

I-SPARC FitNation Leader Training Forum

March 31 – April 2, 2020

Musqueam Community Centre (Vancouver, BC)

If you have a passion for keeping your community moving, you are eligible to apply for FitNation Leader training!

The FitNation program is in high-demand for communities, designed for community champions looking to enhance their peoples' well-being with a fun and safe physical activity program designed for Anyone, Anytime, Anywhere.

Opportunities associated with becoming a FitNation Leader

- \$500 in grant support to run a required FitNation program;
- Opportunities to lead FitNation sessions at conferences, health fairs and other special events; and
- Continued training and education opportunities (i.e. BCRPA continuing education credits, fitness and health related webinars, mentorship opportunities, FitNation 2.0)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Feb. 14, 2020

TO APPLY*: [FitNation Leader Application Form](#)

*If you already have an account, please login with your username and password.

If you DO NOT have one, please create a new account, and click on New FitNation Leader Application!



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Friendship Centres

Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society | Youth's film *Little Hawk* chosen to appear in public screening of selected works at Future Forward, Portland International Film Festival.

WATCH *Little Hawk*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hv3XCLRsoM&feature=youtu.be>

"What we've learnt, it's not meant for us to keep it to ourselves - it's like keeping seeds and not planting them." Darryl Frederick Webster, a Nlaka'pamux Elder, seeds wisdom in this moving portrait.

Made during Reel Youth's visit to Nlaka'pamux territory, local Indigenous youth filmmakers spent time on the land with their Elders, recording their stories, wisdom, and knowledge.

The videos will contribute to the ongoing deepening of connections between generations and with the land, which have been impacted through the history of colonization and attempted cultural genocide in Canada."



A big congratulations to the youth and staff at KAFS for their amazing work!

We are looking forward to co-hosting Gathering Our Voices 2020 with KAFS this upcoming March. Youth interested in film will have the opportunity to participate in the first-ever GOV Music Video – the full list of GOV workshops will be posted this week and linked in the next GOV Newsletter!

Email communications@bcaafc.com if you have information to share in our next newsletter! Thank you for your support.

Congratulations to Andrew Tom on his second term as President of the Dze L'Kant Executive Board!

"With over 15 years of frontline, relevant experience in the social sector, and as a member of the Wet'suwet'en Nation, inspirational First Nations leader Andrew Tom became a member of the Dze L'Kant Friendship Centre's Executive Board in 2002 and is presently serving his second term as President.

Through extensive years of ongoing education, Andrew's incredible competency and sound, extremely qualified knowledge of Indigenous culture and traditions are equivalent to his sincere passion and drive for his contributions to the social sector: developing and growing new programs, social and economic developments, and bringing resources to both Indigenous people and the community which he serves. Andrew puts PEOPLE, first!

Andrew has earned several certifications from The Justice Institute of British Columbia, the Crisis Prevention Institute, and symposiums hosted by ICPS.

Generous with his time and wisdom, Andrew also sits on other regional non-profit agency boards: Wilp Si'satxw House of Purification Society (President); Native Courtworker & Counselling Association (Secretary-Treasurer); Office of the Wet'suwet'en Society (Director)."

We are honoured to work collaboratively alongside inspirational leaders in the Friendship Centre Movement.

Thank you for the knowledge, experience, and passion you bring to your work to lift up those around you!

Job Listings

Visit bcaafc.com/careers/ for updates

- [Indigenous Youth Urgent Needs Coordinator](#) – FRAFCA
- [Indigenous Youth Outreach Worker](#) – FRAFCA
- [Executive Director](#) – Conayt Friendship Centre
- [Kitchen Coordinator](#) – Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society
- [Project Coordinator, Schools Physical Activity & Physical Literacy](#) – I-SPARC



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