



BC Association of Aboriginal
Friendship Centres

BCAAFC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 12, 2026

BCAAFC's Statement on the Tragic Incident in Tumbler Ridge

VICTORIA, B.C. - The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCAAFC) extends our deepest condolences to the families, loved ones, and community members affected by the tragic violence in Tumbler Ridge. We hold the community in our thoughts during this incredibly difficult time.

Violence of this nature has profound and lasting effects. It impacts not only those directly affected, but entire communities, particularly in small and rural regions where connections run deep. In moments like this, access to timely, culturally safe mental health care, trauma-informed supports, and community-based healing resources is essential.

Friendship Centres exist to provide culturally rooted support, connection, and care. We encourage anyone who needs support to reach out to their local Friendship Centre, Elders, cultural supports, or trusted community members. No one should have to navigate grief, fear, or uncertainty alone.

As we move forward, BCAAFC remains committed to advocating for prevention-focused systems, accessible mental health services, and community-led wellness initiatives that strengthen resilience and safety across our province. Healing takes time, but through collective care, accountability, and sustained investment in community well-being, stronger and safer communities are possible.

We stand in solidarity with the people of Tumbler Ridge and send our strength and solidarity to everyone affected.

Supports and Resources

This content can be triggering and harmful. Please reach out to the following resources if you are in need:

BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres
551 Chatham St | Victoria, BC | V8T 1E1 | www.bcaafc.com
(Office) 250-388-5522 or 1-800-990-2432 | (Fax) 250-388-5502



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- KUU-US Crisis Line Society (BC): Provides 24-hour crisis services for Indigenous people in B.C. Youth Line: 250-723-2040. Toll-Free: 1-800-588-8717.
- Talk4Healing: A culturally safe phone line for Indigenous women, offering services in 14 languages.
- The Indian Residential School Crisis Line: Provides 24-hour crisis support to former Indian Residential School students and their families toll-free at 1-866 925-4419.
- Hope For Wellness Helpline: Professional counsellors who can offer 24-hour culturally appropriate support in English, French, Cree, Ojibway, and Inuktitut. Available through online chat or phone: 1-855-242-3310 or hopeforwellness.ca.
- Tsow-Tun Le Lum Society: Call their toll-free crisis line at 1-888-403-3123 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on weekdays and between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on weekends and holidays.
- Suicide Crisis Helpline: Call or text 9-8-8 (toll-free) to access 24-hour trauma informed and culturally appropriate suicide prevention crisis support.

Contact

communications@bcaafc.com

250-388-5522

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