

Alberta Native Friendship Centre Association

December quarterly

National Youth Representative: Report

Tansi/Hello/Bonjour,

November 19 & 20, 2010 the AYC came together for the first face to face meetings with our newly elected leadership. The meeting was productive and really appreciate the dynamics of the new council members in particular the AYC leadership. The AYC President has demonstrated transparency, leadership, and is transitioning seamlessly into her new role to FC youth. I am confident the AYC will continue to move forward on several visible fronts Nation wide.

UN's Day of Peace: Kody Taylor and Andrea Landry were asked to attend the Circle of Peace event held in New York, New York on September 17, 2010. This year marked the end of the decade of peace and non-violence towards the children of UNESCO and the UN had thus organized a world event on September 17. Kody and Andrea were sent on behalf of Aboriginal Youth from Canada; Andrea was given the opportunity to lead the "Chant of World Peace" in front of all the UN participants.

Aboriginal Economic Development Youth Round Table: Chelsea Legge attended an Aboriginal Economic Development Youth Round Table discussions in Osooyoos, BC on October 29, 2010. There were four group discussions surrounding Aboriginal Economic Development.

Pearson Canada/Native Studies: A request from Terri Rothman was received requesting a picture from the Youth Council. Terri Rothman is coordinating picture research and permission for a grade 11 Native Studing textbook to be published by Pearson Canada. In a chapter about "Roles in Family and Community" they would like to include a photo that represents the NAFC from a youth perspective.

Tobacco Cessation Policy Dialogue: The AYC was invited to attend the NAFC Tobacco Cessation policy to dialogue on November 16, 2010. The dialogue session was held to bring together stakeholders and Aboriginal Youth to discuss domestic and international policies on tobacco cessation/prevention and tobacco contorl and their impact on Aboriginal peoples in Canada. Chelsea Legge attended on behalf of the AYC along with Rikkie Wylie, BCAAFC-PAYC executive.

Swearing in Ceremony: The AYC drafted a swearing in ceremony for new AYC members with the guidance of the Senate. This swearing in ceremony was used for new members at the face to face meeting held these last few days. The swearing in ceremony worked great with minor revisions that need to be made to wording, which will definitely be brought forward to the senate for their guidance.

Photo Op: The AYC had the opporunity to participate in a photo op for an Aboriginal Youth Poster. NAFC is working with Elections Canada on an Aboriginal Youth Poster Project.

Youth Engagement: This continues to be a main topic of discussion and is something the AYC works towards. The AYC has been working on a youth engagement package that will be sent to all local and provincial council. This package will consist of three components:

1. A letter from the AYC stating the purpose of the package and how it can be used
2. A list of benefits of Youth Engagement for the Friendship Centre Movement as a whole, benefits for Youth as individuals, and benefits for individual Friendship Centres and their Youth Councils.
3. A document on how to implement change within our organization at difference levels through resolution, motions and constitutional amendments.

Committee Updates/Actions:

Policies & Procedures committee:

1. Discuss the process of being consistent with our policies and procedures regarding attendance and removal from AYC in a professional and respectable manner.
2. Draft a standardized letter to send to AYC members who miss 2 regular meetings without prior notice to the secretary.
3. To effectively track attendance of the AYC at our conference calls and meetings with the following headings in our minutes: attendance, not in attendance (for those who did not give prior notice) and regrets (for those who gave notice)

Communication committee:

1. To get the regional representatives to compile a list of local youth councils within their regions with contact information for each Youth Council.

Programs committee:

1. Will be developing a proposal for the youth recognition award with NAFC staff
2. Develop a "benefits of youth engagement" essay to present to the AYC.

Friendship Centre Awareness: The Youth Council discussed the idea of creating Friendship Centre Awareness within the Local levels. It was discussed that the Youth Council could help provide ideas to the local level of cost effective activities that can help them create awareness. The idea came out of a discussion of creating a National Friendship Centre Awareness Day that could be celebrated across the county with all Friendship Centres in participation. We discussed how a Youth Council could provide information on how to work towards a goal such as that and create awareness locally. The regional reps will be compiling ideas of cost effective ideas within their regions which will be compiled

In friendship

Jamie Linington