



Terms of Reference

Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council
Developed: December 5, 2003

Approved: _____

- Mandate**
- to provide a youth voice and advice to the Board on the affairs of the Association that affect the youth members of local Friendship Centres;
 - to help the Association represent and advocate at the provincial level for youth and the issues faced by youth members of local Friendship Centres.
 - to encourage growth and leadership within the Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council through training and mentoring.
 - to foster a two-way working relationship with the ANFCA Board and Friendship Centre members.
- Authority**
- Under the ANFCA bylaws, the Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council has the power
- (a) to discuss, consider and provide guidance and advice on matters referred to the Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council by the Board, a committee of the Board or a Member Centre;
 - (b) to request the Board to act on any matter within the authority of the Board
 - (c) to share knowledge and information on youth issues, programs and services at their local Friendship Centre with the Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council so that individual youth may take that knowledge and information back to their local Friendship Centre
 - (d) to provide provincial information and direction to the National Youth Representative.
- Principles**
- With respect to the right of the Youth Council to define its role within the Association, the Youth Council should use these the principles when carrying out its purpose, powers and duties
- (a) the Youth Council shall address youth issues from a provincial perspective that treats all Member Centres of the Association equally;
 - (b) the ANFCA Board acts as the final decision makers. The AAYC must respect decisions and explanations of the Board. The Board must respect the youth's voice and advice by seeking it out and giving it serious discussion and consideration before making a decision
 - (c) the Youth Council will provide insight and advice on issues related to the Friendship Centre movement.

Membership

The Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council is composed of

- (a) one youth voting delegate (aged 14 - 29) appointed or elected by each Member Centre for a two year term
- (b) observers are defined as members of Friendship Centres, individuals or invited by the AAYC. A maximum of two observers from each member Friendship Centre can attend each AAYC meeting. Observers are not restricted by age.
- (c) the National Youth Representative will be considered separate from his or her Friendship Centre and will have observer status.

Duties and Responsibilities

- (a) Provide a report of recommendations and activities to the Board of Directors at each Board Meeting
- (b) ANFCA staff technician, in consultation with the AAYC Chair, to prepare Agenda and any resources based on the minutes of the previous meeting;
- (e) Annual review of Committee Terms of Reference.

Meeting Procedures

- (a) A Prayer and a Smudge with the Elders before the meetings have begun.
- (b) The Council shall meet 4 times annually in conjunction with the ANFCA Board of Directors;
- (c) Any meeting not scheduled must be called by the AAYC Chair, giving all members ten days notice
- (d) It is recommended that if a Friendship Centre is not represented at two consecutive meetings the AAYC chair will contact the Friendship Centre in question;
- (e) Quorum for the Council shall be youth representatives from 50% + 1 of ANFCA members
- (f) Decisions and recommendations are to be made by motion.
- (g) Meeting with the Elders for the last two hours of Friday meetings.

Board Representative

The Alberta Aboriginal Youth Council shall elect 1 youth to be the AAYC Chair. The AAYC Chair acts as the Board Representative and is responsible for providing a *verbal and written* report of the AAYC's activities, decisions and advice at each Board meeting and the Annual General Meeting.

Committee Structure

- (a) Chair
 - provides board report
- (b) Co-Chair
- (c) Secretary
 - minutes and communication