



E A U A C NEWS

Newsletter of the Edmonton Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee

"Toward an equal and positive partnership between the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal citizens of Edmonton."

Native Hockey Provincials

By Robb Campre

The Native Provincials are happening on April 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th, 2003 at various arenas around the city. As local minor hockey comes to a close for another successful season in Edmonton so too, does hockey in the Aboriginal community with the hosting of a tournament called the Native Provincials.

This is Edmonton's second consecutive year at hosting this tournament and the organizing committee expects it to be another huge success, just as it was the year before. Each year the tournament's organizing committee

looks at different cities to host the tournament but due to the number of teams participating in the tournament it has been split between the two largest Alberta cities, Edmonton and Calgary. The Native Provincials have been held in Edmonton for the past two years. Hockey teams come in from all over the province from as far away as our brothers and sisters to the south, the Blood Reserve, to our brothers and sisters to the north in Little River, Alberta.

The Native Provincials have been around since 1954. Today, there is a noticeable increase in participation by youth from a range of age categories in the sport of hockey. This year, 160

teams from pre-novice to midget levels are participating in the tournament representing numerous Aboriginal communities from all over Alberta.

Weekend passes are available at the door of these Hockey arenas, Castledowns as Hockey Central, Callingwood, Clareview, Grand Trunk and the Russ Barnes arenas. All final games are being played at Castledowns arena on Sunday, April 13, 2003. So come out and support our future N.H.L. stars! For more information on how to catch this exciting hockey action, please call Nancy at 1-780-524-5589. 🍁



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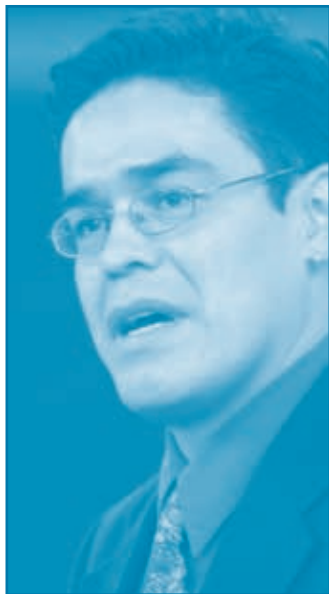
Message from the Chair

EAUAC is here today because of the hard work and dedication of individuals like Val Kaufman, the former Chair of EAUAC. Val has certainly brought EAUAC through some difficult and exciting times, and has allowed others, like myself, to build on the foundation she has left for us at EAUAC. Her dedication to the Aboriginal Community in Edmonton has yielded stronger relationships with many community partners. I look to Val as a role model of community-mindedness, professionalism, and leadership. While Val has stepped aside in her role at EAUAC, she will always be looked to for guidance and input as EAUAC moves on with its vision.

This year EAUAC 2003 has focused itself toward four strategic areas: Youth, Business and Employment, Aboriginal Awareness, and Administration and Policy. Each of these areas has been assigned to a sub-committee that will develop and implement objectives and outcomes for each area. Each sub-committee will work within their own capacity, with consultation and review of the larger committee, to achieve their aims.

The Youth Sub-Committee will focus on youth issues. This year they will work with youth to deliver a citywide youth conference, continue with the annual Youth Awards in June, and work toward the development of an "Aboriginal Youth Council of Edmonton."

The Business and Employment Sub-Committee will work toward creating and fostering discussions with



Lewis Cardinal

Aboriginal business leaders and city business leaders about Aboriginal employment and business opportunities and issues. It will also look into and have discussions about issues of employment equity issues within the City of Edmonton.

This year, Aboriginal Awareness has been recognized as a key strategy toward improving relations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Edmontonians. The

strategy is two-fold, one is to create Aboriginal programs or events to educate employees within the corporation and the other is to create a positive public education and image of Aboriginal people in Edmonton.

The Executive Sub-Committee will focus its energy on creating an administrative and policy infrastructure to better place and support EAUAC within the City. Our immediate goals are to look for and lobby for more administrative support, revamping the EAUAC media materials, work with the City in its development of the "Aboriginal Charter", and fortify reporting duties and processes to the Mayor and Council.

I am sure that what we have set out before us will be achieved. EAUAC 2003 is a collective of like-minded individuals who share the common vision of a strong and healthy community. It is an honour to be working with such fine individuals and I look forward to an exciting year. 🌟

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SEKWAN • SPRING 2003

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Current Committee Members:

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THE CITY OF
Edmonton COMMUNITY SERVICES

ELDER'S PATHWAY...

The Native Seniors' Centre and Outreach Project



The Native Seniors' Centre and Outreach Project are designed to assist Native seniors aged 55 and over to actively participate in pursuing a happier and healthier lifestyle. The Native Seniors' Outreach Worker is available to help with all types of problems and is often called upon to assist those confined to homes, etc. Some interpretation (Cree) is available. Seniors are encouraged to help each other. We are providing information with regard to services available to seniors through existing agencies and providing liaison to agencies and other Native organizations.

The Native Seniors' Centre is open five days each week (excluding statutory holidays), Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Activities include a weekly Soup and Bannock lunch followed by presentations on a variety of topics that are of interest to seniors interspersed with entertainment by traditional dancers, Metis dancers, musicians, etc., Fit for Life classes, Foot Care Clinic, crafts, cards, movies, pool playing, social activities, special events. We have a small library of books and videos and a large recreation area. We hold a Cree Mass on the first Friday of each month led by Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples. Everyone is welcome to come and drop in for a visit or take part in the activities. Newsletters and monthly schedules are mailed to all members. Come in, partake in refreshments, relax, renew old friendships and make new friends. We look forward to seeing you!

THE NATIVE SENIORS' CENTRE

Cottage E, 10107 - 134 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5E 1J2
Phone Number: (403) 476-6595
Fax Number: (403) 475-7957

The Objectives of the Centre are:

- To serve the needs of Native people in the City of Edmonton and surrounding area with regards to decent, affordable housing.
- To create an awareness of Native history and culture as it pertains to the City of Edmonton and surrounding area.
- To co-operate with and assist, whenever possible, other Native organizations in the City of Edmonton.
- To promote the welfare, health, education and other interest of Native people within the community, with a special focus on Native seniors.
- To establish a recreation and cultural facility for Native seniors. To promote active participation in recreational programs and in preserving arts, languages and cultural heritage as it pertains to the Native Seniors' Drop In Centre.

Urban Native Housing Registry

This project is designed to assist anyone requiring subsidized or non-subsidized rental housing. This is not an emergency service. We are involved in helping people find long term, decent, affordable housing of various types; apartments, suites, condos, townhouses, lodges, nursing homes, shared accommodations, room & board, house keeping rooms, etc. Assistance, if required, is also provided in negotiating with landlords and limited assistance with interpreting (Cree) when requested. Liaison with other agencies, Native organizations and various government departments is done on an on-going basis.

Donations: We depend on memberships, donations and volunteers for all programs.

Volunteers: Volunteers are always needed and very much appreciated. They are a vital part of our organization. Volunteers assist in crafts, card games, transportation, maintenance, clerical, communication, board and committees. If you can help, please drop in and register with the Volunteer Co-ordinator.

The Native Senior's Centre is registered under the Alberta Societies Act and is governed by a Board of Directors. The Native Senior's Centre is also a registered charitable organization through Revenue Canada, and can give taxable receipts to people or companies who donate (Charitable Registration No. 0869396-56). 🌟

Indigenous Peoples Leadership Conference

By Rosalie Cardinal

Over two hundred delegates registered for the first of its kind in Canada, the "Indigenous Peoples Leadership Conference" hosted by the Saddle Lake First Nation. It was held at the Shaw Conference Centre on January 27, 28 and 29, 2003. Aboriginal Leaders, community workers and students from local and National Aboriginal communities involved in the world of government and business attended. The focus of this conference was leadership and accountability and included highlights of some Aboriginal communities that are experiencing success with use of old and new ways of life. All this, according to Aboriginal tradition is to prepare for the coming generations.

The conference provided well-known speakers in the area of leadership and included names such as Jim Richardson who stated, "building and working towards credible partnerships; start with a vision and communicate that vision to the people with a plan to implement the vision". Tom Maracle says that there are two levels of leadership, first is the Chief Band Council and second is business. Accountability is an important measurement and a performance evaluation plan is a good measurement. David Irvine asks, "What is leadership to you? Leadership starts from the heart and in an understanding of your gifts to the world". Dr. Leona Makokis spoke about "the natural law and values, go back to the Elders for true teachings". Bernd Christmas, an Aboriginal member of Membertou in Sidney, Nova Scotia talked about their progressive Corporate First Nation's model. They have had great financial success with the business

approach to governance, management and economic development for their community. The Metis Nation's President, Audrey Poitras stated their Vision Statement that seeks to identify and prioritize both strengths and weaknesses, described the importance of creating goals and strategies and how evaluation is an integral part of the planning process; "Empowerment-community-planning-governance-

industry and community-setting priorities".

The Indigenous Peoples Leadership Conference offered wonderful learning and networking opportunities in the world of leadership and business for Aboriginal people. It also offered a chance to catch up with long time friends as well as opportunities to make new ones. 🌟

First Canadian Forum On Two Spirit Peoples, HIV/AIDS And Health "Two Spirits In Motion"

Close to 80 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, Two Spirit and non-Two Spirit peoples gathered for the first time ever in a national forum in Edmonton in early February to discuss issues and priorities related to Two Spirit peoples, HIV/AIDS and health.

"Two Spirit" is a transitional term defining gay, lesbian, transgender and bisexual people who are of Aboriginal descent. Although some nations throughout North America have names for various members of this population group in their own languages, there is no Modern English term that fits the bill. Two Spirit peoples have adopted the term to reflect the dual natures of our being that involves more than mere sexual orientation.

Some of the key challenges in communities continue to be homophobia, HIV/AIDS-phobia and a general lack of awareness of the historic place in our communities various members of the Two Spirit population have had. A national

working group has been established to guide the follow up work necessary to complete the development and begin the implementation of a national strategic action plan for the Two Spirit populations in Canada.

The Aboriginal Two Spirit Working Group (ATSWG) responsible for managing the Edmonton-based "Two Spirits In Motion" HIV/AIDS project was instrumental in making the Forum a reality.

Funding support was secured from Health Canada, Correctional Service Canada and the Alberta Community HIV/AIDS Funding Consortium. The administrative partner for the Planning Committee was the Nechi Training Research and Health Promotions Institute. Several information booths were featured prominently at the forum, for example, HIV Edmonton, Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN) and the Edmonton Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee.

Richard Jenkins
Two Spirit Member
EAUAC 🌟

Urban Aboriginal Organizations in Edmonton, 1993 and 2003

Evelyn Peters (Department of Geography, University of Saskatchewan)

Chris Andersen chris.andersen@ualberta.ca
(School of Native Studies, University of Alberta)

Our study looks at the characteristics and change of Aboriginal-run, urban service-delivery organizations in Edmonton over the past 10 years. We focus specifically on 'Aboriginal-run' organizations as opposed to government or church-run organizations serving Aboriginal clientele, because the Aboriginal run organizations provide a better example of community-based, urban Aboriginal self-government, which is one of the focuses of the study. So, we examined: the goals and emphases of these organizations; the number of policy fields (e.g. housing, employment, health, etc.); the level of control these organizations had in actually designing their programs; and the amount of interaction between various programs (through, for example, the Aboriginal Coalition).

This is only a preliminary summary, and we are continuing to work on the materials collected over the summer of 2002. Our findings are compared to a similar study done in Edmonton in 1993 by Stewart Clathworthy, Jeremy Hull and Neil Loughren. In comparing our findings to theirs, it is clear that there has been substantial change among urban Aboriginal organizations in the past decade. There are more organizations today than in 1993, addressing a wider range of service areas, and providing services to a larger proportion of the Aboriginal population in Edmonton. More specifically, the number of urban Aboriginal organizations in Edmonton has more than doubled, from seven in 1993 to fifteen in 2002. In 1993, the total number of clients served by the

Aboriginal organizations interviewed for the study was 3,056, or approximately ten percent of Edmonton's self-identifying Aboriginal population. In 2002, the interviews reported that 9,465 clients were served by urban Aboriginal organizations, representing almost one quarter (23.1%) of the Edmonton Aboriginal identity population. Despite the year-to-year funding arrangements which limit the ability to decide their own priorities, most Aboriginal organizations are at least a decade old. The organizations with the longest history included the Canadian Native Friendship Centre, and the various housing corporations.

As well, although it is difficult to evaluate changes in the number of services provided, the range of services provided has increased since 1993. Two new areas addressed by contemporary urban Aboriginal organizations include services focused on preventing family violence and services to meet the needs of seniors. There continues to be an emphasis on child and family services. All of the organizations interviewed indicate that providing culturally appropriate services is a central part of their mandate. Importantly, in 1993 almost three quarters (71.4%) of the urban Aboriginal organizations in Edmonton were status-blind – that is, they offered services to Aboriginal people without regard to their legal status. That proportion had increased to four-fifths (80%) in 2002. A movement toward status-blind or inclusive service organizations is an important step in meeting the needs of all Aboriginal people in cities. Finally, many organizations have linkages with other organizations, interacting on an informal basis with between three and five other urban Aboriginal service organizations. Only one organization did not report any linkages with other organizations. 🌟

Edmonton Aboriginal Urban Affairs Youth Awards Nominations Call 2003



Each year the Edmonton Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee (EAUAC) invites award nominations for Aboriginal Youth who live in the City of Edmonton. Four Aboriginal Youth are awarded \$500.00 (five-hundred dollars) each toward future post-secondary educational opportunity.

Take some time to nominate an outstanding young person who demonstrates success or achievement in any of the following areas: Leadership, Sports and Recreation, Academics, Volunteering, Cultural Activities, Dance/Art, Theatre/Music, Science/Environment or Computer Technology.

A student, teacher, coach, counselor, social worker or family member can nominate Aboriginal Youth in grades eight (8) to ten (10) who are attending school and reside in Edmonton. It will make a difference by showing that you value them and their outstanding contributions. For more information, please contact the EAUAC at (780) 496-4936 or see their website: www.aboriginal-edmonton.com. 🌟

Upcoming Events

CITY OF EDMONTON PROGRAMS

The City of Edmonton offers many affordable recreation activities for everyone! For more information contact your local:

- Library 496-7000
- Swimming Pool/Leisure Centre 496-7946
- Free Public Skating and Youth Shinny 496-4999
- Community Recreation Programs 496-2966

For more information about the Fee Reduction Program call the Community Services office in your area:

East 496-5860, West 496-7320,
South 496-1475, Central 496-7275

For General Community Services Information call: 496-4999

The Eighth Annual Esquao Awards Gala - 2003

Thursday May 8th, 2003
Edmonton Agricom, Hall A
Edmonton, Alberta
Contact information:
Phone 1-877-471-2171

Aboriginal Youth Aquatic Leadership Graduation

Wednesday, April 30, 2003 at 4 p.m.
Amiskwacy Academy (101 Airport Road)
Edmonton, Alberta
For more information, please contact:
Mark Dafoe, Supervisor of Leisure Centres
City of Edmonton,
Community Services Department
(780) 496-4935

National Aboriginal Youth Leadership Conference

"Investing in the Future"
May 11 - 14, 2003
Ramada Inn
11834 Kingsway Ave
Edmonton, Alberta

Northern Alberta International Children's Festival

May 27 - 31, 2003
St. Albert, Alberta
The 18th annual festival presents acrobats, dancers, musicians and storytellers from around the world.

The Rising Sun Café and Sober Dance Club

11311 Kingsway Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
Club: (780) 479-3775
www.risingsuncafe.netfirms.com

Law Day April 15

Earth Day April 22

Mothers Day Fun Run May 11

National Aboriginal Day June 21

Priceless Fun, PUBLIC LIBRARIES

"Learning and fun all year round!"
The City of Edmonton has several library locations where you can borrow books, videos, compact discs and magazines, as well as, special reading items for special needs. Members have free access to the internet via "FreeNet." Individuals with a low-income can have the fee waived. Children and youth are free. For further information telephone, drop in at your neighbourhood branch or visit www.epl.ca

ARKISE PÉSİM
(Wicked Month, January)

MIKISIW PÉSİM
(Eagle Month, February)

NISKI PÉSİM
(Goose Month, March)

ÁYÉKI PÉSİM
(Frog Month, April)

PINIWÁWE PÉSİM
(Laying Month, May)

PÁSKÁWE PÉSİM
(Hatching Month, June)

PUSKO PÉSİM
(Moulting Month, July)

OHPÁHOO PÉSİM
(Flying Month, August)

NOCHIHITOO PÉSİM
(Mating Month, September)

KUSKUTINO PÉSİM
(Freezing Month, October)

YÉKOPÉW PÉSİM
(Foggy Month, November)

PAWÁSTUN PÉSİM
(Drifting Month, December)

If you would like to include your community event or program please fax the information to (780) 496-4929 or call (780) 496-4936.



EAUAC NEWS



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