

Organization's Name	National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC)
Vision	The primary objectives are: to act as a central unifying body for the Friendship Centre Movement: to promote and advocate the concerns of Aboriginal Peoples: and, to represent the needs of local Friendship Centres across the country to the federal government and to the public in general.
Mission	Our mission is to improve the quality of life for Aboriginal peoples in an urban environment by supporting self-determined activities which encourage equal access to, and participation in, Canadian Society; and which respect and strengthen the increasing emphasis on Aboriginal cultural distinctiveness.
Mandate	The National Association of Friendship Centres acts as a central unifying body for the Friendship Centre Movement: to promote and advocate the concerns of Aboriginal Peoples: and, represents the needs of local Friendship Centres across the country to the federal government and to the public in general.
Key Activities/ Current Projects	<p>Friendship Centres offer a variety of programs and services in a culturally appropriate manner, practising an open-door policy where anyone, regardless of race, religion, income or nationality can access programs.</p> <p>Visitors to Friendship Centres can often find access to cultural programs, education and training, employment counselling, health programs, children and youth programs, recreation programs and economic development.</p> <p>Friendship Centres also offer language training, entrepreneurial training, skills development, computer training, work site placements, nutrition programs, healing circles, alcohol and drug counselling, summer camps, day care centres, youth peer counselling, youth drop in centres, organized sports and leagues, wilderness training and facility rentals.</p>

	<p>Many Centres also have arts and crafts shops and organize pow wows and other events throughout the year.</p> <p>Over 750,000 people across Canada access programs and services offered by Friendship Centres every year.</p> <p><u>Aboriginal Friendship Centre Program</u> The Aboriginal Friendship Centre Program (AFCP) represents the core funding base and provides Friendship Centres with basic staff and operations.</p> <p><u>Urban Multipurpose Aboriginal Youth Centres</u> The primary goal of the UMAC Initiative is to create a network of urban Aboriginal youth centres to support and assist urban Aboriginal youth in enhancing their economic, social and personal prospects.</p> <p><u>Young Canada Works</u> Funded by PCH, the YCW program creates over 300 positions for urban Aboriginal youth in Friendship Centres and Provincial/Territorial Associations across the country.</p>
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Contact Name / Information	<p>ADDRESS National Association of Friendship Centres 275 MacLaren Street Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0L9</p> <p>TELEPHONE (613) 563-4844</p> <p>FAX (613) 594-3428 or (613) 563-1819</p> <p>GENERAL INQUIRY EMAIL nafcgen@nafc.ca</p>
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Web site	www.nafc-aboriginal.com
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