

Program Funding Provided By
 BC Ministry of Children &
 Family Development (MCFD)

UNYA Contacts	Phone #
UNYA Main Office	604.254.7732
Aboriginal Outreach Team	604.254.5147
Aboriginal Transition Team	604.254.7732
Aboriginal Wellness Counsellor	604.254.7732
AYF Sports & Recreation Program	604.254.7732
Aboriginal Youth Safehouse	604.254.5147
24 hour Youth Info & Referral Line	1.877.223.4321
Aboriginal Youth Worker	604.254.7732
Alcohol & Drug Counsellors	604.254.7732
Alcohol & Drug Counsellor at BYRC	604.709.5720
Aries Program	604.255.1326
Cedar Walk Program	604.708.9130
Kinnections Program	604.254.7732
Mediation Program	604.254.7732
Mentorship Program	604.254.7732
Music, Arts & Culture (MAC) Program	604.254.7732
Native Youth Learning Centre	604.254.5620
Overly Creative Minds (OCM) Program	604.254.7712
Ravens Lodge	604.254.7732
School Support Team	604.254.7732
Young Bears Lodge	604.322.7577
Young Wolves Lodge	604.321.1118

Urban Native Youth Association

UNYA began in 1988, has 20+ programs, 110+ volunteers, 200+ community partners, 100 staff, and over 25,000 visits per year. Youth are consulted in the development of programs and services as we believe they are experts in their own lives and are in the best position to advise us on youth issues. Our programs are developed to help meet the educational, training, cultural, artistic, and personal needs of Native youth. We continue to focus on community development initiatives, as we believe that the strengthening of our community as a whole can have a tremendous and positive impact on Native youth's lives.

We believe that Native youth have the right to live safe, healthy, and positive lives that are free from negative influences. We strive to address issues that negatively affect their lives by providing a supportive continuum of care, with a large focus on prevention-based activities as we believe that Native youth lack opportunity – not ability. We know that when youth have access to meaningful opportunities, they excel as they have many strengths to build upon. We will continue to adapt to meet the changing needs of Native youth to help ensure that they have the best chance possible to reach their goals and full potential.

Publications available in pdf online at www.unya.bc.ca are focused on health, parenting, sexual exploitation, healthy cooking on a budget, Two-spirit, sports & recreation, and the ins & outs of college and university.



Providing
 support to youth,
 mentors, and
 referring Social
 Workers

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Connecting youth with mentors to help them transition to independence

How Youth Can Benefit

You can identify your own mentor, or we have mentors waiting for you

A mentor can help you with:

- Apartment hunting
- Resume building and job search
- Education and funding
- Budgeting
- Referrals to other programs and services
- Getting advice on issues

A mentor can take you:

- To the gym, bowling, etc
- To the Vancouver Aquarium, Science World, or Playland
- To BC Loins, Canadians, or Giants games
- To cultural events

Program goals

- To connect Aboriginal youth to trained volunteer community members
- To help support youth as they transition to living on their own through life-skills development
- For mentors to become a youth's advocate, role model, support, and friend
- To help youth and mentors form long-term friendships

How Volunteers Can Benefit

- Gain valuable experience for your resume
- Make a difference for a youth who needs someone like you – volunteering 8 hours or more a month makes a big difference
- Share your knowledge and experiences
- Receive free passes for events and outings to attend with your mentee

Receive ongoing training, such as:

- Cultural awareness
- Life-skills coaching
- Conflict resolution
- Online safety
- Mental health
- Healthy boundaries

How social workers can benefit

- Provide youth with access to a trained mentor who can help them transition into independence
- Ensure your youth has access to a trustworthy, reliable adult
- Ensure youth receive referrals to appropriate programs and services

Who Can Participate?

- Aboriginal youth ages 16-19 (younger youth accepted if their needs are in line with the mandate)
- Priority given to youth who are in care or on a youth agreement

Both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal volunteers are needed and welcome. If you are interested in becoming a mentor please contact us

We gratefully accept donations of:

- Bus tickets
- Gift certificates for local events

Mentorship Referral Form

- Social Workers – please use the Youth Program Referral Form
- Referrals from other professionals – use form below
- Self Referrals – use form below

Youth's Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____

If you are a professional referring a youth, please fill out the info below so we can contact you about getting your client a mentor

Referrer's Name: _____

Referrer's Program/Agency: _____

Phone #: _____

Fax completed form to
604-254-7811 or drop it off at
1618 East Hastings Street

