

Program Funding Provided By

Canadian Connections for Aboriginal Youth Program,
Department of Canadian Heritage

UNYA Contacts

Phone #

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|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 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



Empowering Native Youth
Celebrating Youth Voice

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Overly Creative Minds (OCM) Program
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Urban Native
Youth Association

Overly Creative Minds (OCM)

- Want to explore Aboriginal cultures and the arts?
- Do you like to have fun and explore your community?
- Want to learn new skills, with and from other Native youth?

The OCM Program provides a safe and welcoming space for Native youth to explore cultural and creative activities that are important to them.

We work with youth, volunteers, and community partners to host a wide range of arts and culture activities that encourage youth to learn, explore, and express their voice creatively, through community-based arts and culture projects chosen by youth, for youth.

OCM encourages Native youth to help mentor other youth through their own cultural and creative journeys. Youth can develop their leadership skills by volunteering, helping to create special projects, and facilitating workshops.

Program Includes:

Weekly programming, workshops, and initiatives, such as:

- Visual arts
- Photography and other media
- Creating videos and short documentaries
- Youth voice / creative writing
- Drumming, singing, and dance (traditional & contemporary)
- Beading, sewing & regalia-making
- West coast canoeing traditions & other cultural activities
- Volunteering and leadership opportunities
- Special group projects that get youth voice out into the community

Who Can Participate?

- Native youth ages 15–24 years
- All levels of skill & experience
- Volunteers who can share their knowledge and/or skills with Native youth
- Elders interested in sharing their knowledge and/or skills with youth

Can You Help Support OCM?

We are actively recruiting volunteers who are willing to lend their artistic and cultural expertise to support youth in ongoing activities and special projects.

We welcome new partnerships that will provide meaningful, free, and interesting opportunities for Native youth to learn more skills that can help them to express themselves creatively.

We also gratefully accept donations of arts and cultural supplies.

Please contact us!

*Are you ready to
share your message
with the world?!*

