

The Urban Native Youth Association is proud to be “Training the Leaders of Tomorrow”. We have been providing services to Native Youth since 1989. Our underlying philosophy is that Native youth have the right to live safe, healthy, and positive lives that are free from negative influences.

Our primary objective is not only to assist Native street youth to leave their street lifestyles, but to deter our children from ever entering street life. We do this by offering preventative programs that help to meet youth’s immediate needs.

Youth are consulted in the ongoing development of all services, as we feel that youth are the experts in their own lives and are in the best position to advise us on youth issues. We always strive to have at least four of our nine board members be Native youth.

We will continue to adapt to the ever-changing needs of Native youth to ensure that they have the best chance possible to lead safe, healthy, and positive lives.

Program funding provided by:

Ministry of Children &
Family Development (MCFD)

UNYA Contacts	
Main office - administration	604-254-7732
Aboriginal Transition Team	604-254-5147
Aboriginal Youth Safehouse	604-254-5147 1-877-223-4321
Alcohol & Drug Counsellors (13 – 21 years old)	604-254-7732
Aries Project (alternate school for 13 - 18 year olds)	604-255-1326
AYF Sports & Recreation Program	604-254-7732
BYRC Aboriginal Youth Worker	604-709-5736
FN School Success Program (Homework Clubs)	604-254-7732
Mediation & Reunification Program	604-254-7732
Mentorship Program	604-254-7732
Native Youth Drop-in Centre (15 – 24 years old)	604-254-7712
Native Youth Learning Centre (computer lab)	604-484-3603
Outreach Team	604-254-7732
School Support Team	604-254-7732
UNYA Aboriginal Youth Worker	604-254-7732
Young Bears Lodge (A & D empowerment program for 13-18 yrs)	604-322-7577
Young Parent’s Support Worker	604-254-7732
Young Wolves Lodge (women’s recovery for 17 - 24 years)	604-321-1118
Youth Health Clinic (by appointment)	604-418-4491 604-660-9695
24-Hour Youth Info & Referral Line	1-877-223-4321
Publications & Videos	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AYF Sports & Recreation Survey • Full Circle – a manual on sexually exploited youth • Helping Hands – youth resource manual of programs and services • Two-spirit Youth Speak Out! – needs assessment for LGBTQ youth • Urban Rez – a video on sexual exploitation 	604-254-7732 or In pdf format at www.unya.bc.ca

URBAN NATIVE YOUTH ASSOCIATION

Mediation Program



*Training the Leaders
of Tomorrow*

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What is Mediation?

Mediation is an opportunity for people involved in a disagreement or conflict to meet face-to-face in a safe and neutral place to find workable solutions to their problems before they become a crisis. Discussion is encouraged or facilitated by a trained mediator.

The mediator's role is to work with both people to identify the issues that may be leading to problems, reduce misunderstandings, make clear priorities for areas to work on, to safely identify the emotional impacts of the situation, find points of agreement, explore new areas that each person can give and take in, and negotiate an agreement that is fair to both people.

An important part of mediation is to teach the participants positive communication & problem solving skills that allow them to better accept, respect and interact with each other by looking at an issue from both sides and trying to find agreed upon ways to resolve a conflict or problem.

Individuals involved in a dispute or crisis work out their own solutions with the help of a mediator. The mediator does not force a decision on the individuals, but helps them to find a solution. Since the individuals involved in the mediation session play active roles in resolving the problem, they usually are comfortable with and supportive of the solution.

Successful mediations can result in written agreements that are signed by both individuals to remind them of their commitment to each other to positively work on their issues in the future.

Mediation usually takes place in one or more sessions that can last up to an hour long.



Who can participate?

- ✓ Native youth aged 13 – 18 years old who have been referred by the Ministry of Children & Family Development in Vancouver
- ✓ Youth, and others that youth identify as persons that they need help communicating with, who are willing to work on resolving their issues or problems, as well as learn positive communication and problem solving skills
- ✓ Youth who need immediate assistance in resolving a conflict that may force them to leave their home, or has already forced them to leave their home
- ✓ Youth, and those that they identify, who are willing to follow basic guidelines in the mediation setting

Program Goals

The main goal of the Mediation Program is to help empower Native youth to make positive change in their lives by offering them the support and resources needed to do so.

Our program is designed specifically for Native youth ages 13 – 18 years old that have been referred by the Ministry of Children & Family Development (MCFD). We work with youth, and others that they identify, to work towards positively resolving any conflicts or misunderstandings that they may be experiencing.

Our program is based on teaching youth good communication and problem solving skills that will help them to stay in or return home, remain in school or training, or positively interact with their peers.

Only Native youth who have an open file with MCFD may access this program. Youth can contact us first, but they must then contact MCFD for a formal referral in order to access this program.

