

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:

Vancouver Coastal
Health Authority

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

Young Bears Lodge Empowerment Program



*Training the Leaders
of Tomorrow*

c/o 1640 East Hastings Street

Vancouver, BC V5L 1S6

Phone: (604) 322-7577

Fax: (604) 322-7571

Website: www.unya.bc.ca

Young Bears Lodge

The main goal of the Young Bears Lodge 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. We incorporate traditional teachings and healing into our approach to alcohol & drug programming.

Our program is completely voluntary. If you are interested or have any questions please do not hesitate to call us for more information.

Cultural Teachings

- Sweat lodge ceremonies
- Moon lodge teachings
- Medicine wheel/recovery wheel
- Respecting the medicines/ gathering medicines
- First Nations' teachings
- Preparing traditional foods
- Talking circles/healing circles
- Traditional healing & wellness ceremonies
- Traditional gender teachings

Our Commitment To Youth

- ✓ We will be patient while you decide if you can trust us
- ✓ We will let you tell your story in your own way
- ✓ We will respect that you are a unique and special person
- ✓ We will help you to become comfortable enough to learn your rights and responsibilities within the house
- ✓ We will not judge you for what you may have done, but rather accept you for who you are
- ✓ We will listen to how you are feeling, accept that, and work with you to find solutions
- ✓ We cannot make choices for you, you can do it yourself. We recognize that you know enough to ask for help, so we will be available when you need it
- ✓ We will help you to recognize healthy and unhealthy choices

Program Provides

- Information on personal health and safety
- Empowerment-based A & D programming
- Cultural ceremonies & teachings
- Recreation: gym, pool, weights and recreational outings
- Dances, movies, etc.
- Cultural outings: pow-wows, short canoe trips, medicine gathering
- Family nights
- Alcohol & drug counselling
- A window of opportunity to learn about other community helping organizations
- Guest speakers
- Other support groups
- Nutrition
- Life skills

We are here to provide you with assistance in seeking balance of Mind, Body, Heart & Spirit