

Aboriginal youth conference draws 1,000 from across BC

Approximately 1,000 Aboriginal youth converged on the Capital city in 2008 and again in Kamloops in 2009 for a province-wide conference called “Gathering Our Voices.”

Organized by the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres and supported by the Provincial Aboriginal Youth Council, the Province of BC, the Aboriginal Sports Association and the Provincial Capital Commission, the four-day event focuses on a variety of topics such as sport, leadership and wellness.

It involves Aboriginal youth, age 14 to 24, from across British Columbia, living on and off reserve.

The purpose of these conferences is to unite youth from around British Columbia in learning, healing and sharing to provide tools, resources and knowledge that the youth can then take back to their communities.

“These young people serve as a catalyst for change by providing skills, knowledge and cultural pride and inspiration, strengthening youth leadership, building self-esteem, creating relationships and generating opportunities,” says PCC Chair Bill Wellburn.



BCAAFC Youth Conference coordinator Ken Watts receives cheque from PCC Chair Bill Wellburn.