

# ABORIGINAL EDMONTON

The City of Edmonton acknowledges that this work takes place within traditional Treaty 6 territory and within an important historical Métis trade centre. Aboriginal Edmonton is a publication of the City of Edmonton.

## MOVING FORWARD... THE URBAN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY DIALOGUE PROCESS: CREATING OPTIONS

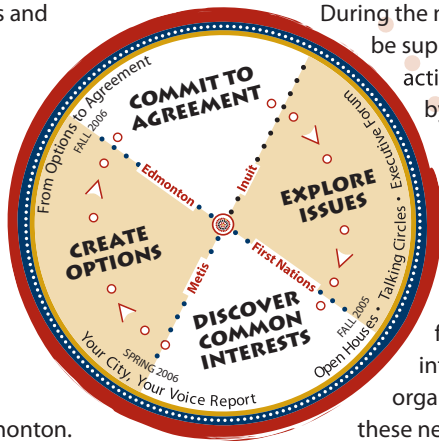
The Urban Aboriginal Community Dialogue Process is Aboriginal community-driven, Aboriginal community-led and inclusive of all interested individuals and organizations.

The first part of the Dialogue Process created the "Your City, Your Voice Report" and "Appendices". These reports present what Aboriginal people have to say about Urban Aboriginal priorities, building understanding and shaping the future of Aboriginal relations in Edmonton. After a period of reflection - as suggested by the Elders Circle that provides

guidance and wisdom to the process - the next steps of Dialogue have begun.

During the next steps, the community will be supported in creating options for action based on priorities identified by the community.

The next steps include Leaders Gatherings, Community Action Circles and an Urban Aboriginal Community Gathering (see next 2 pages for more details.) For more information on how you or your organization can be involved in these next steps, call (780) 944-7602 or e-mail: [aboriginal.accord@edmonton.ca](mailto:aboriginal.accord@edmonton.ca)



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## ELDERS CIRCLE LOSES A MEMBER

**A TRIBUTE TO VICTOR LETENDRE**



Victor (Vic) Letendre, a well loved and respected Elder passed away on Monday June 5, 2006 at the age of 81. Vic's guidance, wisdom and tremendous spirit will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.

Vic was born on March 4, 1925 to Métis parents in Lac Ste Anne, Alberta. A veteran of World War II, Vic defended Canada in France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany before being voluntarily discharged on July 17, 1945. At the age of twenty four, Vic married a Métis woman Georgina Dumont with whom he had five children.

A proud Métis, Vic volunteered with many Aboriginal organizations. Vic offered his wisdom and experience to the Elders Circle that provides guidance to the Urban Aboriginal Community Dialogue Process. Vic's knowledge of Aboriginal traditions and insight into the priorities of Aboriginal people helped to ensure that this Dialogue is Aboriginal-led, culturally appropriate and an initiative that all people - Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal - can be proud of.

Vic's commitment to a vision of better relationship between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people provided strength to all of us. He understood the unique position of Aboriginal people in the City of Edmonton and encouraged all nations to continue working together for a stronger future for all.

Vic will be remembered with much admiration and respect.

## ABORIGINAL CITY LIFE TEA "THE UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP VS. SPECIAL STATUS OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLE IN CANADA"

On October 30, 2006 the 8th Aboriginal City Life Tea event will host Assistant Professor Val Napoleon as she offers a presentation on the Unique Relationship vs. Special Status of Aboriginal People in Canada. The presentation and discussion will take place from 12:30 to 1:30 in the Scotia Place Boardroom - 10060 Jasper Avenue. Bannock, tea, a light lunch and networking opportunities will follow the presentation. For more information, or to register for the event, call 944-7602 or e-mail: [aboriginal.accord@edmonton.ca](mailto:aboriginal.accord@edmonton.ca)

**WANT TO GET INVOLVED? DETAILS ON COMMUNITY ACTION CIRCLES INSIDE**



Edmonton Urban  
Aboriginal Accord Initiative

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Western Economic  
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Diversification de l'économie  
de l'Ouest Canada



# THE URBAN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY DIALOGUE PROCESS

## NEW WAYS OF WORKING TOGETHER VOLUNTEER WORKING GROUP ROLLS UP THEIR SLEEVES

A New Ways of Working Together (NWWT) volunteer working group has been established by participants in the July Community Leaders Gatherings. The working group began meeting in August 2006.

In the first part of the Urban Aboriginal Community Dialogue Process, the community was asked to voice their ideas about new ways of working together. The community said that there is a need to increase learning and sharing opportunities between the Urban Aboriginal community and other willing partners. The NWWT group has taken on the task of developing options for a structure that will enable greater co-ordination and communication within and between the varying sectors that work to address diverse Urban Aboriginal priorities.

The co-ordination and communication options created by the NWWT group will be shared with the broader community Urban Aboriginal Community Gathering taking place this November.

For more information on the NWWT volunteer working group, please contact Nicole Hetu at 427-6143 or Donna Hovsepian at 495-4977.

### COMMUNITY LEADERS GATHERING

Creating Options  
July 13 & July 27, 2006

### COMMUNITY ACTION CIRCLES

Creating Options  
September 2006

### URBAN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY GATHERING

From Options to Agreements  
Late November 2006

# COMMUNITY ACTION CIRCLES

## CREATING OPTIONS

During the next steps of the Urban Aboriginal Community Dialogue Process, Community Action Circles will be held.

The Action Circles will provide a space for the community to create options for action based on priorities identified by the community as noted in the "Your City, Your Voice Report."

Each Community Action Circle will address one or more of the identified priorities (see schedule below).

**WHERE:** All Action Circles will take place in the  
**EDMONTON ROOM**  
**Stanley A. Milner Library**  
**7 Sir Winston Churchill Square**

Lunch provided and parking validated for all Action Circles

DATE & TIME	COMMUNITY PRIORITY
Wednesday, September 13 9:00am - 1:00 pm	Services that help people who are new to the city
Saturday, September 16 9:00am - 1:00 pm	Aboriginal people helping each other through volunteerism; Self-determination for Aboriginal Peoples; and Listening purposefully to Aboriginal voices and viewpoints
Monday, September 18 9:00am - 1:00 pm	Incorporating Aboriginal values and other improvements to the Justice system.
Wednesday, September 20 9:00am - 1:00 pm	Culturally appropriate education for Aboriginal children and Youth
Friday, September 22 9:00am - 1:00 pm	Improvements in Aboriginal health and well-being
Monday, September 25 9:00am - 1:00 pm	Improved employment and appropriate skills training
Wednesday, September 27 9:00am - 1:00 pm	Respect for Aboriginal histories, cultures and languages
Friday, September 29 9:00am - 1:00 pm	Improvements in shelter and housing

**TO REGISTER FOR COMMUNITY ACTION CIRCLES**

Call 944-7602 or E-mail: [aboriginal.accord@edmonton.ca](mailto:aboriginal.accord@edmonton.ca)

# IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS WITH ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

## WESTERN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES SHARE STORIES OF SUCCESS



Municipal employees from across the western provinces recently discussed ways to improve relationships with and service delivery to Aboriginal communities at the sixth annual Western Municipalities Aboriginal Gathering (WMAG). They also shared information on best practices in hiring and retaining Aboriginal staff.

Hosted this year by the City of Edmonton's Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the annual WMAG allows western Canadian municipal staff to discuss emerging Aboriginal priorities and best practices through both management/policy and program/practice sessions.

During opening ceremonies, both Chief Ron Morin of the Enoch Cree Nation and Mayor Stephen Mandel spoke of Edmonton's improving Aboriginal relations and of their common interest in developing shared approaches to common goals. In addition to improving relations with Aboriginal residents, the City is seeking to establish respectful and mutually beneficial relationships with the City's Aboriginal neighbours.

The Gathering included an informative Aboriginal employment panel discussion with staff from the various municipalities sharing their experiences in creating innovative municipal employment programs and practices. The panel was chaired by Human Resources Manager Jeff MacPherson.

An Aboriginal Elders Circle Panel discussion proved to be the most popular session of the Gathering. At this session, several Elders discussed their views on the Urban Elders role in contemporary urban settings.

### Accord Steering Committee Members

<b>Derek Chewka</b> , EAUAC Chair	<b>Mike Kroening</b> , Manager, Office of Diversity & Inclusion, City of Edmonton
<b>Angela Ferguson</b> , EAUAC Vice-Chair	<b>John McDonough</b> , Executive Director Strategic Services, Alberta Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
<b>Chantelle Favell-Rubenstein</b> , EAUAC Executive	<b>Shalene Jobin</b> , Strategic Planning Coordinator, Edmonton Housing Trust Fund
<b>Nicole Hetu</b> , EAUAC Executive	<b>Wendy Stewart-Fagnan</b> , Director, Urban Aboriginal Strategy, Alberta Western Economic Diversification
<b>Wade King</b> , Senior Consultant, Office of Diversity & Inclusion, City of Edmonton	

### Edmonton Aboriginal Urban Affairs Committee (EAUAC)

Derek Chewka (Chair)	Angela Ferguson (Vice Chair)
Nicole Hetu, Executive Member	Chantelle Favell-Rubenstein, Executive Member
David Berger, Member	Carmen Callihoo, Member
Ilene Cardinal-Nepoose, Member	Carla Elder, Member
Caroline Foster, Member	Karen Fox, Member
Miranda Jimmy, Member	Tibetha Kemble, Member
Karen Mackenzie, Member	Gwen Crichton, Member
Lori Sokoluk, Member	Shannon Souray, Member
Ruth Suvee, Member	Wendy Walker, Member
Laura Auger, EAUAC staff support (780) 944-7958	Dave Ward, Member

### Elders Circle

Hon. Dr. Thelma Chalifoux	Don Langford
Alvena Strasbourg	Francis Bad Eagle
Jerry Wood	Francis Whiskeyjack
Nellie Carlson	Dora Unka
Eva Bereti	Peggy Richardson
Marge Friedel	

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## GET INVOLVED AND HELP CREATE A STRONGER COMMUNITY FOR ALL OF US

Contact the Accord Initiative at:

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10060 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, AB. T5J 3R8

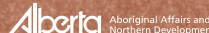
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