



2025

AFCC

INFO BOOKLET

AFCC at a Glance: Your quick
guide to our programs, services,
and community initiatives.



MANY NATIONS. ONE FAMILY.™

OUR WELCOME TO YOU

"Oki, Tansi, Danit'ada, Aba Washded, Hello!

Welcome to the Aboriginal Friendship
Centre of Calgary. For over 20 years, we've
been dedicated to supporting the holistic
well-being of our urban Indigenous
community. This booklet offers a glimpse
into who we are, what we do, and how you
can connect with us. We are proud to be
your trusted partner in culture, connection,
and community."

– Shane Gauthier, CEO








**ABORIGINAL
FRIENDSHIP
CENTRE OF CALGARY**
Many Nations. One Family.™

ABOUT AFCC OUR PURPOSE

AFCC is a non-profit hub using holistic, traditional approaches to serve and empower Calgary's urban Indigenous community.

 **Our Mission:** Building relations for cultural connection and economic inclusion within our urban Indigenous community.

 **Our Vision:** Removing barriers and uplifting our urban Indigenous community through cultural reconnection, vital programs, services, and resources.

 **Our Values:** Humble | Innovative | Respectful |
Supportive Accountable | Transparent | Inclusive |
Collaborative

OUR ROOTS:

THE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE MOVEMENT

AFCC is proud to be part of the nationwide Friendship Centre Movement – Canada's most significant off-reserve Indigenous service delivery network since the 1950s. We are supported by and collaborate with:



National Association
of Friendship Centres

National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC)

Website: <https://nafc.ca/>

NAFC is the national body for over 100 Friendship Centres and Provincial/Territorial Associations across Canada.

NAFC advocates for urban Indigenous Peoples and supports its member centres in their community-driven work.



Alberta Native Friendship Centres Association (ANFCA)





Website: <https://anfca.com/>

ANFCA is the provincial body supporting 21 member Friendship Centres in Alberta, including AFCC. ANFCA helps these centres enhance the quality of life for urban Indigenous people through support, networking, and advocacy.



OUR CORE SERVICES: SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

The Aboriginal Friendship Centre of Calgary offers holistic, culturally-grounded support through four key service pillars, designed to meet diverse needs and empower our urban Indigenous community:

-  **Community Outreach & Cultural Reconnection:** Rekindling heritage, fostering belonging, building community ties.
-  **Housing Services:** Providing safe, affordable, and culturally appropriate homes & support.
-  **Community Member Services:** Access to essential resources, support networks, and personal growth.
-  **Elders Services:** Honouring our wisdom keepers with dedicated care, programs, and spaces.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & CULTURAL RECONNECTION

We rekindle heritage, foster belonging, and build vibrant community ties for urban Indigenous peoples through shared cultural experiences and traditional teachings.



- **Family & Youth Empowerment:** We strengthen the bonds of kinship by offering programs where families engage in shared cultural learning (e.g., Honouring The Bonds). For youth (ages 14-26), we provide pathways to discover their identity through cultural exploration, land-based teachings, and leadership development, empowering the next generation.
- **Healing Pathways & Reintegration:** Guided by the wisdom of our Elders, we offer culturally-grounded support for individuals on their journey to healing and community connection. Through traditional ceremonies and programs like the Smudge Vow Program, we create a safe space for individuals to reconnect with their spirit, culture, and community.



HOUSING SERVICES: SAFE HOMES, STRONG FUTURES

The Aboriginal Friendship Centre of Calgary (AFCC) is committed to addressing housing insecurity by providing safe, stable, and culturally appropriate housing solutions and supports to foster well-being for our community members in Calgary.

Omahkitapioyis Elders' Lodge Apartments:

Our award-winning Omahkitapioyis Elders' Lodge is a 12-unit, non-market affordable apartment building owned and operated by AFCC. It offers fully furnished, independent living that honours the dignity and wisdom of Indigenous seniors. With culturally enriched spaces for ceremonies and community gatherings, and the dedicated support of an on-site Cultural Coordinator, the Lodge is a place of vibrant cultural connection.



Elders' Lodge Apartments

The Bromley Place

An 8-unit building owned outright by AFCC, The Bromley Place provides safe and stable homes for clients in our Aboriginal Housing Initiative (AHI) and other community members requiring housing support. Demonstrating our commitment to community well-being, AFCC has invested significant resources since acquiring the property to update the building to a high standard, creating a dignified and supportive living environment for all tenants.



The Bromley Place

Aboriginal Housing Initiative (AHI)

Our Aboriginal Housing Initiative (AHI) provides specialized, intensive support for Indigenous adults (18+). Guided by Medicine Wheel principles and harm reduction, our case managers offer culturally-grounded, person-centred planning to help clients build independence and well-being (e.g., securing ID, tenant rights). We walk alongside them as they navigate complex systems. Access is exclusively through referral from Calgary's Coordinated Access and Assessment (CAA) system.



AHI

Future Family Housing

AFCC is excited to be developing new, culturally safe affordable townhomes (10 units) for indigenous women with children fleeing violence. This initiative will feature enriched community spaces designed to further support families.



Future Family Housing

For general housing inquiries, please visit
www.afcccalgary.org
or email info@afcccalgary.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Grounded in our cultural values, AFCC provides essential resources and support networks to empower Indigenous individuals and families on their path to well-being and growth. Our key services include:

Navigating Jordan's Principle

Assisting First Nations children and families in accessing necessary health, social, and educational services and supports without delay. Our Coordinator helps with applications and resource connections.

- Contact: Christine St. Goddard,
- CStGoddard@afccalgary.org | 403-270-7379 Ext. 118.

Status Card Clinic

AFCC provides crucial assistance with Secure Certificate of Indian Status (Status Card) applications and renewals. We now also offer registration services under the Indian Act, guiding eligible individuals through the process of being registered for the first time. This vital service has assisted nearly 800 community members in accessing key benefits. Appointments are highly recommended.

- Contact: Bailey Dodds, bdodds@afccalgary.org | 368-999-8041.
- Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm (closed 12-1pm), Fri 9am-12pm.

Navigation & Support Centre Services

As a vital partner at the Salvation Army's Navigation and Support Centre of Hope, AFCC provides the dedicated Indigenous cultural support on-site. From our desk, a staff member offers a culturally safe connection point, guiding individuals to a wide network of resources and back to AFCC's own cultural programs and ceremonies.

Other Key Supports

Our team walks alongside community members, offering holistic support. We provide referrals and resources for essential needs, and foster cultural connection by hosting community events and linking individuals to traditional resources and programming.



ELDERS SERVICES

HONOURING OUR WISDOM KEEPERS

Honouring our Elders as the heart of our community, AFCC is dedicated to providing culturally rich programs and welcoming spaces that support their well-being and celebrate their vital role as wisdom keepers. Our support for Elders is built on two key pillars: a place to gather and a place to call home.



Kanakaatsi'nom - Elders' Drop-in Centre

Meaning 'All Friends Place,' Kanakaatsi'nom is Calgary's first dedicated Indigenous Elders' drop-in centre. It is a vibrant and welcoming space where Elders can gather for cultural activities, share language, participate in ceremonies, and enjoy the support of their community. Laughter and kinship are at the heart of the Centre, located at 4630 16 Ave NW.



Omahkitapioyis- Elders' Lodge Apartments

Our Elders' Lodge provides a safe, dignified, and culturally rich home for Indigenous seniors to live independently while staying connected to community. (See our Housing Services section on page 6 for more details).

Beyond these dedicated spaces, Elders are integral to the spirit and guidance of AFCC as a whole. They are our mentors and teachers—sharing their wisdom, leading ceremonies, and guiding our programs across the entire community.





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OUR LOCATIONS: FIND US IN CALGARY

From 7 distinct sites across Calgary, AFCC offers accessible services and culturally rich spaces, committed to uplifting our urban Indigenous community and supporting vulnerable populations.

Indigenous Hub

(Main Office)

316 - 7 Avenue SE, T2G 0J2

Kanakaatsi'nom

Elders' Drop-in Centre

4630 16 Ave NW, T2M 0L4

Omahkitapioyis

Elders' Apartments

352 34 Ave NE, T2E 2J7

Indigenous Warming Centre

(Seasonal)

4628 16 Ave NW, T3B 0M8

The Bromley Place

120 29 Ave NW, T2M 2L8

Navigation & Support Centre Services

(Located at Salvation Army
Centre of Hope)

4630 16 Ave NW, T2M 0L4

The Confluence Partnership Space

(Opening Late Fall 2025!)

(At The Confluence Historic
Site & Parkland)





OUR IMPACT:

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY, TOGETHER.

Every day, AFCC works to create meaningful change and build pathways to healing, connection, and well-being. Our impact is seen not just in numbers, but in the strengthened spirit of our urban Indigenous community. Here are a few highlights of what we've achieved together.

By the Numbers:

- Nearly 800 community members have been assisted with Status Card and registration services, reconnecting them with their identity and essential benefits.
- Over 5,600 bagged lunches were provided to community members in need in a single quarter, offering vital nourishment and a moment of connection.

Building for the Future:

- New Family Housing: We are developing 9 new, culturally safe townhomes, creating desperately needed affordable housing and a supportive community environment for Indigenous families.
- The Confluence: In late 2025, we are thrilled to be opening a new partnership space at The Confluence Historic Site & Parkland, creating a landmark hub for cultural programming and collaboration.

Community Recognition:

- The Calgary Award (2024): We were honoured to be the first-ever Indigenous organization to receive the prestigious Community Advocate Organization award.
- Art Smith Award: Our Omahkitapioyis Elders' Lodge was recognized with the Art Smith Award for Building of the Year, celebrating its excellence in design and community impact.

EVENTS & GETTING INVOLVED: JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

AFCC hosts a variety of cultural events, workshops, and community gatherings throughout the year. From Powwows and Round Dances to educational workshops and family feasts, there's always a way to connect.



Visit our website for the latest
event calendar!

Interested in volunteering? Email
info@afccalgary.org.





DONATE NOW:

**HELP US CREATE
PATHWAYS TO
HEALING AND
BELONGING**

Your generosity helps us provide vital services, foster cultural connections, and empower Calgary's urban Indigenous community.

Every contribution makes a difference.



Ways to Donate:

Online: Securely via Canada Helps (Link on our website).

Mail: Cheques to address on back cover.

Other: Email info@afccalgary.org to discuss other ways to give. AFCC is a registered charity: 847902277RR0001.

LET'S CONNECT! JOIN THE AFCC FAMILY!

We love hearing from you and sharing our journey! Connecting with our community is at the heart of what we do. Whether you have a question, want to learn more about our programs, or simply wish to say "Ok!", here's how you can reach out and stay in the loop:

Reach Out & Say Hello!



Give Us a Call: (403) 270-7379



Send an Email: info@afcccalgary.org



Visit Our Main Hub: Indigenous Hub (Main Office) 316
- 7 Avenue SE, Calgary, AB T2G 0J2



Mail Slot (for letters & parcels): PMB #137, 100, 111
5th Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2P 3Y6

Join Our Online Community! Follow, Like & Share the Spirit!



Our Website: Dive deeper at www.afcccalgary.org



Be Our Friend! (AFCCalgary)



See Our Stories! (@AFCCalgary)



Connect with Us Professionally! (Aboriginal Friendship Centre of Calgary)



Watch Our Journey! (AFCC Calgary Channel)



WITH GRATITUDE

Our Partners & Funders

Collaboration is fundamental to the Aboriginal Friendship Centre of Calgary's ability to provide culturally relevant services and achieve our mission. We are deeply grateful for the strong relationships and vital support we receive from all our partners.

We gratefully acknowledge the significant contributions of key supporters including:





LET'S WORK TOGETHER

To create pathways of support, healing, and belonging for a stronger tomorrow.



DONATE NOW!

To make a donation, please scan the QR code for more details or email us at info@afccalgary.org.



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