



MVAEC EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EMPLOYMENT ROUNDTABLE

MVAEC is uniquely positioned to lead implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, particularly Article 21 which states that *Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security.*

YOUTH



We are very proud of our BladeRunners program for youth at risk. We provide the supports, training and the tools to put the youth to work. The 38 units of housing attached to our program are utilized specifically for our Urban Indigenous Peoples at risk. The housing program is an introduction to the responsibilities of living in a housing unit, including paying rent. The clients are responsible to pay the rent and look after the unit which helps them with their independence, self-respect, and a greater sense of dignity.

90%

In all of our essential skills, trades training and employment programs, we have a minimum of ninety percent Urban Indigenous Peoples running and operating our services for Urban Indigenous Peoples. It is important that we employ our peoples because they already have the traditional knowledge and understand the daily plight of our clients. dignity.

The MVAEC Women's Roundtable notes that our Urban Indigenous Women face many socio-economic barriers based upon the effects of colonization. We continue to deal with the many atrocities against women; sexual exploitation, violence, racism, discrimination, economic inequity, marginalization and poverty; and very little seemed to be done about it. We fear for our safety on a daily basis and have to constantly be competing to survive the legal, health, housing and economic systems. Like our brothers and families, we have come to the urban centers with high hopes for higher educational opportunities, better health care, affordable suitable family housing and economic opportunities, but it continues to be such a struggle to survive.

Education

Action #1: In 2021, bring MVAEC education representatives together to share data on Urban Indigenous population's experience of (I) foundational skills assessment for grades 4 and 7, (II) Required examination results throughout high-school grades (III) Supports provided to Indigenous students during critical transition years across elementary to high-school and high-school to college. Information may be used to understand the role that MVAEC can play as an advocate for continuing to increase the equitable outcomes for Indigenous students, because these students are our children.

Action #2: Bring the MVAEC Arts, Language, Culture, and Elders Roundtable together with the MVAEC Education, Training, and Employment Roundtable to design a collaborative action plan to advance the goals of the MVAEC Arts, Language, Culture, and Elders Roundtable.

Training

Action #1: Indigenous leaders continue to expand the education, training, and employment opportunities available to Indigenous people of all ages across all employment sectors. Opportunities range from increased opportunities in the environment sector, to innovation and technology. MVAEC would benefit from bringing together educators to discuss the role that MVAEC can play in expanding education and training opportunities.

Employment

Action #1: The Metro Vancouver region continues to be one of the least affordable places in the world for Indigenous people to live, yet most of our education, training, and employment opportunities are in urban centers. MVAEC is poised as a hub organization to create an economic develop plan to minimize the risk of Indigenous people become the work poor, where the employment opportunities exist, but increasing unaffordable conditions keep Indigenous people in survival mode. How can we create an Urban Indigenous economy where Indigenous people thrive?