

**Report on Third Gathering
Aboriginal Leadership and Governance Training Needs in Northern Alberta
June 7-9, 2011 in Grouard**

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From flipcharts at event

This gathering was a strategic planning workshop facilitated by Angelo Murphy from Alberta Community Spirit.

As with all of the events, this session opened and closed with prayer.

After supper the first evening a handout regarding the vision statement discussion via e-mail to date was circulated (Appendix 1). This was discussed informally as participants walked the Peace River trail to refresh themselves after their long drives.



The next morning the following vision and mission were finalized. An introductory statement to them should talk about the process of developing this plan based on a holistic foundation.

Vision

A premier educational program which develops Aboriginal leaders who are healthy, respectful, and who draw on traditional and contemporary leadership skills and values, working for the benefit of their communities.

Mission

To develop and implement a quality training program that will provide an education for Aboriginal leaders in a culturally appropriate learning environment, curriculum and governance foundation.

The six core values established by this group involve:

Aboriginal culture

- is a unique holistic foundation
- is demonstrated in inclusive, embracing and accepting behaviour

Integrity

- Having the strength to act courageously and honestly and create fairness and transparency

Commitment

- Ongoing dedication to improving individual and community well-being in an open and accountable manner

Wisdom

- Having a deep understanding, insight and knowledge
- The ability to listen and make good judgements

Respect

- honouring traditional knowledge of all cultures
- being open and honest with each other in a kind manner

Quality

- meets needs by being practical, useful and relevant
- is unique because the cultural foundation makes it trustworthy and resilient
- excellent reputation based on high standards



A structure was suggested which involved a large advisory group including all the members of the original consultation and strategically inviting some other people. This group would elect an executive to oversee the development of the program. The executive would direct a working group made up of the executive and the chair of each subcommittee. They would call on the advisory group as needed to affirm their work. See Appendix 2 for an image of this structure.

To get the work started, the following subcommittees were formed: communications, structure, financial and program. The member list makes up Appendix 3. Anyone from the advisory group can participate in any of the subcommittees based on their interests.

Work on the goals in each of the areas of emphasis on the subcommittees began. It is summarized in the Gantt chart that makes up Appendix 4

September subcommittee meetings via teleconference would be the next major step. It was hoped that funding could be secured for the next year of operations with each subcommittee determining its needs. The advisory committee would be called to meet again in January in Edmonton. Progress-to-date could be shared with everyone, participation through subcommittees could be encouraged and some leadership could be elected.

