



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Gathering Our Voices 2020: Indigenous Youth Leadership Training Kamloops, BC**

The BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCAAFC) alongside the Provincial Aboriginal Youth Council (PAYC) are honoured to announce the Kamloops Aboriginal Friendship Society (KAFS) as the co-hosts for Gathering Our Voices (GOV) 2020, to be held March 16-20, 2020 on the traditional territory of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc.

In the spirit of bringing people together from across the province, the event is hosted in different communities and in partnership with different Friendship Centres each year. We look forward to working with the KAFS who will be welcoming GOV delegates to explore, to learn and to engage with culture among peers.

The BCAAFC has hosted seventeen Indigenous Youth Leadership Training events in communities such as Prince George, Nanaimo, Vancouver, Victoria, Kelowna, Prince Rupert, Penticton, Richmond, and Port Alberni. GOV has grown immensely and continues to grow with the support of the delegates, volunteers, chaperones, facilitators, exhibitors and host communities.

The purpose of the event is to unite youth throughout the country in learning, healing, and sharing, and to provide tools, resources and knowledge youth can bring back to their communities. GOV is also an opportunity to celebrate and honour Indigenous youth for taking steps towards positive changes in their own lives and for their communities.

We look forward to co-hosting GOV2020 in Kamloops, BC. Visit [www.gatheringourvoices.ca](http://www.gatheringourvoices.ca) for more information.

Leslie Varley  
Executive Director, BCAAFC  
[lvarley@bcaafc.com](mailto:lvarley@bcaafc.com)