

National Indigenous Elders Council (several vacancies)

Overview

In August 2019 the National Indigenous Council will bring forward a framework for the National Indigenous Elders Council, which will operate within the context of the larger United Church of Canada structure.

The creation of the National Indigenous Elders Council recognizes that teachers and knowledge keepers need to be placed in equally significant positions within the church. Many Elders carry history, story, traditions, spiritual practices, protocols, and medicines of their territories and have much to contribute to spiritual expression and communal engagement processes of the church.

Responsibilities

We are looking for Elders who are able to demonstrate an awareness of the consequences of trauma/abuse in the present as well as the past, and know how it impacts all Indigenous organizations, including The United Church of Canada. There may be need for Elders to participate in local, regional, and national meetings.

The National Indigenous Elders Council will exist and operate within the context of The United Church of Canada structure. It will

- advise the whole United Church of Canada, giving counsel, spiritual advice, and guidance to those parts of the church that seek their support
- consist of numerous Elders from across the country who can offer their gifts either locally or nationally
- have a balance of male, female, and two-spirit Elders

Membership

All members of the National Indigenous Elders Council will be Indigenous Elders. There is no ceiling on the number of Elders who will form this network.

Nomination Process

1. Communities of faith will nominate Elders. The Elders are invited to write about their gifts and teachings.
2. Those Elders will be invited to the National Indigenous Spiritual Gathering.
3. The National Indigenous Elders Council will be affirmed and celebrated at the National Indigenous Spiritual Gathering.

The process to fill the Elders Council is invitational and revolving to accommodate the different needs of Elders.

Closing date: Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Contact: Rev. Maggie Dieter, Indigenous Ministries and Justice
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If you are unable to submit electronically, a Word version of this document is available by emailing nominate@united-church.ca