

43rd Annual BC Elders Gathering
July 22 for early registration and Event: July 23, 24, 2019
“ALL MY RELATIONS”

Location: Vancouver Convention Centre
Phone: 250-286-9977 (Please DO NOT fax forms)
Email: bcelders@telus.net Website: www.bcelders.com

Please Mail Registration Form with Cheque to:
BC Elders Communication Center Society
1415 Weiwaikum Rd., Campbell River, BC, V9W 5W9

Group and Individual Registration Instructions

Health Concerns/Allergies: Group Leaders are asked to make sure that **YOU** carry all relevant information about your elder's health with you and that you stay with your elder's group at all times during the event. In the past elders have been left by their workers, and that can't happen again especially as no one knows your elder's needs better than you do, making it crucial that you are there with your group.

And ALLERGIES need to be addressed and managed via you and your elders, as the risk is way too high to leave in anyone else's hands, especially a host's or food department who is dealing with thousands of people for multiple meals.

***The menu will be published the month before in the Elders Voice so all groups can prepare alternate meal components should your elders not be able to eat what is being catered at the event due to a severe allergy.

CHILDREN: All Groups are advised that children are **NOT** invited to this event. Not only is there limited space for accommodations each year, this is an **Elder's** Gathering and it is hard enough for the elder's wheel chairs and walkers to get around sometimes without strollers, etc. in the path or kids taking up seating or eating food meant for elders.

***We are planning for hundreds, and hundreds of thousands of dollars in food and beverages for 2019, however **ACCESS** to meals will be strictly for registered delegates **ONLY**, i.e. registered elders, registered support people, registered drivers, and vendors and info booth people, not people's family members that come along with them to the event. Unregistered people will not even be permitted in.

INDIVIDUAL NAMES ARE NO LONGER NEEDED ON THE GROUP REGISTRATION FORM:

Usually Elder's names are required for group registration which causes huge time delays at **Group Check-in** when there has been an error in printing or someone's name tag has been misplaced. Group Leaders will now be given **blank name tags and sharpies** to write in their Elder's name and nation. Your Group Leader will just pick up the number of bags your group is registered for and be on their way, making Check-in much faster for everyone while not delaying the Grand Entry.

*****Only Individuals need to register by name and line-up at the Individual Registration Check-in Line at the event.**

BANNERS AND FLAGS: Group Leaders are encouraged to have a Banner made for their group. This is the way it was in the past and it makes the **ELDERS** extremely proud to enter behind their own Banner in the Grand Entry.

*****The Grand Entry will not be done alphabetically**, Groups will simply assemble behind their Banner/Flag and go in when their whole group is together. A photographer will be taking quick pictures of each group as you enter behind your flag or banner and these pictures will once again be on our website for you all to enjoy and copy for your elders.

VOLUNTEERS: The Venue this year requires all work to be done by the Convention Centre's staff. We will only have a small number of volunteers but there will be at least 150 staff to serve the elders and your support workers the 2 lunches and 2 dinners included with the event.

ALERT!! REGISTRATION CUT-OFF DATE IS JUNE 15, 2019

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE: DEC. 31ST, 2018 -----\$300 PER PERSON

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JAN. 1, 2019 to MAR. 31, 2019 ----- \$350 PER PERSON

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 1ST, 2019 to **June 15th, 2019** ----- \$400 PER PERSON

*****ON-SITE REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE IN 2019.**

***Staggered Registration Fees are necessary as the host each year needs to know about attendance and too many people are registering at the very end. It isn't fair or wise to leave such things up to the last minute. So please take note of the 3 different fee amounts and don't let the opportunity at the lower rates slip past.**

CANCELLATION: The cancellation deadline for Registration Fees to be reimbursed is June 1, 2019. Fees cannot be returned after this as funds will have been allocated by then.

***FIRE:** In the event that there are fire evacuations again that prevent a group from attending the Elder's Gathering we will reimburse 50% of the fees. In 2017, we reimbursed 100% of fees, which was over \$30,000 and that almost broke our small society. So we will assume half the risk and travellers will have to assume the other half.

***Group Leaders PLEASE DO NOT SEND US YOUR ELDER'S NAMES OR MEDICAL INFO**

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR ADMINISTRATORS:

We will have important information on the BC Elders Council that needs to reach your Chief and Councils, and Boards of Directors, so if you can provide the current contact email for them that would save time.

THE LOGO for the 43RD (2019) ELDERS GATHERING is Titled "Family & Friends" and will be featured in the next issue of the Elders Voice. The Logo was created by the very talented First Nations Artist Jessica Chickite.

We are also blessed to have Jessica's father Max Chickite who will be creating a new Queen's Staff to replace the one that went missing some time ago. Max also supported the 2000 Elders Gathering as our featured artist and main supporter. So, Father and Daughter, the logo and the staff!!

