

**PEACE RIVER ABORIGINAL INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE (PRAIC)
TERMS of REFERENCE FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

Name of the Inter-Agency:

Peace River Aboriginal Inter-Agency Committee (PRAIC)

Purpose of P.R.A.I.C.:

- ❖ The committee purpose develops from a holistic vision of the Aboriginal child set within a support system that consists of an expanding set of circles that all have a responsibility to the child. These expanding circles of support include but are not limited to: the parents, the Elders, Education, Health, social development agencies and finally the political culture.
- ❖ The PRAIC will strengthen this support system through actions, advocacy and ensuring communication flow between the circles of support. Advocating for Aboriginal culture is seen as key to committee success.
- ❖ The PRAIC will operate in a progressive manner, with appreciation for all Aboriginal cultures (see 1982 Constitution Act **Section 35 and United Nations Declaration Rights of Indigenous People**) and non-Aboriginal people,
- ❖ The PRAIC operations will be in accordance with Aboriginal culture and values, and promotion of the seven sacred teachings: Truth, Honesty, Respect, Humility, Love, Courage, and Wisdom, creating a foundation from Aboriginal traditions and belief systems for community engagement and capacity building.

Partnership Based:

- ❖ PRAIC has no material, capital or financial holdings. As such, PRAIC must be seen as a viable and credible partner by private and public sector and not-for-profit organizations, one that can accomplish favorable goals for the community. This will ideally stimulate support for PRAIC and by default in the broader community's health, prosperity and well-being.
- ❖ PRAIC has a strong affiliation with other Northwest Aboriginal Interagency Committee.

Standing Sub-Committees:

- ❖ **Aboriginal Gathering and Pow-wow:** The PRAIC will host the Peace River Aboriginal Gathering and Pow-wow annually the second week-end in June in large measure to action the PRAIC purpose. Pow-wow organizing will commence in October of the calendar year.
- ❖ **Aboriginal Gathering and Pow-wow Fundraising Sub-Committee:** The magnitude of staging the Pow-wow requires a standing sub-committee to ensure sustainability.
- ❖ **Annual Sister's in Spirit Walk Sub-Committee:** The Walk is PRAIC's effort to address violence against Aboriginal women and violence in the broader community.
- ❖ **Aboriginal Art Show at the Peace River Municipal Library**
- ❖ **Education Committee**
- ❖ **Monthly volunteering at the Peace River Soup Kitchen**

Responsibilities and Duties of Members:

- ❖ Members will always be alert to fulfilling the principles of cohesion and unity. Personal frictions, prejudices and group partisanship will be set aside in order to achieve our desired ends.
- ❖ Attendance at a PRAIC meeting gives one the privilege to vote based on the assumption those attending bring some measure of community knowledge and wisdom.

- ❖ Active participation at regular meetings and on sub-committees is strongly desired in order to effectively resolve matters of importance to the community.
- ❖ Members will send alternates when unable to attend regular meetings.
- ❖ Members will provide notice to the PRAIC administration when not able to attend a regular meeting.
- ❖ The committee executive and members submitting agenda items will provide documents in advance of meetings.

Location:

- ❖ The PRAIC operations and keeping of records occur primarily out of the and North West Child and Family Services Peace River.

Area Served:

- ❖ The Town of Peace River and the immediately surrounding municipalities including First Nations and Metis communities are the primary focus of PRAICs attention.

Committee Composition and Membership:

- ❖ Membership on the PRAIC is voluntary; however, a commitment to the committee is strongly encouraged.
- ❖ PRAIC is inclusive and will accept and encourage membership by all individuals and groups committed to addressing social and economic issues impacting on Aboriginal community members in Peace River and immediately surrounding area.

The suggested membership will include but is not limited to the following (the list may unintentionally miss some existing or potential members):

The Surrounding Aboriginal Communities

- ❖ Woodland Cree First Nation
- ❖ Lubicon Lake Band, and, or, Lubicon Lake First Nation
- ❖ Duncan First Nation
- ❖ Cadotte Lake Metis Community

Municipal Governments

- ❖ Town of Peace River
- ❖ Northern Sunrise County
- ❖ MD of Peace No 135
- ❖ County of Northern Lights

Aboriginal Organizations

- ❖ Region 6 Metis Nation of Alberta
- ❖ Sagitawa Friendship Centre
- ❖ Native Counseling Services of Alberta
- ❖ Rupertsland Institute Metis Training for Employment
- ❖ Western Cree Tribal Council
- ❖ Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council
- ❖ Alberta Native Women's Association
- ❖ Peace River Metis Local 78

Community Supports

- ❖ Aboriginal Services, Child and Family Services

- ❖ Victim Services Unit
- ❖ Police Services
- ❖ Peace River Regional Women’s Shelter
- ❖ Northern Lakes College
- ❖ HIV North Society
- ❖ Town of Peace River Family and Community Support Services (F.C.S.S.)
- ❖ Northern Sunrise County - Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)
- ❖ ASLS – Brain Injury
- ❖ Alberta Office of Traffic Safety
- ❖ Parent Link Centre
- ❖ Accredited Supportive Living Services
- ❖ Northern Alberta Development Council
- ❖ NPSPDV “Stepping Up”
- ❖ Manning Community Resource Centre
- ❖ Project Peace
- ❖ Peace River Municipal Library
- ❖ Peace River Museum Archives and Mackenzie Centre
- ❖ Shell Peace River
- ❖ Our Lady of Peace Parish
- ❖ Roman Catholic Diocese of Grouard McLennan
- ❖ Holy Family Catholic Regional Division
- ❖ Peace River School Division
- ❖ Ecole Des Quatre Vents
- ❖ Alberta Health Services – Health Promotion
- ❖ Alberta Health Services - Addictions

Government Agencies

- ❖ Northwest Child Services Division
- ❖ Community and Social Services
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Health
- ❖ Justice
- ❖ Alberta Culture and Tourism
- ❖ Office of the Child and Youth Advocate

Officers:

- ❖ Co-chairs will consist of two persons elected by PRAIC membership.
- ❖ Co-chairs will demonstrate commitment through attendance at regular meetings.
- ❖ Co-chair responsibilities include:
 - Chair the PRAIC meeting
 - Lead problem solving
 - Promote and build PRAIC connections and relationships in the local area
 - Follow-up on task completion
 - Are ex-officio members of sub-committees.

Elections:

- ❖ To occur bi-annually in October.
- ❖ The PRAIC operating year is April 1 to March 31 of the following year.
- ❖ PRAIC members have voting privileges.

Review and Evaluation:

- ❖ A strategic planning document will be developed biannually and reviewed annually in January of the Calendar Year.
- ❖ A report describing PRAIC activities and accomplishments will be provided to the membership and interested stakeholders by the officers in March of the operating year.
- ❖ The Terms of Reference will be updated every odd year.

Resources:

- ❖ The Northwest Regional Child Services will provide administrative support primarily for the purpose of taking minutes and distribution of documents.
- ❖ Some materials and hosting support may be provided for special projects or special occasions on a case by case basis by Northwest Regional Child and Family Services.
- ❖ The PRAIC will solicit funds as required and as funding grants come available. The committee will be imaginative and creative in securing funding.

Authority:

- ❖ The PRAIC is accountable to the committee membership.
- ❖ PRAIC members are accountable to their respective employers.

Meetings:

- ❖ PRAIC meetings will occur monthly on the third Tuesday of every month.
- ❖ PRAIC meetings will begin promptly at 10:00 A.M. and adjourn at 12:00 P.M.
- ❖ Smudging and / or prayer will occur at the start of the PRAIC regular meeting.
- ❖ PRAIC will use a standing agenda format at regular meetings.
- ❖ Minutes will be provided for review in advance of meetings.