HISTORY OF BRANTFORD REGION INDIGENOUS SUPPORT CENTRE (BRISC)

Through the support of De dwa da dehs nye>ś Aboriginal Health Centre, and the City of Brantford, the Brantford Region Indigenous Support Centre (BRISC) committee was formed in the fall of 2017. The committee has been devoted to working with community members, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous service providers and stakeholders to re-establish a friendship centre in Brantford.

The need for a Friendship centre has been evident since the previous one, The Pine Tree centre, closed in Brantford in 2005. The population of the City of Brantford’s self-identified urban population is over 11,000 according to Statistics Canada. An additional approximately 18,000 Indigenous people reside in the surrounding catchment area. The population alone is large, and can be served by the proposed Friendship Centre.

As such, BRISC is looking to provide programming in four key areas: 1) Intergenerational programs that promote the wellness of both seniors and children/youth; 2) Prevention-based programs that promote family harmony and positive relationships; 3) Programs that promote community-based harmony for individuals to live healthy lives; and 4) Empowering children and youth leadership.

Through hard work and commitment by voluntary Board of Directors, together they completed the following:

✓ gained support of local First Nations, community membership and community organization stakeholders;
✓ applied for and secured organizational incorporation documents as required;
✓ hired an Executive Director to oversee the development of the organization;
✓ applied successfully to be a member of Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centre;
✓ secured core operating dollars for management and administration;
✓ hired staff to deliver court worker and healing and wellness initiatives in Brantford.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Brantford Region Indigenous Support Centre is accepting applications for Indigenous community representatives from the City of Brantford, and counties of Haldimand, Norfolk & Brant for the Board of Directors.

VISION STATEMENT – A community that empowers urban Indigenous peoples.

MISSION STATEMENT – To provide programs, tools and supports to strive towards a culturally harmonized community.

CORE OBJECTIVES – Provide advocacy, social, cultural and educational programming for the Indigenous community.
STRATEGIC GOALS – To meet identified service delivery needs in the urban Indigenous population in Brantford and the Brantford region.

BRISC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Mandate**: Establish strategic direction of the Brantford Region Indigenous Support Centre, which includes annual planning, sit on committees to oversee finances, human resources, capital planning for building and supervision of the Executive Committee and Executive Director according to the guiding principles and approved policies.

**Meeting Requirements:**

- Regular Monthly Board meetings on the last Monday of the month
- Quarterly All Board meetings on chosen date
- Annual Strategic Planning Meeting in the Fall of each year
- Annual General Meeting by the 2nd Quarter of each fiscal year
- Special meetings and committees as organizationally required

**Roles and Responsibilities:**

- Supervise the management of the Executive Director’s Strategic Plan
- Report on workplans and results of operations and be accountable to Funders
- Approve the annual business service plan and budgets for the BRISC
- Ensure that all business services operate within the guidelines set out in Statement of Community Needs and Priorities established by BRISC or a Special Advisory Committee
- Ensure that all business services operate within the guidelines set out in Contribution Agreements signed by BRISC

**Minimum Qualifications, Experience and Skills for Board Member:**

- Indigenous person living within catchment area of the City of Brantford, Brant County, Haldimand, Norfolk, Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississauga’s of Credit
- 18 years of age or older
- Youth Director Position is open to Indigenous person between the ages of 16 years and 24 years old living within catchment area
- Of sound mind and good character
- No direct or indirect conflict of interest
- Socially responsible and knowledgeable about the Indigenous community, its culture and its needs and priorities
- High ethical standards, integrity and reliability in professional and personal dealings
- Appreciation of the principles of transparency and accountability to the Indigenous community within BRISC catchment area
Knowledge of or familiarity with the Friendship Centre Movement and its guiding principles
Ability to strategically plan for and prioritize the needs of the present & future generations of BRISC
Knowledge and understanding of roles and responsibilities of a member of a governing board
Personal and professional skills match what BRISC is seeking
Satisfactory results of background checks, including from the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC)

Desired Qualifications, Experience and Skills for Board of Directors:

- Past volunteer or community involvement or similar experience
- Ability and willingness to raise/deal with potentially controversial issues in a manner that encourages/maintains dialogue
- Flexibility, responsiveness and willingness to consider others’ opinions
- Capable of wide perspective on issues
- Ability to listen, communicate and work as a team member

Preferable experience in one or more of the following areas:

1) Legal
2) Community Development
3) Youth
4) Children & Family
5) Communications & Social Media
6) Business & Finance

INTERESTED APPLICANTS

Please express your interest via a Letter of Intent and Resume by MAY 28, 2021 @ 4:00 PM marked “Confidential” -

Attn:

Rebecca Wilson
Executive Director
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