



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS
312-345 Chief Alex Thomas Way
Kamloops, BC V2H 1H1
Office: (250) 828 - 9757 Fax: (250) 828 - 9893
www.bcafn.ca

BCAFN WOMEN'S DIALOGUE SESSION QUESTIONNAIRE

The BCAFN Women's Dialogue Session (WDS) was held on March 16 & 17, 2017 at the Musqueam Cultural Centre in Vancouver, BC. If you were able to attend, please complete this questionnaire and email to selene.peters@bcfn.ca by July 13th, 2017. BCAFN has begun planning for the next WDS and would appreciate your feedback as we move forward in the planning process.

If you would like to submit your feedback anonymously, we invite you to submit your response in confidence to delaine.friedrich@bcfn.ca to ensure your privacy and any sensitive material is respected.

1. What/who encouraged you to attend the WDS, and were your expectations met?
My interest has always been about the betterment of our First Nations women's lives, I think we as First Nations women are the only one's that would really understand our everyday experience. We as First Nation's women have this underlying need to always ensure that we are in a safe setting and that our children are safe regardless of how far we have come. We also are continually having to dispel the myth everyday that we are less than other women or that we are that 'Pocahontas' stereotype. Although we have women in leadership and we have come a long ways in our existence in Canada we are still fighting for equality from our own people, what they don't understand is that it was women that kept our Nations together while the men were broken from Residential School and the World Wars that many of our men fought in only to return with PTSD. It was the women, the grandmothers that also held onto our traditions, this is why we thrive today. Sure, our communities still have a lot of healing to do but we are still here.
2. What could we have done differently to enhance your experience at the WDS?
 - Did you feel welcomed and safe to speak your mind?
Yes
 - Were you treated respectfully by other attendees, BCAFN and Musqueam staff, and support staff?
Yes
 - Do you have any suggestions for how the WDS could be more inclusive, or encourage quiet voices to share their perspectives?
I don't think there was enough time for dialogue and too much time with the speakers, we had a task to do and it was too focussed on the speakers and guests.
3. If you could keep one thing the same about the WDS, and change one thing, what would they be?
 - Were there enough...
 - Breaks?
 - Speakers?
 - Dialogues?
 - Panels?
 - More small group discussions
4. What would you like to see at the next WDS?

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➤ Themes
➤ Speakers

➤ Facilitators
➤ Food

➤ Accessibility: Location,
Venue & Dates

5. Do you currently have the tools/resources in your community to host a WDS?
I don't know if hosting one would go over well all leadership try to work together and try not separate or segregate ourselves
 - Do you have support people available?
6. To make this event more cost-efficient so we can bring more women into the circle, we would like to align the next dates with other events currently scheduled for Fall 2017. I am not sure what next steps would be in this process after submitting the declaration, that was never made clear, so it is really hard to answer this question
 - Would you be interested in seeing the next WDS in the Lower Mainland?
 - What other events are you already planning to attend this Fall?
 - Would you like to see the next WDS over 2 full days instead of 1.5?

Currently Scheduled Events for the Lower Mainland

September 27-28: UBCIC AGM

October 11-13: BCAFN AGM & Elections

October 18-20: First Nations Summit AGM

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