

GATHERING NEWS # 1 - Oct. 1, 2023

Introducing the 1st issue of the Gathering News

You will find all of the answers and information that you and your elders will need about the Annual Elders Gathering right here each month.

The Elders Voice Newsletter which begun its 25th year with the September 2023 issue will be for news and other info that is going on in the province and the country for the Elders.

The Gathering News will strictly be the Frequently Asked Questions concerning the Elders Gathering as well as the event forms, and updates throughout the year, etc.

THE 2024 ANNUAL ELDERS GATHERING

DATES: AUGUST 13-14, 2024

LOCATION: The Vancouver Convention Centre, East Building

*Aug. 12 is for registration check-in only by Group Leaders

Please be advised that all travellers need to bring their own wheel chairs and walkers to the VCC as they will not be provided.

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48th Annual Elders Gathering (less 3 Covid-19 years) - THEME: "WE ARE ONE"

Dates: August 12th, 2024 (early check-in only) With the EVENT August 13-14th, 2024

Location: Vancouver Convention Centre, East Building

EMAIL ALL QUESTIONS TO: bcelders@telus.net

**Please Mail This Form with Cheque/Money Order [NO Credit Cards and NO Etransfers Accepted]
MAKE PAYABLE TO:**

BC Elders Communication Center Society, 1415 Weiwaikum Rd., Campbell River, BC, V9W 5W9

GROUP REGISTRATION and INDIVIDUAL REG. FORM (THERE IS ONLY ONE FORM)

***THERE WILL BE NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AS EVERYTHING IS PREPAID.**

***NOTE: There is NO Early Bird Registration. We do not get a deal on the venue or the food costs.**

REGISTRATION is \$550 PER PERSON

***Everyone pays the same fee, elders, helpers, drivers, leaders...EVERYONE PAYS \$550.**

REGISTRATION CUT-OFF IS: JUNE 28th, 2024 and no fees will be reimbursed after this deadline.

***REG. FEES covers the cost of 2 lunches and 2 dinners, 4 coffee & tea breaks and the facility rental only for everyone on August 13-14, 2024. We provided the Services and Workshops for the elders.**

***There will be a \$50 NON-REFUNDABLE administration fee deducted from ALL Registration Fees.**

***All services upstairs are for the elders only i.e. haircuts, nails, mystics, massage therapy, healing and workshops are for ELDERS 55 years of age and up. No Helpers or Drivers are permitted.**

***FIRE: In the event of a local fire evacuation after the June 28th, 2024 cancellation date we will only be able to reimburse the registration fee (less the \$50 admin. fee) if it is before July 8th, 2024. Food will be paid for by then and it is non-refundable from the facility. After this date there can be no refunds.**

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

[You will get blank name tags for your group/individuals and a black sharpie to use and keep].

***Parking/Drop Off Info & Registration Contest Info will all be in the NEW GATHERING NEWS!**

***If you have unused seats after the cancellation date, you can list those seats with our office and we will try to resell them for you, but there are no guarantees.**

GROUP/NATION OR INDIVIDUAL'S NAME: _____

How many People are you Registering today? _____

Mailing Address: _____

Group Leader's Name: _____

Group Leader's Email Address: _____

Group Leader's Cell # at Event: _____



BC Elders Council (BCEC)

1436 Weiwaikum Rd. Campbell River, BC, V9W 5W9

Email: bcelderscouncil@gmail.com

Website: www.bcelders.com

Sept. 25, 2023

UPDATE

Dear Elders and Elder Support Workers,

In the coming weeks, I will be contacting all Nations to ask each Elders group to come forward with the name of the Elder who will represent their Nation in the revamped BC Elders Council for a **two-year term**.

It is encouraged that Nations choose their Elder by **drawing a name from all interested Elders out of a hat** because elections are daunting and time consuming.

Each Nation shall provide the name and email address of their representative so that they can be reached out to BEFORE the 2024 Elders Gathering next August.

Elder's representatives will be asked for their Nation's 5 top priorities of what concerns their Nation's Elders the most.

BCEC AGM 2024: A MEMBER ATTENDING FROM EACH NATION, BAND, GROUP/ORG. IS OUR GOAL!

Please contact me by emailing bcelderscouncil@gmail.com, joining us on our Facebook Page: [BC Elders Council | Campbell River BC | Facebook](#), or using the mailing address posted at the top of this letter. The BCEC does not have an official website or phone number currently, but we are supported under the umbrella of The B.C. Elders Communication Center Society and their website at www.bcelders.com.

Gilakasla!

Wilf Charest (Wa Kum Ka Las)

Executive Director, BCEC

bcelderscouncil@gmail.com

[BC Elders Council | Campbell River BC | Facebook](#)

48th Annual Elders Gathering (less 3 Covid-19 years)
AUGUST 12th, 2024 (early check-in) With the Event AUGUST 13-14th, 2024

Theme: "WE ARE ONE"

Location: Vancouver Convention Centre, East Building

HOST: BC ELDERS COMMUNICATION CENTER SOCIETY (BCECCS)

PLEASE EMAIL ALL QUESTIONS TO: bcelders@telus.net

REGISTRATION CONTEST

There is a Registration Contest which will begin Nov. 1, 2023 and run to March 31, 2024

PRIZES will be 5 draws of \$1000 each

At the end of the month the names of the groups who have registered to that point will be put into a hat and 1 group will be chosen.

Though these prizes will be drawn Nov. 30, Dec. 31, Jan. 31, Feb. 28, March 31 the prizes won't be awarded until right after the cut-off day for registration June 28, 2024. That way we can guarantee that no winners will have cancelled their registration.

SIGNING UP FOR UPSTAIRS SERVICES AND WORKSHOPS

This will all be done differently from now on.

Workshops – only half of the signup sheets will be put out on the Monday for early Check-Ins. What has been happening is that only those able to sign up on that Monday sign up for everything and the people that check-in on Day 1 (Tuesday) of the event have no opportunity to sign up for anything.

So, half of the lists for each workshop will be available on the Monday and the other half will be available for those that sign up on the Tuesday.

Services i.e. haircuts, nails, therapeutic massages, healing, mystics, foot checks

Will Be First Come First Serve From Now On.

We have tried appointments and we have tried sign-up sheets and both have been a disaster.

So, there will be waiting chairs for each service where elders can line-up. There will be people taking names of those in the front of the line-ups, simply to know what name to call out, but there will be no missing of your name. If you are not there for your turn you will be cancelled from the list unless you are a very short time to go to the washroom.

This will solve the problem of the first groups to Check-In for the Gathering taking all of the available spots. And it will eliminate people signing up for a multitude of services and workshops at the same time to try and utilize as many as they can when others are left going without.

If the line-up looks too long for you to sit/stand in then you can choose to skip it and come back later.

Services are open 8 am to noon and 1 pm to 5 pm on both Tuesday and Wednesday.

ROUGH AGENDA—you will get the completed one in your registration bags at the event.

August 12 – 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm – Early check-in, Lobby of the East Building, Vancouver Convention Centre (This is usually just the Group Leader with a helper or 2 to carry bags).

August 12 - 12:00 pm Bidding on the Next Year's Elders Gathering OPENS

August 13 - 8 am – 11:30 pm Check-In opens again in the lobby of the East Building of the VCC.

9:00 am Coffee/Tea Break at the back of the Main Hall

8 am to 12:00 pm services all running upstairs first come first serve and the Rest Centre opens

8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm GAME ROOM is Open Upstairs

August 13 – 9:30 am the Grand Entry begins through the hallway to the Main Hall.

The Grand Entry is not done alphabetically. Simply line up with your banner when your group is ready and wait for the Grand Entry to begin. We will have a photographer taking quick pictures of groups as they enter the Main Hall and turn down towards the stage. When you get to the front of the stage split off and make your way to your assigned seats/tables.

10:15 am - 10:45 am Performance by the 2024 Cultural Host (to be determined).

10:45 am - 12:00 pm Welcome by a Representative(s) of the Territory we are fortunate and blessed to be in.

Introductions and short speeches by 2024 Elders Gathering Sponsors

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Workshops, and Services Upstairs and the Elders Rest Centre reopens

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm OPEN MIC Individual Sign-up List and Group Sign-up List at the Stage.

2:30 pm Coffee/Tea Break at the back of the Main Hall

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Elders Dance (1/2)

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Dinner

5:00 pm – BIDDING IS CLOSED and The Host for the Next Year's Elders Gathering is Announced!

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm Elders Dance (1/2) continues

August 14 - 8:00 am the venue opens

8:00 am - 12:00 pm Workshops and Services open upstairs and the Rest Centre is open

8:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 – 5:00 pm GAME ROOM is Open Upstairs

9:00 am - Coffee/Tea Break at the back of the Main Hall

9:00 am - 10:30 am Cultural Performances from any Nation who signs up to perform

10:30 am - 12:00 pm Open Mic for individuals and groups

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm Karaoke with cash prizes

August 14 - 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm OPEN MIC for individuals and groups

August 14 - 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm Dinner

5:30 pm to 6:00 pm Performance from the Hoop Dancers

6:00 pm – 6:30 pm Performance by the 2024 Cultural Host

**Followed by the Honouring of the Reigning King and Queen
and the Performance of the Cultural Host Nation.**

Closing remarks by Elders Gathering Chair, John Henderson

SAFE TRAVELS HOME EVERYONE!!

CULTURAL HOST ENTRY NATIONS WANTED

We are looking for groups interested in submitting their names for the opportunity to be the Cultural Host of the next Elders Gathering.

Any submitted names will be used for subsequent years if your group doesn't secure this role the first time...though you will be asked before your name is put back in the hat the following year.

We, the BC Elders Communication Center Society, will remain solely financially responsible for the Annual Elders Gathering. You will not be asked to fund the event other than to register and pay the fee for your group like every other group/individual.

The CULTURAL HOST will be responsible for the following:

- **Providing the Elder King and Queen for the Gathering chosen by your group (\$1000 honourarium each from us at the closing).**
- **Circulating our poster to find an ARTIST from your Nation to do the new the logo for the event representing your culture. (Prize \$1000) The logo print goes to all major sponsors at the event and this contest is only open to your Nation.**
- **You agree to bring your cultural drummers/dancers/singers to the Elders Gathering to perform at both the Opening and the Closing of the event as well as at other times of your choosing. You pay their registration, travel and accommodations.**
- **Having your King and Queen presented with totes of prizes donated by the Craft and Info Vendors at the closing along with a Framed Logo Print to take back home with them as a memento of their reign.**

OPEN MIC

This was so well received that we are going to concentrate on more of this at the next event. There will be time on the first afternoon, as well as the second morning and afternoon.

If your group would like to perform on the dance floor or the stage, please put your name on the list that will be at the stage. Individuals will be on one list and groups on another. An individual will do one song and then they can add their name to the end of the list again if they want to (there will be cash prizes for open mic individuals).

Groups can do 2 songs in a row if they like, but groups could be large so there will be no cash prizes for open mic groups.

There will still be a karaoke time but it will be shortened. There will still be cash prizes for karaoke performers.

There will still be an Elder's Dance before dinner on Day 1 and right after dinner on Day 1 which brings our 1st day to a close.

UPSTAIRS SERVICES AND WORKSHOPS

GAMES ROOM - Please visit anytime during the event between 8 am and 5 pm.

Upstairs at the Convention Centre a room will be set aside for board games. A few have thought this idea was unnecessary but there are many elders at the Elders Gathering who do not leave the site from 8 am to the end of each day. Not everyone has shopping money and some people just want to play a hand of cards, monopoly or cribbage, or a game of Yahtzee with friends, etc. so this room is set-up for all of you.

Hairdressers

We are aiming to hire 25 for 2024 up from 15 in 2023.

Nails

We are aiming to hire 20 FOR 2024 up from 10 in 2023.

Mystics

We will have 10 or more.

Massage Therapists

We will have 25 in that department.

Healers

We are working towards there being 10 or more this time.

Foot Checks

Over 100 professional foot assessments were done in 2023 and that is the goal again.

BC Elders Council Meeting

This will be a yearly meeting held at the Elders Gathering. It will be on Day 2 from now on right after lunch. All groups are asked to send a representative with your group's 5 key concerns from your nation/group. Your Executive Director, Wilf Charest will compile these key concerns at the meeting and throughout the year and will communicate these with all groups and to the Federal and Provincial Governments.

WORKSHOPS

We will have more Meeting Rooms available to us by 2024 as the roof replacement at the facility will be done. We will be concentrating on providing you workshops that will be of interest to you all with the help of our Provincial Ministry partners.

DOWNSTAIRS IN BALLROOM C

Elder's Rest Centre

We will be adding 20 more cots for 2024 as the 25 we had were used continuously throughout the event. We had already moved this centre downstairs to Ballroom C and this room will fit the extra cots nicely.

Group Leaders please remember that this is a nap room and as such is for an hour per elder. Please make sure your elders don't get left here for an overly long period as that is not the Rest Centre's purpose.

TO: GROUP LEADERS - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS—AND INFORMATION

1. Having Enough Helpers/Chaperones for Your Elders

Please communicate with all of your Chief and Councils or Board of Directors at home in regards to the safety of your elders and the need to have enough support people per group with them. Some groups are very large and very under supported, which could be frightening if the workers are stretched too thin.

2. Elders Too Ill To Travel

Please also be advised that if an elder is too ill to travel then they shouldn't be brought to Vancouver or to the Elders Gathering. This has happened and the Elder's Rest Centre is not a care centre it is for napping for an hour only and is not equipped to do the kind of clean-up ill people can cause.

3. Group Leaders: PLEASE DO NOT SEND US YOUR ELDER'S NAMES or Health Information

INDIVIDUAL NAMES ARE NO LONGER NEEDED ON THE GROUP REGISTRATION FORM: In past years Elder's names were required for group registration which caused 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 a sharpie to write in their Elder's names and nation. Group Leaders 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 that starts at 9:30 am.

4. Elders Health Conditions

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.

5. FOOD 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 foods department who is dealing with thousands of meals.

6. The Menu—Meals are served at noon and 5 pm both days of the event

The Menu will be published the month before in the Elders Voice and sent directly to all Group Leaders so all groups can prepare alternate meal components should your elders not be able to eat what is being catered at the event.

7. CHILDREN: All Groups/Nations 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.

8. ACCESS to the Venue: We are planning for approx. \$700,000 in food and beverages for 2024, however **ACCESS** to meals will be strictly for registered delegates only, i.e. registered elders, support people, drivers not people's family members that want to see them. Unregistered people are not permitted and it is also all assigned seating so there will be no spare chairs to sit in.

The Vendor Centre is open to the public so, if family or friends want to pop in to see an elder they can meet up with them in the lobby outside the Vendor Centre. The rest of the venue is for the Elders Only.

9. BANNERS: 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. Don't make the banner extremely long so that it fits and can be stretched out and read easily.

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

11. VOLUNTEERS: The Venue this year requires all work to be done by the Convention Centre's union staff. We will only have a small number of volunteers but there will be at least 100 staff to serve the elders and support workers the 2 lunches/2 dinners with dessert, coffee/tea included with this event as well as the 4 coffee breaks.

12. THE LOGO for the 48th (2024) ELDERS GATHERING will be released in the Elders Voice as soon as we have one from the Cultural Host Nation's Artists.

13. KING AND QUEEN: Will be announced as soon as we have a Cultural Host for next year's Gathering.

14. DEFAULT BIDDER

In the event that there is no bidder on a following year's event, which has happens often, then our group (BCECCS) which has just begun its 25th year of operations on Sept. 15, 2023, will step in to host again and it will always be from the Vancouver Convention Centre as it has the servers we need as well as cleaners, air conditioning, elevators and escalators, managers, etc. that all the elders deserve.

Though we hosted in 2000 and 2017 in Campbell River, where we run the provincial elder's office out of, C.R. no longer has the required caterers nor anywhere near enough accommodations for 1800-2000 elders and support people nor does it have the volunteers that would be needed in a small town to insure food safety and services.

15. NOTE: Island vs Mainland

The vast majority of the attendees of the Annual Elders Gathering do not come from Vancouver Island. Most come from in and around the lower mainland, the interior and northern BC. Having the event on Vancouver Island means that the majority of travellers would be all paying for the extra cost of ferries and it would add hours on to their already very long travel times.

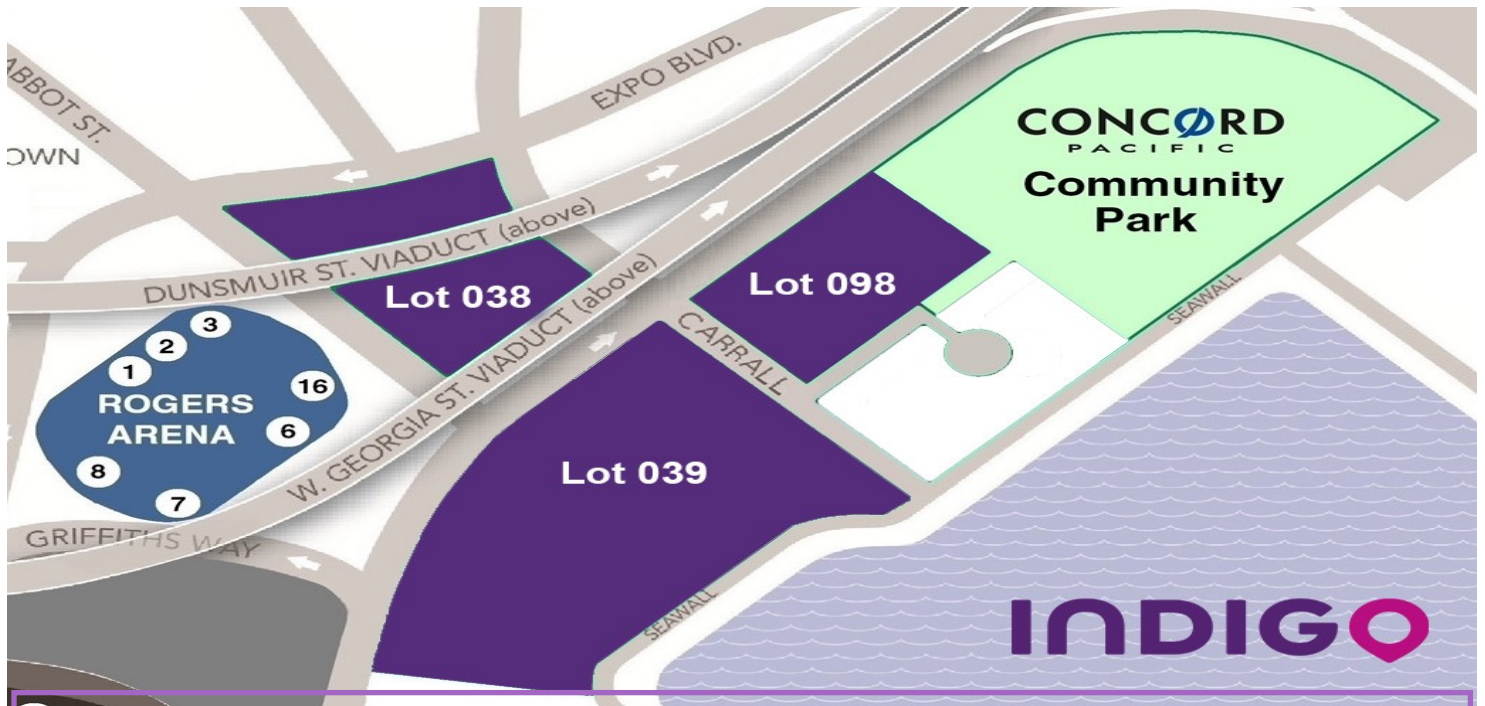
16. SEATING IN THE MAIN HALL:

Seating is in order of your group or individual registration being paid and your registration form being submitted.

Please be aware that round tables of 10 will sometimes have individuals or smaller groups sitting at them with your group. Please remember to make them feel welcome at the shared table. Our job is to fill those tables up to fit as many delegates in the Main Hall as will fit. We were sold out in 2023 so every seat needs to be utilized.

17. AGE for the Elders Gathering: 55 and Up!

Often called Junior Elders or Elders in Training but really, really needed to help the older elders on trips.



Attention: The exact LOT number will not be available from the parking lot company until the month before our event. Watch your emails we will send it to all Group Leaders.

Concord Lots—Van/Bus parking

Location: Indigo Lot (Concord), 88 Pacific Blvd., Vancouver, BC

Entry Lanes:

1. Travelling East on Pacific Blvd., turn right to enter the lot directly from Pacific St.
2. Travelling East on Pacific Blvd., turn right onto Carrall Street, follow the road to the left and turn left into the parking lot South Entrance

Vehicles must register daily at the pay station

Duration —August 12-15, 2024

Parking is valid to 9am the next day and parking will need to be re-purchased daily

Rates: \$25 – Vehicles under 24' AND \$70 – Vehicles 25' and larger

A receipt is printed for your records and there is no need to display it on the dash of your vehicle.

Should you have any questions or concerns, you can contact us at 604.669.7275 or via e-mail at guest-services.bc@group-indigo.com

TAXIS

MacLure's Cabs: 604-831-1111 Black top and Checker Cabs: 604-731-1111

Yellow Cab Vancouver: 604-681-1111 Vancouver Taxi: 604-871-1111

48th Annual Elders Gathering (less 3 Covid years)

IS AUGUST 13 - 14, 2024

Theme: "WE ARE ONE"

Location: Vancouver Convention Centre, East Building, Ballrooms AB (Main Lobby)

DO NOT CALL: Please EMAIL all questions to: bcelders@telus.net

CRAFT VENDOR APPLICATION FORM

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

F.N./NATION: _____ **CELL:** _____

TYPES OF CRAFTS:

Booth Fee is: \$700 and does not include food. [Space is 10' x 10' with an 8' table & 2 chairs]

***There is a water station available in the Vendor Centre for Vendors and Shoppers.**

***There is a Food Court right across the street from the Vancouver Convention Centre.**

- All Vendors are advised to email bcelders@telus.net to make sure there are still booths available.
- The Vendor Booth Registration Fee is payable immediately with this form. **THE FORM MUST BE SENT WITH THE PAYMENT.** You are not registered with only the form in or with only the payment in - you **must** do both at once. **NO POSTDATED CHEQUES ALLOWED.**
- Method of payment – **cheque or money order (No credit cards and NO Etransfers)** – made payable to: **BC Elders Communication Center Society, 1415 Weiwaikum Rd. Campbell River, BC. V9W 5W9.**
- Your cancelled cheque or money order stub **will be your proof** of payment, no receipts will be issued. Though you **Are welcome to confirm your booth with us at bcelders@telus.net.**
- **We were sold out in 2023, there were 32 info booths and 32 craft vendor booths. And we were sold out of seats for the Gathering itself at 1840. We are aiming for 2000 attendees in 2024.**

SET-UP OF BOOTH SPACE AND OPEN HOURS OF BOOTHS

- **MONDAY SET-UP 12:00 PM TO 5:00 PM, AUGUST 12, 2024.** You must be done using the Receiving Dock by 5 pm (**no exceptions**) as we are paying a Security Guard for those hours only.
- Booths are to be set-up no later than 8:00 am Tuesday morning August 13, 2024 or it will be given away or resold at no refund to you, the original vendor.
- **The Vendor Centre will open for you at 7:30 am each day. NO earlier and locked tight at 8 pm.**
- **TUESDAY OPEN 8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM.**
- **WEDNESDAY OPEN 8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM (everything must be out of your vendor space by 11 pm).**

RULES and GUIDELINES:

*When you arrive at the VCC please check-in with Judy in the Vendor Centre.

Do not go to the Elders Registration Tables in the lobby. Vendors **do not** get lanyards.

*The Vendor Centre is **Open to the Public** and there are lots of Cruise Ships and Tourists every where in and around the Vancouver Convention Centre.

- **Vendors CAN sell raffle tickets throughout the 2 days of the Gathering, but are not permitted to sell 50/50 tickets. RAFFLES ARE ENCOURAGED AS THE ELDERS LOVE THEM!**
- All Raffles must be brought to the stage in the Main Hall to be drawn on AUGUST 14 at 5 pm.
- No burning will be allowed in the booths as some elders have respiratory ailments.
- 1-8' table/2 chairs in a 10'x10' space. Due to fire regulations these tables must remain where they have been placed. And you may not switch booth spaces as they are all numbered and assigned.
- If you do not need your 8' table &/or chairs you **must** note this on your form.
- Electrical outlets are available for a fee of \$150 and it must be added to your Vendor Form.
- Notice of cancellation must be provided by June 28th, 2024 via bcelders@telus.net **that you have us confirm receipt of.** Any cancellations after this date will not be issued a refund no matter what.
- Display racks and small additional tables may be used as long as they don't block other vendors and they stay inside your 10' x 10' space.
- If you are interested in renting a 2nd booth, please just let us know and we'd be happy to.

I have read and agree to all the above rules and guidelines:

Signature of Applicant

Date

Please Mail completed Vendor Form **with** cheque or money order made payable to:

BC Elders Communication Center Society,
1415 Weiwaikum Rd. Campbell River, BC, V9W 5W9

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INFORMATION BOOTH APPLICATION FORM

CORP./GOV./COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

CONTACT PERSON'S CELL: _____

The Info Booth Fee is: \$1,600 and does not include food. [Space - 10' x 10' with an 8' table & 2 chairs]

*There is a water station available in the Vendor Centre for everyone.

*There is a Food Court right across the street from the Vancouver Convention Centre.

*NOTICE: There is also a further option for info booths. If you would like your small pamphlet or brochure inserted into ALL 2000 of the Elders Registration Bags, we will do it for a fee of \$500 and the inserts must be shipped to the same address as this form in Campbell River by July 7th, 2024.

- All Vendors are advised to email bcelders@telus.net to make sure there are still booths to rent.
- The Information Booth Registration Fee is payable immediately with this form. THE FORM MUST BE SENT WITH THE PAYMENT. You are not registered with only the form in or with only the payment in - you must do both at once. NO POSTDATED CHEQUES ALLOWED.
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*****Do not go to the Elders Registration Tables in the lobby. Vendors do not get lanyards.**

***The Vendor Centre is Open to the Public and there are lots of Cruise Ships and Tourists everywhere in and around the Vancouver Convention Centre.**

- Vendors are required to donate 2 items to the event which will be collected at the time of your check-in at the Vendor Centre, these items will be used to honour the 2024 King and Queen.
- The 2024 Elders Gathering Core Committee, BC Elders Communication Center Society's Board of Directors and workers and volunteers are not responsible for lost or stolen items or injuries.
- Vendors may not sell or serve food or drinks.
- **INFO And Craft Vendors CAN sell raffle tickets throughout the 2 days of the Gathering, but are not permitted to sell 50/50 tickets. RAFFLES ARE ENCOURAGED AS THE ELDERS LOVE THEM.**
- All Raffles must be brought to the stage in the Main Hall to be drawn on AUG. 14, 2024 at 5 pm.
- No burning will be allowed in the booths as some elders have respiratory ailments.
- 1-8' table/2 chairs in a 10'x10' space. Due to fire regulations these tables must remain where they have been placed. And you may not switch booth spaces as they are all assigned by us.
- If you do not need your 8' table &/or chairs or need more chairs you must note this on your form.
- Electrical outlets are available for a fee of \$150 and it must be added to your Booth Rental Fee.
- Notice of cancellation must be provided by June 28th, 2024 via bcelders@telus.net that you have us confirm receipt of. Any cancellations after this date will not be issued refunds no matter what.
- Display racks and small additional tables may be used as long as they don't block other vendors and they stay inside your 10'x10' space.
- If you are interested in renting a 2nd info booth space just let us know and we'd be happy to.

I have read and agree to all the above rules and guidelines:

Signature of Applicant

Date

Please Mail completed Vendor Form with cheque or money order made payable to:
BC Elders Communication Center Society, 1415 Weiwaikum Rd. Campbell River, BC, V9W 5W9



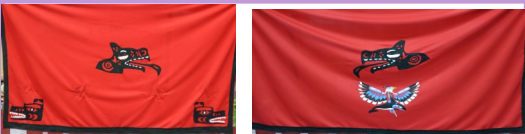
Official Elders Gathering Totem Pole Symbol Carved by Francis Horne



King and Queen's Set of Crowns Used in the 'Passing of the Crowns Ceremony'



King and Queen's Traditional Cape and Aprons



Left, Canes from 2018.

All Items below were donated by the BCECCS to replace stolen or lost Elders Gathering Treasures.

Right, Queen's Staff by Max Chickite, WeWaikai Nation, 2019.

King's Staff by Eric Baker, Squamish Nation 2017.

And Two Leather Carry Bags by Susan Paquette 2019.



The years when the BCECCS is the Host we will not be doing this ceremony as we have hosted many times, so we do not have the need.

The 2017 King Allan (Olie) Henderson & Greg Henderson were asked to create this Regalia Treasure Box for the Elders Gathering with its purpose being to both house the Traditional Regalia as well as being used to bring the Donation Ceremony (the 'passing of the blanket') back.

This tradition involves each out-going host having a Donation Ceremony on the last day of the Gathering by passing the Regalia Treasure Box amongst the delegates (instead of a blanket) collecting any donations for the next host which are then presented to them.

**BELOW IS THE
NAME TO MAKE
ALL CHEQUES OUT
TO: BC ELDERS
COMMUNICATION
CENTER SOCIETY**

**Below is the ADDRESS to mail
all cheques and forms to:
1415 Weiwaikum Rd.
Campbell River, B.C.
V9W 5W9**

**It is difficult and time
consuming to answer a
large number of
voice-mails for the
Elders Gathering
as we are a very
small office.**

**PLEASE EMAIL ALL
ELDERS GATHERING
QUESTIONS TO
bcelders@telus.net**

WATER STATIONS:

There will be water jugs on all of the dining table in the main hall.

As well as water stations with paper cups where you can also refill your water bottles in the Vendor Centre as well as the Upstairs Lobby for the duration of the event.

HAIRDRESSERS:

We are also looking to build onto our list of hairdressers/ stylists for the event next year. It is cut, blow dry and curl only as per the Vancouver Health Authorities rules we must follow.

Hours are 8:00 am to noon and 1 pm to 5 pm AUGUST 13-14, 2024 and these are paid positions but there are no accommodations provided in the lower mainland.

Please forward our email address to any hairdressers you might now.

Email: bcelders@telus.net

SUGGESTIONS: Email bcelders@telus.net if you have concerns or suggestions for your Elders Gathering. Or if you have workshop ideas for us to look into providing. We look into every suggestion that we are sent and you will get a response back via email.

ANNUAL BC ELDERS GATHERING INFO CORNER

DATES: THE 2024 ANNUAL ELDERS GATHERING

WILL BE AUGUST 13-14, 2024

Early Check-In: August 12th from Noon to 5 pm

For Group Leaders Only

PLACE: The Vancouver Convention Centre, East Building