

Background:

The first position created for TUNM was one for a United Church Minister, who served in that capacity for nine years. He established a wonderful framework for the ministry which we now conduct with urban Aboriginal people. A second position, for an Anglican priest, was also created, and a third position, for a social and pastoral care worker, with a particular focus on the needs of Aboriginal women, has recently been added to the ministry. TUNM has been fortunate that staff members are familiar with their traditional languages.

It is our belief that the Creator gave "the original people" traditions about how to live life, and that we can continue to honour these important ways in our lives today.

Spiritual Development

Human beings who are raised in a safe caring and respectful environment learn to value their lives and the lives of others, including plants and animals and other creations of the Great Spirit. Song, dance, spiritual ceremonies, and other processes of healing bring wholeness and togetherness, and provide a sense of purpose in the world. This process creates a sense of identity, and enriches the people's existence on Mother Earth.

In spiritual development a person's inner state connects with the community and the environment; this inner state longs to reflect inner peace, balance and personal harmony.

*Serving the Aboriginal
Community in the Greater Toronto
Area since 1995*

Toronto Urban Native Ministry



Toronto Council Fire
Native Cultural Centre
439 Dundas Street East
Toronto, Ontario M5A 2B1

Toronto Christian
Resource Centre
40 Oak Street
Toronto, Ontario M5A 2C6

Toronto Urban Native Ministry

TUNM is an ecumenical ministry dedicated to serving First Nations people living in Greater Toronto Area, a population of more than 95,000. Established in 1995, TUNM is located at the Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre in the downtown core. Programming can be offered in other areas of the GTA when time and resources allow.

TUNM reflects a long history of Aboriginal involvement with churches. At present we are in partnership with the United, Anglican and Mennonite churches. Through these relationships, we assist members of both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community to enrich their lives and build right relations.

Worship services

Sundays: 11:00 am at Gathering Place drop-in, Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre

Fridays: 7:00 pm (September-June) at Metropolitan United Church (Queen and Church streets; side door off parking lot)

All are welcome to attend!

Toronto Urban Native Ministry seeks to:

- provide opportunities for Aboriginal Christian worship in downtown Toronto;
- encourage personal healing through the use of Christian and traditional beliefs and counselling;
- provide worship and ceremonies that address healing needs;
- promote principles of restoring right relations, building justice and reconciliation;
- refer individuals to existing resources: government, church, and other community services;
- provide outreach services to the homeless, shut-ins, and to those in hospital and other institutions
- provide services integrating traditional and Christian ways: wedding, baptisms, wakes, funerals, spirit naming, sweat lodge and fasting ceremonies;
- preserve and help to spread the teachings of the Elders, people of wisdom who have earned the trust and respect of their community through their good deeds, cultural achievements, and depth of life experience.

TUNM is supported by:

- individual and local church donations;
- the United Church of Canada:
 - the Mission and Service Fund,
 - Great Lakes Waterways Presbytery,
 - All Native Circle Conference;
- the Anglican Diocese of Toronto:
 - the Bishop's Company,
 - Faithworks;
- the Mennonite Central Committee;
- Toronto Council Fire Native Cultural Centre.

Staff :

**The Reverend Evan Smith
United Church Minister**

**The Reverend Andrew Wesley
Anglican Priest**

**Sandra Campbell
Social and Pastoral Care Worker**

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Board Members:

TUNM is run by volunteers consisting of United, Anglican, and Mennonite church members.