

Aboriginal Opportunities Committee (AOC)

Mandate

This committee's focus is to raise awareness and understanding of Aboriginal issues and perspectives within the Chamber's membership and the Calgary community at large. The Aboriginal Opportunities Committee (AOC) is committed to create and promote employment and business opportunities of Aboriginal People in and around Calgary.

Summary of Previous Year's Work

Last year the Committee focused on addressing Calgary's labour shortage by better engaging the talent available in Calgary's Aboriginal communities. The Committee developed events programming which culminated with a keynote address by the Minister of Indian Affairs & Northern Development. More than 400 members of the aboriginal and business community were in attendance. The group also coordinated a private meeting between the Minister, Treaty 7, and Métis Nation to discuss barriers to aboriginal employment and the opportunities to move forward.

Towards the end of the committee season, the AOC began preliminary planning of a symposium on Aboriginal employment.

Committee Meeting Guest Speakers

Date	Speaker	Topic
November 2006	Jim Prentice, M.P. Calgary Centre, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barriers to full aboriginal employment
February 2007	Whiley Eagle Speaker, Canadian Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIDS in the Aboriginal Community