



# Edmonton Urban Aboriginal Accord Initiative

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Elders Circle



# Structure

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- Committee currently consists of 12 Elders, who utilize a traditional consensus model of governance
- Elders are asked to join the Circle based on criteria that includes representation of an equal balance of men and women, Aboriginal affiliation, sectoral experience and knowledge of the Urban Aboriginal experience
- Debbie Coulter acts as the Elders Circle liaison, supported by the Accord Initiative project team



# Elder's Circle: Advice, Guidance and Governance

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The Elder's Circle provides:

- advice, guidance and recommendations for ensuring respect for cultural traditions and protocols
- wisdom and understanding of Aboriginal world views in a municipal setting
- help to ensure the inclusion of Aboriginal voices, language, and diversity
- contribute to political insights
- act as resource for ceremonies, celebrations, and cultural learning
- a critical element in Aboriginal governance traditions



# Current Members (2006)

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- Hon. Senator Dr. Thelma Chalifoux - Métis
- Alvena Strasbourg - Métis
- Jerry Wood – First Nations
- Dora Unka - Dene
- Nellie Carlson – First Nations
- Eva Bereti – First Nations
- Marg Friedel - Métis
- Don Langford - Métis
- Francis Bad Eagle – First Nations
- Francis Whiskeyjack – First Nations
- Peggy Richardson – Inuit
- Leah Saila - Inuit