

# AISES Advisory Councils

## Overview

AISES currently has Seven Advisory Councils, the Corporate Advisory Council (CAC), Government Relations Council (GRC), Academic Advisory Council (AAC), Professional Chapter Council (PCA), Canadian Indigenous Advisory Council (CIAC), Tribal Nations Advisory Council (TNAC), and the Council of Elders. Each of these Councils plays an important role in advising AISES in its work for their respective sectors; with the Council of Elders advising the board and the organization on traditional and cultural matters.

## Council Structure

Each advisory council is led by a chairperson or chairpersons who is appointed by the CEO and the AISES Board chairperson. The chairperson(s) of each advisory council is responsible for appointment of members to the advisory councils. Typically, the advisory councils meet in-person twice annually at the leadership summit in the spring and the national conference in the fall. Councils may also have other in-person or video/teleconference meetings throughout the year as determined by the chairperson(s) and the AISES CEO. Each advisory council has a description of responsibilities and structure (below). These descriptions can also be found in the Organization's Bylaws (except TNAC which is the process of drafting its description for formal adoption by the AISES membership in 2018). Advisory Council Chairpersons attend all AISES Board meetings to report out to the board on activities and to offer input to the board of directors in regard to their respective sectors.

## Advisory Council Descriptions

**Council of Elders:** The Council of Elders is nominated to and appointed by the Board of Directors and accountable to the Board of Directors for the purpose of cultural guidance to the AISES family as a whole. The Board of Directors approves the qualifications, appointment process, and responsibilities and will communicate this policy to the AISES membership.

**Professional Chapter Council:** The Professional Chapter Council (PCC) of AISES is consists of representatives of the AISES professional chapters whose goal is to provide guidance and representation for professional chapters, to advise AISES on issues important to professional chapters and their members, to increase opportunities for AISES professionals, and to support the AISES mission by:

- Meeting quarterly to support and represent the AISES professional chapters.
- Advising AISES on issues important to the professional chapters and members.
- Supporting the formation of additional professional chapters.
- Assisting professional chapters in fundraising ideas and programs.
- Serving as a liaison between professional chapters and AISES Headquarters.
- Assisting professional chapters to recruit new members and retain current members.
- Assisting professional chapters in providing professional development for members.
- Providing networking opportunities for professional chapters and members.
- Assisting professional chapters in their outreach to AISES students and student chapters.
- Reviewing professional chapter Affiliation Agreements and Professional By-laws and presenting any proposed changes to AISES Headquarters.
- Promoting communication between professional chapters.
- Having the PCC Chair representing the PCC at the regularly scheduled AISES Board meetings.
- Providing input for the Professional Members Dinner at the National Conference.

**Corporate Advisory Council:** The Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) is comprised of corporate representatives who support AISES in its mission of increasing the number of Native people in STEM. The CAC provides industry advice and counsel to the AISES' Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Directors by:

- Providing scholarships, internship programs and/or employment opportunities.
- Participating in and supporting AISES events through sponsorships, presentations, and providing career information and resources.
- Supporting student and professional chapters in their local areas.
- Providing industry expertise and guidance related to current/projected employment trends and needs.
- Developing support for AISES consistent with individual company capabilities, including financial contributions, in-kind gifts, and human resources.
- Assisting AISES in fundraising efforts through networking and participation.
- Facilitating effective public relations for AISES activities via coverage in company publications.

**Government Relations Council:** The Government Relations Council (GRC) is comprised of U.S. Government employees. The GRC establishes and supports working relationships between Federal government agencies and AISES, and identifies government resources, develops strategies, and promotes government careers in support of the AISES' mission by:

- Assisting in the placement of Native people into government jobs, by working closely with the AISES student chapters, and colleges and universities.
- Coordinating and participating in government sponsored workshops at the AISES National Conference, Leadership Summit, and Regional Conferences.
- Identifying federal funding opportunities for AISES.
- Supporting student and professional chapter events.
- Identifying federal internship and employment programs.

**Academic Advisory Council:** The Academic Advisory Council (AAC) provides guidance to AISES regarding academic matters such as grant proposal writing, educational and research project design, faculty careers, college admissions and financial aid, postgraduate study and fellowship opportunities, research opportunities, and other higher education opportunities. The Council will engage in issues including but not limited to:

- Provide recommendations concerning the scientific and technical merit of grant proposals and projects.
- Provide recommendations concerning protections for human subjects and other areas as applicable for grant proposals or projects.
- Make recommendations concerning appropriateness of budget requests for grant proposals and projects.
- Provide mentorship to AISES student members who are interested in pursuing a career in Academia.
- Support AISES activities and chapters at ACC members' colleges and universities.
- Alert AISES to potential grant funding and institutional partnership opportunities.

**Canadian Indigenous Advisory Council:** The Canadian Indigenous Advisory Council (CIAC) of AISES consists of representatives from the Canadian Indigenous science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) community. The primary role of the CIAC is to advise AISES on issues of relevance and importance to its Canadian Indigenous (Status and Non-Status First Nation, Metis, and Inuit) members. In addition, the CIAC also works to assist AISES in creating opportunities for Canadian Indigenous

members, and to support the AISES mission of substantially increasing the representation of Canadian Indigenous Peoples in engineering, science, and other related technology disciplines. The Canadian Indigenous Advisory Council:

- Advises AISES on issues important to Canadian Indigenous chapters and members.
- Assists in the formation of professional and post-secondary chapters of AISES in Canada.
- Encourages K-12 Canadian Indigenous educator and student participation in AISES programming, where appropriate.
- Serves as a liaison between the Canadian Indigenous STEM community and AISES.
- Provides networking opportunities for Canadian Indigenous AISES chapters and members.
- Promotes communication between Canadian Indigenous AISES chapters and members.
- Serves as an advocate to publicize Canadian Indigenous content in Winds of Change and on the AISES website.
- Represents the CIAC at regularly scheduled AISES Board meetings by sending at least one co-chair.
- Provides input to National Conference proceedings in order to increase relevance for Canadian Indigenous AISES members.
- Promotes, assists and supports AISES in hosting a gathering of Canadian Indigenous AISES members and allies at the National conference.
- Supports AISES in developing a biennial conference held in Canada to serve Canadian Indigenous AISES chapters and members.

**Tribal Nations Advisory Council:** The role of Tribal Nations Advisory Council (TNAC) will be to advise AISES in its work with Tribal Nations and will be comprised of representatives from Tribal Nations across the nation. The development of the TNAC will meet help to address the growing tribal STEM workforce development needs while also advising AISES in our work with representatives from Tribal Nations to help shape and guide STEM programming for Native youth in those communities.