



Hamilton

MINUTES

Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee
Tuesday March 19, 2013.
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Lister Block Building, 28 James Street North, Basement Meeting Room.

Present:	Co-Chairs: Nashwa Khan
	Members: Marten Kaas, Alex Fiorello, Camilo Sanchez Galindo, Daniel Sanchez Galindo, Alexandra da Silva, Jackson Virgin-Holland, Don Mahleka, Fan Yang, Fiorella Villanueva-Heldmaier, Alex Ramirez, Becky Schmor, Lauren Hansen
Absent with Regrets:	Councillor Jackson, Mikayla Zolis, Joselin Marccio, Michael Pratas, Ahmad Ahmad, Nicole Lachapelle, Lauren Hicks
Also Present:	René Reid, Mark Weingartner, Alex Lee, Jason Ryan, Rebecca Dahl, Emily St. Clair, Zil Nasir

COMMITTEE SECRETARY/MINUTE TAKER & TIMEKEEPER/MANAGER – Marten Kaas

- 1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA** – Addition of presentations 4.1 Jason Ryan, 4.3 Clean-up at the Royal Botanical Gardens, 4.4 Leadership Quest, movement of Erika Reichther to item 4.2
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - deferred
- 4. PRESENTATIONS**

4.1 Jason Ryan provided additional passes, his contact info and locations of all the rec centres. Recreation guides were also available. Jason wants HYAC members to get into the recreational facilities in order to see what the atmosphere is like, what sorts of programs are offered etc. so that they can ultimately get feedback from HYAC members.

4.2 Erika Reicther: A McMaster University student-researcher in the Department for Arts and Science and Peace Studies, discussed a series of youth dialogue sessions that are being held with volunteers ages 15-18 March 26th 6:30-8:30pm. Please refer to the appendix for further information.

4.3 Coote's Paradise Clean-up: Mark invited HYAC members to join him in the annual Coote's Paradise Spring Clean-up happening Sunday March 24, 1-4pm at various RBG locations.

4.4 Leadership Quest: Lauren and Alexandra and UFF members Camilo and Alex F. shared reviews of Leadership Quest, an event with Hamilton Public Health Services and Unfiltered Facts. HYAC members Lauren and Alexandra said it was a great opportunity and that they learned a lot from the experience and were motivated to become involved with their school's health action teams.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Urban Arts Initiative: Just want youth to come and drop by and just create things. They are trying to establish a youth friendly space.

5.2 Factory Media: Don, Camilo, Alexandra, Nashwa and Marten are interested in helping to create the t-shirts via participation in silk screening workshop.

5.3 Change Camp @ Mac.: At McMaster on Tuesday March 26th between 6:30pm and 8:30 there was a Change Camp held in order to promote dialogue between all members of the Hamilton community in order address issues that impact Hamiltonians. Six round tables with pertinent issues, such as downtown renewal and mental health, came out with reports that will be compiled into a manual that will be distributed into the Hamilton community.

5.4 Biographies and Articles: René to send out Media Consent Forms to members again. Have signed consent forms for Alex F. Camilo, Marten and Ahmad. Members must have a consent form signed for photos and for website. Members are also encouraged to think about writing an article to post on the website.

5.5 Subcommittee Updates:

Youth Friendly Spaces Report sub-committee update:

- Still fleshing things out.
- March 6 to 8th : Lauren & Alexandra were in charge of gathering input from the participants at Leadership Quest as part of the research on this topic for the report to Council. Alexandra passed the task on to Camilo. Lauren and Camilo to submit their findings.

Youth Transit Sub-committee Report update & survey:

- Still fleshing things out
- Marten provided meeting attendees with a short survey. He had everyone do the survey at the meeting. He will review the survey and possibly tweak the questions if he decides to go forward with a Survey Monkey that will be distributed City Wide.

Youth Week Hamilton Planning Sub-committee update:

- Still fleshing things out
- Sponsorship Package way behind for this year, but way ahead for next year!
- Still need to work out T-shirts details and creation
- Working on a hotdog vendor
- S.E.A.T Application submitted
- Tentative launch agenda drafted
- Keynote still to be decided
- Amazing Race basic template has been done
- Meeting with other community partners re: Amazing Race on March 26
- YWH events that are to be included in the passport of YWH Events are starting to come in
- YWH bags with logo are in
- Partnership with a poetry slam group discussed for YWH closing/wrap-up
- Work group meeting scheduled for next Tuesday evening at NGen.
- Motion put forward by Nashwa Khan to give YWH Subcommittee power to decide the speaker. Seconded by Alex Fiorello.

6. GENERAL INFORMATION & OTHER BUSINESS

- Those needing bus tickets, please see René
- Camilo talked about how Leadershipquest and how it was a leadership retreat that touched on various topics, such as health
- Alexandra talked about how she learned about becoming involved in Unfiltered Facts
- Lauren Hansen talked about learning how to communicate better, and how it made her want to get more involved

7. ADJOURNMENT

That, there being no further business, the meeting be adjourned at 6:45p.m.

(da Silva/Hansen)

Next meeting April 16, 2013.

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Appendix



Assent to Participate in a Study

I am working on a project with a couple of other people. **This project is on how students living in a place that is at war or students in Canada, who may face challenges like bullying or discrimination, can talk through the conflicts they face to help better understand them.** I am going to spend a few minutes telling you about our project, and then I am going to ask you if you are interested in taking part in the project.

Who are we?

My name is **Erika Richter** and I am a student at the McMaster University. I am a student-researcher in the Department of **Arts and Science and Peace Studies at McMaster University.**

Why are we contacting you?

We want to tell you about a study that involves youth like yourself. We want to see if you would like to be in this study too.

Why are we doing this study?

We want to find out whether talking through challenges faced by high school students in Ontario can help students overcome the conflicts that they face in their lives. We think that students who are living in Ontario face challenges just like students who are living in countries that are at war. Even though high school students in Ontario are not living in a war, there are many conflicts facing students in school and at home, including racism, classism, violence, bullying and poverty. We want to know if talking through these problems and sharing our perspectives and experiences with each other are helpful ways of reducing the challenges faced by Ontarian high school students and students living in conflict zones.

What will happen to you if you are in the study?

If you decide to take part in this study there are some different things we will ask you to do. First, you will be involved in a dialogue session. This will involve a discussion with five other students aged 15-18 on challenges that students in Ontario face including racism, classism, violence, bullying and poverty. The discussion will be lead by a facilitator and you will be asked to share your perspectives on the issues. You will not need to share any personal information that you do not want to share. Second, I will ask you to participate in a focus group. Which will involve the same group of people that participated in the dialogue session. In this group we are going to talk about what you thought about the discussion. You will be asked to share you opinions on the discussion and how you think students would feel about talking about these types of things. While doing these things all you have to do is try your best. If you have tried your best and do not know what to say or do next, you can guess or say 'I do not know'. It will take you about one hour to do the dialogue session and one hour for the focus group.

Are there good things and bad things about the study?

What we find in this study will be shared with the community and used to suggest new ways of learning and teaching. It will also help point out different challenges students face that need to be addressed. As far as we know, being in this study will not hurt you. Sometimes talking about these challenges may cause you to feel sad or embarrassed, but you will not be asked to talk about your personal experiences. Also, if at any time before or during the dialogue session or focus group you decide you don't want to be involved anymore you can tell us and we will not be angry or upset, you also will not have to give us a reason for why you don't want to participate anymore. Also, everything in each of the sessions should be kept confidential but because there will be other people there, we cannot guarantee that they won't share something about the session with someone else, but we will make sure everyone knows the rules about keeping the focus group and dialogue session confidential.

Will you have to answer all questions and do everything you are asked to do?

If we ask you questions that you do not want to answer then tell us you do not want to answer those questions. If we ask you to do things you do not want to do then tell us that you do not want to do them.

Who will know that you are in the study?

The things you say and any information we write about you will not have your name with it, so no one will know they are your answers or the things that you did.

The researchers will not let anyone other than themselves see your answers or any other information about you. Your teachers, principal, and parents will never see the answers you gave or the information we wrote about you.

Do you have to be in the study?

You do not have to be in the study. No one will get angry or upset with you if you don't want to do this. Just tell us if you don't want to be in the study. And remember, if you decide to be in the study but later you change your mind, then you can tell us you do not want to be in the study anymore.

Do you have any questions?

You can ask questions at any time. You can ask now or you can ask later. You can talk to me or you can talk to someone else at any time during the study. Here are the telephone number and email where you can reach us.

Erika Richter Arts and Science and Peace Studies
(226) 338-2015
richteea@mcmaster.ca

Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee – HSR Subcommittee Questionnaire

1. On average, how often do you use the HSR per week? (ex. once a week, twice a week, 4 hours etc.)
2. What do you use the HSR for? (ex. to get to school, work, the movies, to see friends etc.)
3. If you do not use the HSR at least once a week, why not? (ex. you have a car, it doesn't go where you need it to go, you walk everywhere, financial barriers etc.)
4. List two things you would like the HSR to improve upon.
5. Identify the biggest problem you have with the HSR (or if you don't have any complaints, a problem a friend/family member has had).