

Youth Advisory Committee: Environmental Scan

July 2015

Toronto, ON

Committee

- [Toronto Youth Cabinet](#)
- Established - 1998
- Department – City Council

Mandate

- The Toronto Youth Cabinet (TYC) is a youth-led advocacy group that promotes youth participation in civic affairs. The TYC advocates on youth issues with various youth organizations across the city, and promotes youth involvement in policy development.

Key Priorities

- Outreach, engagement and training
- Gathering place for diverse young people interested in making change within a municipal governance context
- Provide young people with a forum in which they are able to build an equitable, youth-friendly Toronto

Mississauga, ON

Committee

- [Mississauga Youth Action Committee](#)
- Established – 1982
- Department – Community Services (Recreation)

Mandate

- MYAC promotes the well-being of all youth (ages 12-24) in the City of Mississauga. MYAC advocates on their behalf to various community stakeholders in order to inspire positive change and uphold “youth-friendly” city.

Key Priorities

- MYAC is to actively consult youth in the north, south, east and west quadrants of the City of Mississauga, in order to collectively determine the voice and vision of youth across Mississauga.
- MYAC provides resources and professional development to any youth in Mississauga who are engaged in student leadership opportunities through the Youth Advisory Committees (YAC) and Teen Advisory Groups
- MYAC is to provide volunteer opportunities to youth, and is to encourage and develop volunteerism and student leadership within Mississauga.
- MYAC is a non-partisan, non-profit organization that solicits donations and sponsorship to support their youth events and day to day operation

London, ON

Committee

- [London Youth Advisory Council](#)
- Established – 2012?
- Department – City Council

Mandate

- The London Youth Advisory Council (LYAC) exists to ensure that youth voices are integrated into local public policy decisions. We seek to reboot citizenship in London by encouraging youth to lead the charge against political apathy by playing a constructive role in the decision-making processes of the governments and institutions that influence our communities.

Key Priorities

- Inspire and educate youth about the impact that they can make by recommitting to advocacy, policy development, and political engagement as tenets of citizenship

Waterloo, ON

Committee

- [Youth Recreation Council](#)
- Established
- Department - Recreation

Mandate

- The City of Waterloo youth recreation council is a group of youth making a difference in our city by organizing special events and programs.

Key Priorities

- You can develop your leadership skills, influence what happens for youth in Waterloo and give back to your city.
- The youth recreation council has a number of committees you can join... Arts and culture; Community issues; Environment; and Sports and recreation.

Niagara, ON

Committee

- [Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee](#)
- Established - 1999
- Department - Recreation and Culture

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- The City of Niagara Falls Mayor’s Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) will provide a voice for the youth of Niagara Falls, while advising Council of important recreational and social issues concerning the City’s younger population.

Key Priorities

- To keep Council informed of important matters affecting youth.
- To occasionally host youth workshops/forums, conduct surveys to address concerns and needs that affect youth.
- To act as a positive advocate for youth.
- To actively seek input from youth on important matters.
- To support events created by the Committee that relate to the mandate.
- To provide leadership experience for youth.

Guelph, ON

Committee

- [Guelph Youth Council](#)
- Established - 2006
- Department - Parks and Recreation

Mandate

- Local youth volunteers (ages 13 – 18) that strive to preserve and enhance the youth culture within our community.
- Started with 10 members and up to 40 members

Key Priorities

- Liaise with City Council
- Plan and implement various special events and activities
- Engage in leadership training and development
- Advocate on behalf of youth in our city

Regina, SK

Committee

- [Youth Advisory Committee](#)
- Established - 1999
- Department – Office of the City Clerk

Mandate

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- The committee provides advice and makes recommendations related to issues that affect youth in Regina.

Key Priorities

- The committee will promote youth engagement in civic issues and advise on strategies that enhance the focus on youth interests and needs.

Calgary, AB**Committee**

- [Youth Employment Centre \(YEC\) Youth Advisory Committee](#)
- Established -
- Department -

Mandate

- Develop leadership, communication, and teamwork skills
- Network with others
- Enhance & expand your resume
- Gain valuable Volunteer experience
- Make a difference in your community

Key Priorities

- Brainstorm and identify employment & career needs of youth
- Problem solve with group to improve the Youth Employment Centre's services

Edmonton, AB**Committee**

- [Youth Council](#)
- Established –
- Department – City Council

Mandate

- The Youth Council's mandate is to provide information and advice to Council in relation to issues involving or affecting Youth

Key Priorities

- Research and write policy proposals for Council's review
- Coordinate community events that profile local Youth issues
- Receive direction from Council on work or reports it requires on Youth matters
- Develop relationships with individuals and organizations addressing issues of concern to Youth

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- Promote initiatives to support the well-being of Youth
- Educate Youth on City governance, procedures and policy making

Cities without Youth Advisory Committees

- Burlington
- Grimsby
- Caledonia
- Aurora

Key Success Factors

- Support from the community (volunteer organizations)
- Collaboration with high schools is critical
- Genuine support from mayor and council
- Host at accessible location , offer bus tickets, and provide food
- Create a diverse experience (educational speakers, idea contributions, projects and output for the committee to deliver)
- Focus on relationship building between youth and City representatives
- Ensure that we have enough staff devoted to properly support the project

Youth Committees Scan

Committee	Info/Mandate	Initiatives	Age	#Members	Term	Other (website, etc.)
Unfiltered Facts	We are Hamilton's leading youth health advocacy group; providing the unfiltered facts to help you make strong and informed decisions, without judgments. Focus is on anti-smoking. Model is changing in 2015. More flexible structure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health promotion campaigns ▪ Annual summit ▪ Leadership camp 	13 – 25	40+	NA	http://newsite.unfilteredfacts.ca.flax.arvixe.com/ twitter.com/uffhamilton
Hamilton Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Council	YAC works with Hamilton Community Foundation to make grants that benefit other youth in the city. With a focus on philanthropy and community engagement, this group is a great opportunity to make a difference in Hamilton, to grow leadership skills, and to gain self-confidence. Being involved with YAC offers opportunities to learn about positive changes that are happening both locally and globally.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ supported nearly 200 projects ▪ committed close to \$200 000 dollars to fund youth-led environmental and community projects 	13 – 25			www.facebook.com/pages/Hamilton-Community-Foundations-Youth-Advisory-Council/626072027473921 twitter.com/YACatHCF Adult advisor Melissa Ricci m.ricci@hamiltoncommunityfoundation.ca
NGen: New Generation Youth Centre Youth Action Council (YAC)	A multi-talented group of young people, who make decisions and direct (and lead) the overall functioning of the centre together. They work together with staff and other NGen community members to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ imagine new projects, programs, and ways of being with each other ▪ think about and take action on the future of NGen ▪ listen to each other to make suggestions and improvements ▪ make necessary decisions through voting, or consensus ▪ speak as advocates on issues affecting young 					http://www.ngenyouth.ca/#!yac/cqy0 Centre is in collaboration with Boys and Girls Clubs pf Hamilton.

Youth Committees Scan

Committee	Info/Mandate	Initiatives	Age	#Members	Term	Other (website, etc.)
	people in Hamilton and beyond!					
Youth Advisory Board for the Hamilton Bullying Prevention & Intervention Coalition	Made up of young people from both Public and Catholic high schools across the Hamilton region. This dynamic group is committed to the sharing of anti-bullying information and to the empowerment of children and youth to speak out against bullying in their communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ posters and other print info ▪ student events ▪ school & community presentations 	15-18			Attending a Hamilton-Wentworth Secondary School or equivalent program http://www.bullyfreehamilton.ca/y_advisory.htm
Youth Advisory Council – Waterdown	Ward 15 Students		Grade 9 and higher			Councillor Judi Partridge, Trustee Penny Deathe and Healthy Community – Healthy Youth are establishing a Youth Advisory Council. Uncertain if this group has been formed.
YWCA Hamilton Young Women's Advisory Council	<p>Provides a platform for young women in Hamilton to have their voice heard. We want to create a network of women's voices that is strong, unified and most importantly heard by others.</p> <p>We want to be at tables where important discussions about our community are happening.</p> <p>We want to have a presence and a voice as young women living, working, studying, and playing in Hamilton.</p> <p>This Council aims to bring young women together in ways that allow for safe, open discussion, providing an opportunity for growth, learning and to be part of something big in Hamilton.</p>		16-19			http://ywcahamilton.org/initiatives/young-women-s-advisory-council
Art Forms Youth Advisory Council	Art Forms is a youth arts organization designed to provide art-making opportunities to youth who are "on the fringe".					http://www.artformshamilton.com/youth-advisory-council.html

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	Art Forms relies on input and the creativity of young people for events, activities, and big decisions that need to be made. Our Youth Advisory Council is a talented group of young people who dedicate time and energy to helping out at Art Forms in this way					
McQuesten Youth Opportunity Creators	McQuesten Youth Opportunities Creators is a youth council dedicated to promoting and creating employment and volunteer opportunities for youth in our community.					https://www.facebook.com/pages/McQuesten-Youth-Opportunity-Creators/580569885394240?sk=info&tab=page_info https://twitter.com/mcquestenyouth
Youth Advisory Committee of the Children's Developmental Rehabilitation Centre	YAC was established the fall of 2002 for the purpose of allowing clients to have greater input into the direction of CDRP, as well as providing an informal social network to allow teens to discuss transitional issues (problems at school, social issues at etc.)	<p>YAC is responsible for the planning of social events for teen clients of CDRP, these events typically include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A holiday dance and social ▪ A Valentine's teen "hanging out night" ▪ An evening of bowling, ▪ An end of the year Fun Fair/BBQ 	12-19			Comprised of clients age 12 to 19 (with some older members, referred to as alumni serving as mentors and facilitators).
Environment Hamilton Youth Taking Root	More of a youth networking group around environmental issues that provides youth the opportunity to develop leadership skills					http://youthtakingroot.com/
YMCA Newcomer Youth Centre Advisory Group	(NYC-YAC) is committed to upholding the mission and vision of the YMCA of Hamilton/Burlington/Brantford, and will provide a leadership role in engaging newcomer youth in Hamilton, work towards strengthening of settlement services for newcomer youth, and enhancing their settlement experiences. The NYC-	The NYC-YA provides NYC staff with input and advise on variety of issues related to the settlement process of newcomer youth, enhancement of settlement services for newcomer youth based on knowledge of the issue, research, communication with the	13-24	9		

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	Youth Advisory Committee will also work towards developing leadership skills of committee members.	<p>newcomer youth participants (e.g., youth members and volunteers) within the YMCA, community and their lived experiences.</p> <p>The NYC-Youth Advisory Committee provides the newcomer youth participants with a voice in decision-making process in regard to NYC overall services and programming. The NYC-Youth Advisory Committee is a driving force behind outreach and fundraising activities that will enhance NYC's capacity not only to serve more newcomer youth but also to provide a more qualitative programming.</p>				
980 Youths4Yutz	<p>980 Youths4Yutz is a youth-led program which provides various free family-friendly events throughout the summer.</p> <p>Events are focused especially, but not exclusively, towards children and youth in the 980 Upper Ottawa CityHousing Hamilton complex.</p> <p>Three core values: i) a community and environment that is <i>positive, safe and encouraging</i>, ii) <i>inclusivity</i> so that every child/youth, no matter what culture, race, religion, etc, will feel that they belong at our events, iii) <i>empower</i> every child.</p>	All Sports Day, Karaoke Night, Movie Nights, Volleyball Tournaments, Just Dance Competitions & Summer Olympics, Weekly Board Games Night, Craft Hour and Girls' Drop-In Night	7-17	NA	NA	
Health Action Teams at area schools	No info at this time.					
Youth Anti-Racism Network	No info at this time.					