



# CITIZEN COMMITTEE REPORT

|   |   |   |                                      |   |                                      |
|---|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| <b>To:</b><br>Chair and Members<br>Emergency and Community Services Committee |   |   |                                      |   |                                      |
| <b>From:</b>  | <table><tr><td>_____ (Co-chair)<br/>Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee</td><td>_____ (to be signed by the Co-Chair)</td></tr><tr><td>_____ (Co-chair)<br/>Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee</td><td>_____ (to be signed by the Co-Chair)</td></tr></table> | _____ (Co-chair)<br>Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee | _____ (to be signed by the Co-Chair) | _____ (Co-chair)<br>Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee | _____ (to be signed by the Co-Chair) |
| _____ (Co-chair)<br>Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee                         | _____ (to be signed by the Co-Chair)  |   |                                      |   |                                      |
| _____ (Co-chair)<br>Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee                         | _____ (to be signed by the Co-Chair)  |   |                                      |   |                                      |
| <b>Date:</b>  | December 10, 2012   |   |                                      |   |                                      |
| <b>Re:</b>  | <b>2012 Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee Summary (HYAC12-001)</b>  |   |                                      |   |                                      |

## Recommendation:

That Report HYAC12-001, Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee - 2012 Committee Summary, be received.

## Background:

The purpose of the following report to the Emergency and Community Services Committee is to:

- Provide a summary of the City of Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee's (HYAC) achievements since the last report (Report HYAC11-001) December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- Outline upcoming HYAC initiatives, activities and/or events

The Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee (HYAC) is comprised of a diverse group of engaged leaders 14-24 years of age who are passionate about making positive change in their community. Ensuring youth involvement in the decisions made within the City of Hamilton and in the community that affects young people, their families and friends is HYAC's mandate. HYAC provides a youth perspective and advises Council, through

reports to the Emergency & Community Services Committee, on municipal issues to be considered by the Mayor, Council and City staff. Striving to address issues facing youth, enhancing opportunities for youth and providing a youth voice are the goals of the committee. In addition to fostering positive collaborative relationships between youth and adults and by supporting youth oriented events and programs, HYAC aims to lead by example with integrity, respect and innovation.

**Summary of 2012 Activities and Achievements for HYAC (in reverse chronological order):**

Since its inception in 2007, HYAC continues to make significant strides as an advisory committee, and also as a conduit between youth and youth organizations in the community.

Much of HYAC's work in 2012 focused on youth-led initiatives, networking and forming sustainable collaborative partnerships. In HYAC's December 2011 report to Council, the committee identified 13 key initiatives it hoped to accomplish in 2012. Through their combined efforts, HYAC managed to initiate, complete and/or maintain 8 of those initiatives.

HYAC members supported and participated in community initiatives such as:

- ***Unfiltered Facts Summit 2012:*** HYAC members attended the "Soundtrack for Change" Summit which featured youth artists, arts-based programming, youth facilitators, school sharing/networking, and tons of fun! The Summit armed participants with information and tools they need to tackle youth health issues in their school community.
- ***Raising the Roof Campaign:*** HYAC is once again "stepping-up" to help Wesley Urban Ministries put a cap on youth homelessness in our community! Hamilton is home to over 72,000 youth or 14% of Hamilton's entire population. Unfortunately, some of these same youth are at-risk-of or experiencing homelessness. HYAC members believe this is unacceptable and are supporting the *2012-2013 Raising the Roof Campaign* and *Toque Tuesday* on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Get yourself a toque today and help a youth experiencing homelessness tomorrow.
- ***CBC Hamilton's Town Hall Event – Mental Health 101: Youth and the Hidden Crisis in our Community:*** Members of HYAC collaborated on the topic with CBC producer Karin Chykaliuk and reporter Samantha Craggs, and participated in a town hall meeting October 24, 2012. Open to the public, this town hall examined the hidden crisis of youth mental health in our community. Attendees heard from young people and their parents, youth counsellors, health care professionals, educators, and the police. They shared their personal stories, discussed ways to break down the stigma of mental illness, and suggested solutions for change.
- ***New Member Orientation:*** In September 2012, HYAC welcomed 17 new members to the committee. HYAC's membership now stands at 26 and represents a diverse group of young leaders.

**SUBJECT: 2012 Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee Update (HYAC12-001) -  
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- ***'The 5th Annual ChangeTheWorld - Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge'***, ran from April 15 to May 6, 2012. HYAC members, along with over 1,300 other Hamilton youth participated in the challenge and surpassed Volunteer Hamilton's goal of 3,000 community hours by over 7,000 hours!
- ***Youth Week Hamilton***, April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 6<sup>th</sup> 2012: Members of HYAC made local history by organizing and hosting Hamilton's first ever Youth Week celebration! Youth Week Hamilton brought youth of different ages, cultures and areas of the city together to celebrate achievements and contributions while recognizing the importance of young people to the community. Some of the youth-serving organizations and groups that participated by offering free or low priced activities or entertainment were: YWCA, Hamilton Recreation Department, Living Rock, Hamilton Public Library, The Young Parent Network, YMCA, Youth Net Hamilton, the Vanier Cup winning McMaster Marauders, and students from Cardinal Newman and Bishop Tonnos Secondary Schools.
- ***'Moving Forward: Navigating Your Own Success'***, The Hamilton Children's Aid Society conference, March 13<sup>th</sup> 2012: HYAC facilitated a workshop for youth ages 13-18 in care of the CAS on Self-advocacy & Social Responsibility. Participants received 6 'keys' during the presentation that included key points about, Self-advocacy, Social Responsibility, Self-determination, The Power of Persistence, Who's in Control, and Success.
- ***Leadership Quest V: Leadership Quest***, an initiative of Hamilton Public Health Services (PHS), is a unique hands-on experiential learning opportunity that goes above and beyond traditional classroom walls. Designed to augment the secondary school curriculum, Leadership Quest gives youth an advantage by promoting positive youth engagement, critical thinking, positive networking activities and greater self-awareness. Hamilton Crew for Action Against Tobacco Peer Leaders (PHS), youth leaders from area secondary schools and community groups and trained supporting adults came together to enhance their skills, knowledge and motivation to take action on issues important to youth and positively impact the community. The event took place on March 10-12 at Medeba Adventure Camp in Haliburton Ontario.
- ***Team-building:*** HYAC began the New Year with a committee meeting and team-building adventure at Lazer Mania in January 2012. Youth engaged in initial planning discussions for the coming year. Youth and supporting adults also had the opportunity to team-build, while honing communication and strategizing skills during spirited games of laser tag.

The newly formed committee will continue to familiarize itself with the City of Hamilton and local government, as well as identify priorities and initiatives they wish to focus on during the rest of their term. One priority is to host Hamilton Youth Week 2013 - May 4-11.

**Recruitment and Membership**

Recruitment of 17 new members took place in May and June 2012.

Currently, there are 26 HYAC members. Twelve to 15 members attend monthly meetings and various events/activities on a consistent basis. HYAC is experiencing success inviting friends of current members to attend meetings and events. Committee meetings are open to the public. Welcoming youth who are non-members continues to infuse meetings with new energy and fresh perspectives while building interest in joining HYAC.

- The age range of HYAC members is from 14 to 24 years.
- Membership reflects a diverse group of young people from East, Central and West Hamilton, Hamilton Mountain, Dundas, Ancaster, Waterdown and Stoney Creek.
- Members include students in secondary and post-secondary school.

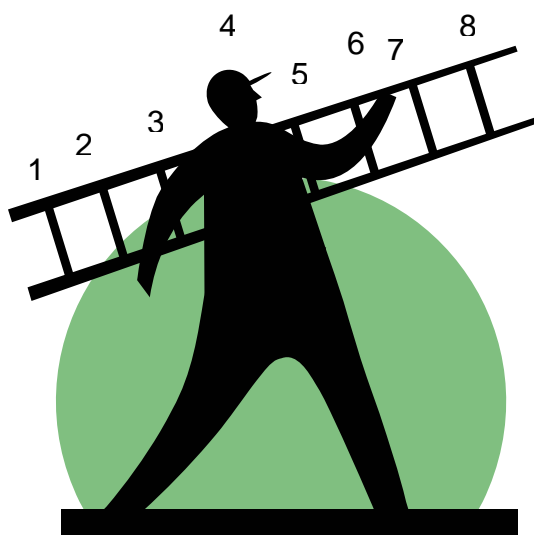
#### City of Hamilton Support to HYAC

HYAC continues to be supported by one part-time Youth Advisor in consultation with a Senior Policy Analyst, both from Social Development and Early Childhood Services Division. Other support has been provided through Councillor Jackson's office and the Mayor's Office.

#### **Up-coming HYAC Projects/Events:**

Building on the learnings and accomplishments of HYAC members and staff to date, a list of possible initiatives has been developed for future consideration.

1. Continue to utilize best practices and Hart's Ladder of Young People's Participation<sup>1</sup>, specifically rungs 6-8, as a guide to gauge and continue to ensure meaningful opportunities for young people to participate, lead and succeed.



#### Roger Hart's Ladder of Young People's Participation

- Rung 8:** Young people and adults share decision-making
- Rung 7:** Young people lead & initiate action
- Rung 6:** Adult-initiated, shared decisions with young people
- Rung 5:** Young people consulted and informed
- Rung 4:** Young people assigned and informed
- Rung 3:** Young people *tokenized*
- Rung 2:** Young people are *decoration*
- Rung 1:** Young people are *manipulated*

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<sup>1</sup> Hart, R. (1992). *Children's participation: From tokenism to citizenship*. Florence, Italy: UNICEF.

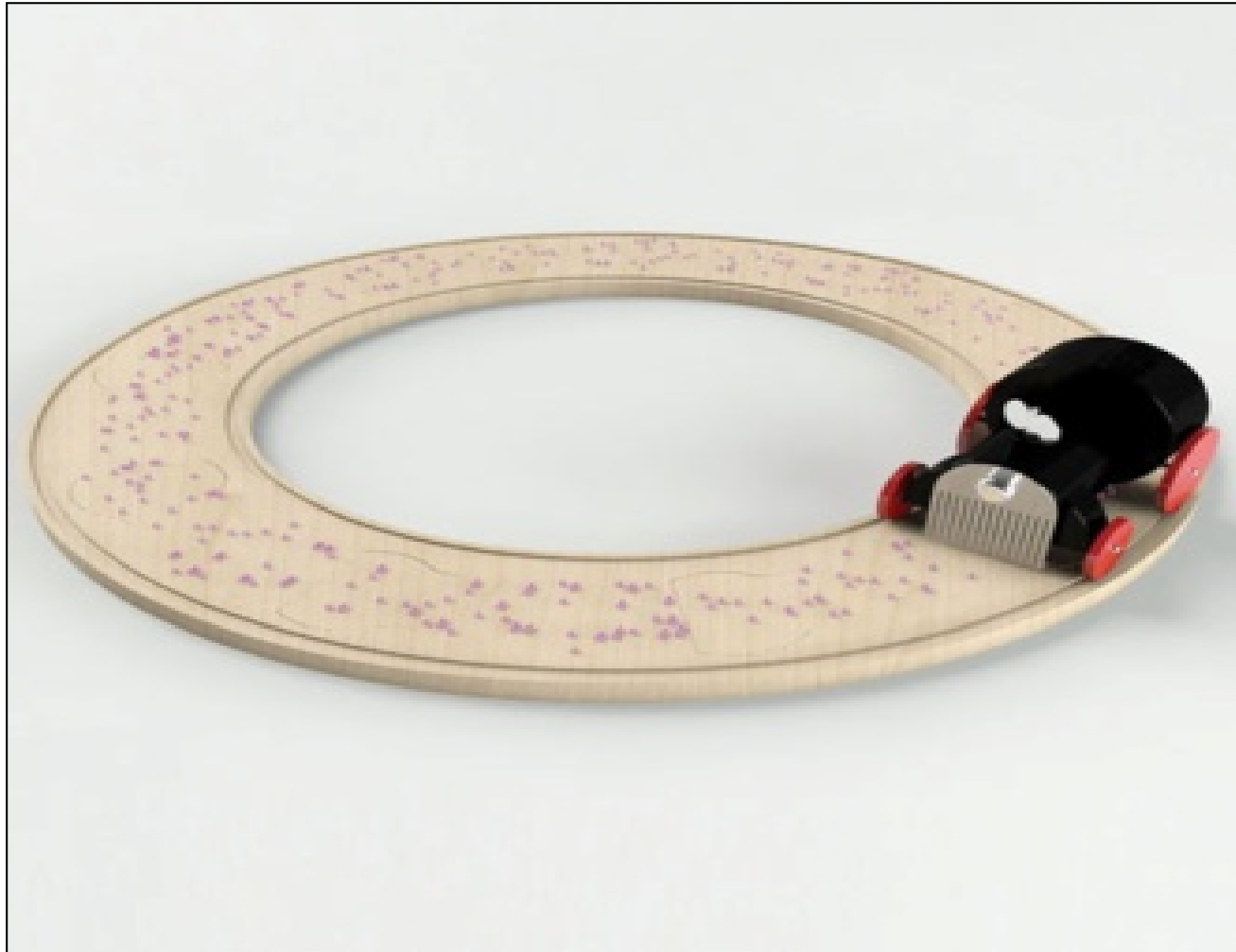
2. Continue to increase physical presence in the community and cultivate more of a 'grass roots' approach to advocacy and youth-related issues. Youth have identified HYAC's profile in the community is starting to gain momentum. Youth have identified the public is slowly becoming aware of HYAC and their mandate. Currently in discussion is another HYAC initiated & hosted city wide Youth-Week collaboration and celebration May 4-11, 2013.
3. Revise HYAC's current Terms of Reference and implement more volunteer management practices and procedures i.e. job descriptions and checkpoints/evaluations.
4. Maintain an up-to-date and informative youth-friendly website that acts as the 'hub' of everything 'youth' in the City of Hamilton. Create 'buzz' by designing an innovative promotional strategy by youth for youth.
5. Increase the number of reports to ECS the coming year.
6. Pursue linkages with other City wide initiatives such as the Neighbourhood Strategy, the Recreation Department and the Pan Am Games Initiative.
7. Develop a Youth Consultation Policy (internal) that would ensure timely, meaningful and accessible consultations with youth.
9. Develop a series of comprehensive pre/post evaluations and surveys to assist youth in identifying the needs and opinions of their peers and to help supporting adults with planning future initiatives and addressing committee challenges. This information would then enable more reports and recommendations to be brought forward to council.
10. Identify and develop a series of training and skill development opportunities for HYAC members. Some examples of trainings that would be of value to the youth include; message development, how to work with the media, advocacy and various leadership building activities/initiatives.
11. Continue to look for ways to network, collaborate and partner with other adult allies and youth groups.
12. Develop a scale of recognition and celebration of achievement.







# unfiltered · facts



**Soundtrack for Change Summit**





**WESLEY  
URBAN MINISTRIES**



**RAISING  
THE ROOF** | **CHEZ  
TOIT**

Long-term Solutions for Canada's Homeless

Buy a Toque!



**AND HELP PUT A CAP ON  
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS  
IN CANADA!**

Minimum donation \$10

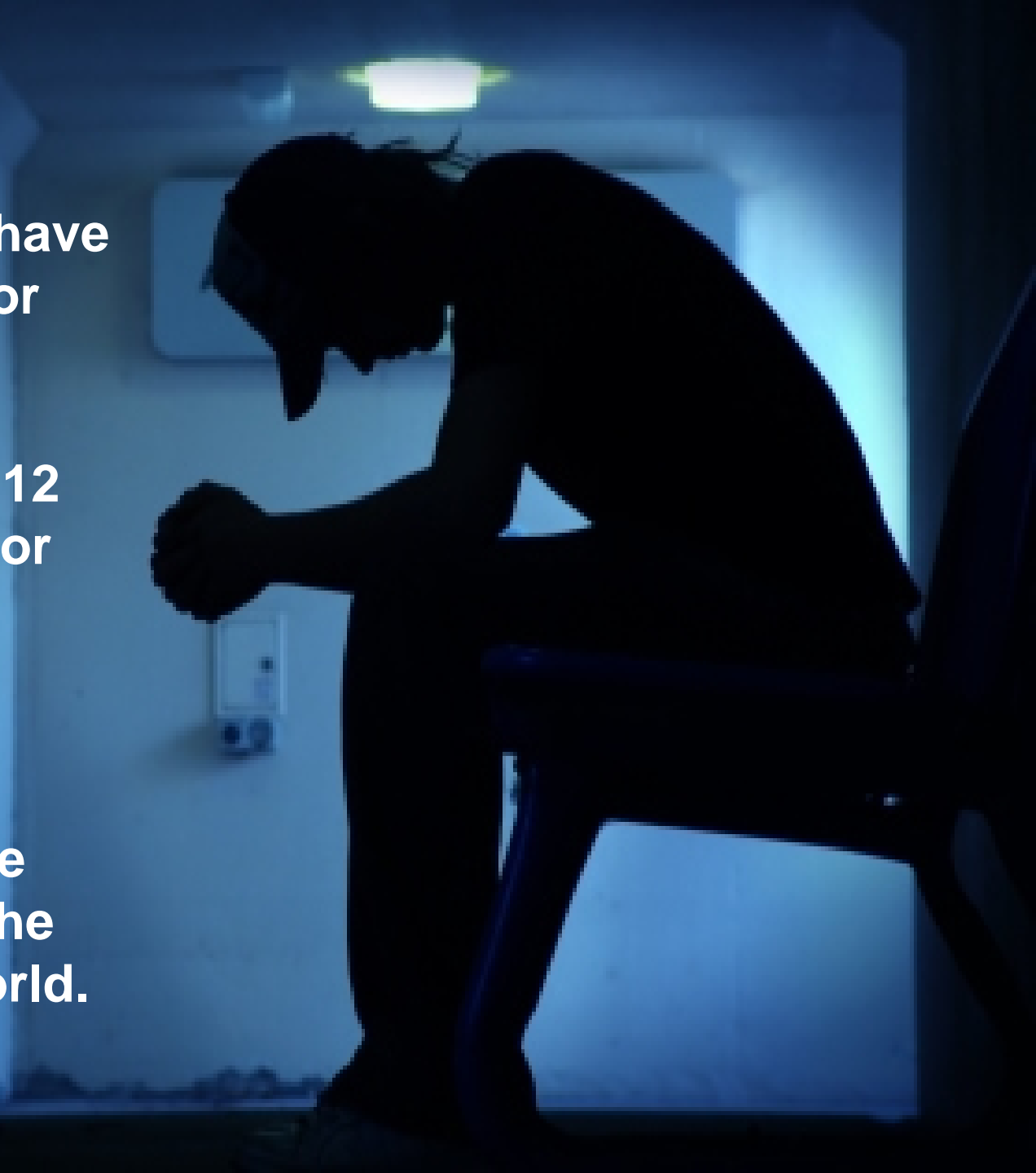


**RAISING  
THE ROOF** | **CHEZ  
TOIT**

Long-term Solutions for Canada's Homeless

## Did you know...

- 20 per cent of Canadian youth have a mental illness or disorder.
- 3.2 Million aged 12 to 19 are at risk for developing depression.
- Canada's youth suicide rate is the third highest in the industrialized world.





**EVERY NINE DAYS,**  
someone in Hamilton dies by suicide.  
**Sadly, some are young.**



**Mental Health 101:**  
**Youth and the Hidden Crisis in our Community.**



WELCOME

**New HYAC Members!**



Ontario Youth  
Volunteer  
Challenge  
2012



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION  
Presented to:



**Hamilton Youth Advisory Council**

for participating in the 5th annual  
ChangeTheWorld: Ontario Youth Volunteer Challenge.

Thank you for joining this youth movement and for making a positive change in your community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Dunlop'.

Kim Dunlop  
Youth Challenge Coordinator  
Volunteer Hamilton



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Charles Sousa'.

The Honourable Charles Sousa  
Ontario Minister of Citizenship and Immigration



# YouthWeekHamilton

April 30 - May 6, 2012

Celebrate  
Inspire  
Showcase  
Promote  
Include



hamiltonyouth.ca

## ScheduleOfEvents!

# YouthWeek Hamilton '12 Whassup?



Hamilton Youth  
Advisory Committee

**MONDAY APRIL 30**  
YOUTH WEEK KICK-OFF EVENT!



Join the Hamilton Youth Advisory Committee in the forefront of City Hall, 71 Main Street West, 4:30 to 7pm. Rats or Shits. **FREE** food and giveaways (to the first 200 youth), with special guests and entertainment! Meet members of the McMaster Hurricanes Football team and see the Vanier Cup. Experience Joel Hickey live with performances by the McMaster Marching Band, Cardinal Newman Secondary Students Defining Movement Dance and more! Play "The Mind Game" with Youth Net Hamilton's Youth Action Team and maybe win a prize!



### BE THE ONE...

**TO STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS!**

Girls aged 14-18 are invited to participate in an interactive workshop, Monday April 30, 3:30-4:45pm at the YWCA Hamilton 75 Macdub St. S. Talk about healthy relationships, self-esteem, and girls supporting girls. Facilitated by McMaster Students, and part of the "The One...to Stop Violence Against Women and Girls" project at the YWCA Hamilton. **FREE** food, bus tickets and resources! Contact: Audra Petrucci, Project Coordinator, YWCA Hamilton, 905-522-9922 Ext.112 or [apetrucci@ywcashamilton.org](mailto:apetrucci@ywcashamilton.org)

**MONDAY APRIL 30 - SUNDAY MAY 6**

### GET MOVING!

In celebration of Youth Week Hamilton, all Hamilton Drop-in Programs are **FREE** at all recreation centres including open swim, gym and public skating. Proof of ages 14-24 years is required at the time of admission. Call your local recreation centre or 905-546-2424 or visit [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca) for times and details and locations.



Hamilton

**TUESDAY MAY 1**

### the meeting house

In partnership with the Meeting House and Living Rock youth, a clean-up of the block between Hughson, John, Wilson and Canon

### BLESS THE BLOCK

To celebrate Hamilton's first youth week, and Living Rock youth, a clean-up of the block between Hughson, John, Wilson and Canon

will take place. Hooper Law Office will provide a free BBQ to youth.



### Job Search for Youth!

Learn how to effectively search for summer jobs online, register at jobsites and apply for vacancies using email. Jobs Discovery Centre, Rad Hill Branch, 3:30-4:30pm, 695 Queenston Rd (at Nash Rd.). Register in advance by calling 905-546-3200 X1038.

**WEDNESDAY MAY 2**

### Tips For Your First Interview!

Make a great first impression, learn the most common interview questions and discover how researching the potential employer can help you as the job interview! Jobs Discovery Centre, Barton Branch, 6-7pm, 571 Barton St. E. Register in advance by calling 905-546-3200 X1477.

**DON'T FORGET... IT'S FREE TO GET MOVING DURING YOUTH WEEK HAMILTON!**

**THURSDAY MAY 3**

### Job Search for Youth!

Learn how to effectively search for summer jobs online, register at jobsites and apply for vacancies using email. Jobs Discovery Centre, Sherwood Branch, 3:30-4:30pm, 467 Upper Ottawa St. Register in advance by calling 905-546-3200 X7858.

### BE THE ONE... TO STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS!



Girls aged 14-18 are invited to participate in an interactive workshop, Thursday May 3, 3:30-4:45pm at the YWCA Hamilton 52 Ottawa St. R. Talk about healthy relationships, self-esteem, and girls supporting girls. Facilitated by McMaster Students, and part of the "The One...to Stop Violence Against Women and Girls" project at the YWCA Hamilton. **FREE** food, bus tickets and resources! Contact: Audra Petrucci, Project Coordinator, YWCA Hamilton, 905-522-9922 Ext.112 or [apetrucci@ywcashamilton.org](mailto:apetrucci@ywcashamilton.org)

Bring a Friend, Get a Book!



Hamilton Public Library

Come try out one of Hamilton Public Library's great teen book clubs, and get a free advanced reading copy of a new book! No need to read a book in advance, come talk about one you've just finished and get the scoop on our teen book clubs. HPL Valley Park Branch, 4pm, 970 Paramount Drive, Stoney Creek. Register in advance by calling 905-573-3141 or HPL Stoney Creek Branch, 4pm, 777 Highway 8 Stoney Creek. Register in advance by calling 905-643-2912.

Living Rock's  
Gala Dinner:



**BEAUTIFUL YOUTH ON A JOURNEY**  
Hear youth stories and special guest speaker Lorna Dusek from "Conto: Life Beyond the Headlines". Carmen's Banquet Centre (1530 Stone Church Rd., Hamilton), 5:30pm pre-show, dinner at 6pm.  
Tickets: \$35/person, \$300/table of 10. Call 905-528-7625 Email: [development@livingrock.ca](mailto:development@livingrock.ca)

**FRIDAY MAY 4**

**A CALL TO ACTION: WORKING TOGETHER FOR YOUNG PARENTS CONFERENCE**  
The Young Parent Network is hosting Hamilton's first ever conference for Young Parents, at the Nicola Marchi Centre, 44 Hunt St. (near King & Dundas St.), 8:30am-4pm. Enjoy a day of innovative, informative & interactive events! Keynote address by Dr. Jean Clinton, some young parents will creatively tell their stories and a panel discussion to explore how to better serve young parents in Hamilton. Registration includes lunch & refreshments. Young parents are **FREE** (but spaces are limited) and can register at [www.youngparents.ca](http://www.youngparents.ca) or (905) 574-6876 Ext. 229. Service Providers are \$50 and should contact [apetrucci@ywcashamilton.org](mailto:apetrucci@ywcashamilton.org) for a registration form.

**DON'T FORGET... IT'S FREE TO GET MOVING DURING YOUTH WEEK HAMILTON!**

**"A Tiny Shift In Connecting Schools"**  
(Empowering the Internet to schools that do not have)

**"I AM"**

A documentary by Tom Shadyac, director of *Age of Verticality*, *Pet Detective*, *The Nutty Professor* & *Bruce Almighty*, challenging our social norms so that we, as a people, can build an equitable, sustainable world for ALL our children's children. First out what is right with humanity & participate in the discussion! **FREE**, Sherwood Theatre, 27 Dundas St. W. Doors open at 6:30pm. Movie 7:30-9pm, review until 9:30pm. Seating is limited to the first 67. RSVP: [jamie.albert@ywcashamilton.org](mailto:jamie.albert@ywcashamilton.org) or 905-921-6899.

If you wish, bring a non-perishable food item for the Living Rock Food Bank or a new tooth brush for Healthy Smiles for Kids. Additional displays by: Ten Thousand Villages, Canadians in Support of Afghan Women, OPRD McMaster Athletics Care & McMaster Service, Young Women for Change. See: [www.albert@ywcashamilton.org](http://www.albert@ywcashamilton.org) for event details. See: [www.livingrock.ca](http://www.livingrock.ca) for the film trailer. See: [www.shadyac.org](http://www.shadyac.org) for location details.

**SATURDAY MAY 5**

The Newcomer Youth Centre is **FREE** and open to all youth ages 13-24 today from 12-4pm at the Downtown Family YMCA, 79 James St. S. (basement). Enjoy computers with internet access. Play PS3, & Wii games. Challenge your friends to FIFA 12 (PS3) on the big screen! Try some board games, ping pong, pool, football, and crafts. **FREE** Henna applications by a local artist.



**RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS DAY!**  
Be an agent of positive change in your community! Dare to care and make a difference!



**SUNDAY MAY 6**

Join Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary School, as they take on the "Change the World Challenge" while supporting Kid's Help Phone by taking part in Canada's largest walk to support child and youth mental health, "Walk So Kids Can Talk". Registration 9am, walk starts at 10am from the F.H. Sherman Recreation Park, 385 First Road E. Stoney Creek. Check out [www.walksokidscantalk.ca](http://www.walksokidscantalk.ca) for more info!



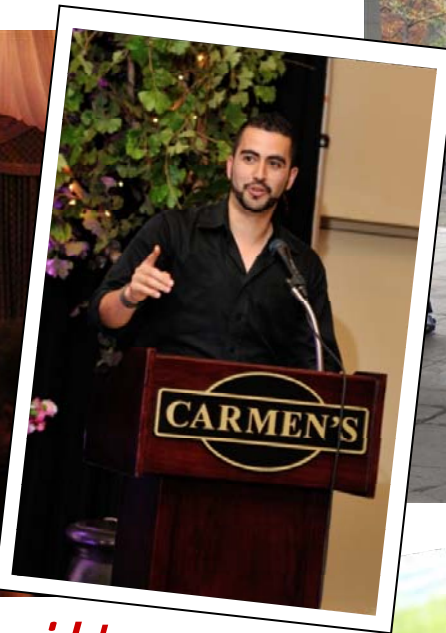
HYAC acknowledges their peers from Bishop Tonnos Catholic Secondary School who are actively working to create a safe, respectful and inclusive school environment. Empowered ST students participate in Beyond the Hurt Youth Facilitator Training, a bullying and harassment prevention program. On April 25, ST will host a Youth Empowerment Summit to explore all aspects of bullying and peer harassment as well as prevention and intervention strategies delivered by youth for youth! Great Job BT!

**SPEAK OUT. STAND UP. MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**



"The City of Hamilton is not responsible for planning or implementing the activities of participating organizations, nor is it responsible for any loss or damage caused by the activities of participating organizations. The City does not necessarily endorse participating organizations or their activities."





## *Hamilton Youth Week 2012*



The image shows six key-shaped cards, each with a number and a title, arranged in a circle on a wooden surface. A metal ring is placed at the top center, suggesting the keys can be strung together. The cards are:

- Key 1 (Red):** Self-Advocacy. Text: "I know what I want and I'm willing to stand up for it. I know what I need and I'm willing to ask for it. I know what I can do and I'm willing to try it. I know what I should do and I'm willing to do it. I know what I don't want and I'm willing to say no to it. I know what I don't need and I'm willing to let go of it. I know what I don't like and I'm willing to avoid it. I know what I don't do and I'm willing to stop it. I know what I don't want to be and I'm willing to change it. I know what I don't want to do and I'm willing to stop it. I know what I don't want to be and I'm willing to change it. I know what I don't want to do and I'm willing to stop it."
- Key 2 (Tan):** Social Responsibility. Text: "I'm socially responsible when: I act in a way that shows respect for the rights of others. I act in a way that shows respect for the environment. I act in a way that shows respect for the community. I act in a way that shows respect for the world."
- Key 3 (Orange):** Self-determination. Text: "Knowing what I want and being able to get it. I know and value myself and others. I feel really good about myself. I know what I want and I'm willing to work for it. I know what I need and I'm willing to ask for it. I know what I can do and I'm willing to try it. I know what I should do and I'm willing to do it. I know what I don't want and I'm willing to say no to it. I know what I don't need and I'm willing to let go of it. I know what I don't like and I'm willing to avoid it. I know what I don't do and I'm willing to stop it. I know what I don't want to be and I'm willing to change it. I know what I don't want to do and I'm willing to stop it. I know what I don't want to be and I'm willing to change it. I know what I don't want to do and I'm willing to stop it."
- Key 4 (Yellow):** Persistence. Text: "The Power of Persistence. Be willing to risk a little failure! I've missed over 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times I've been trusted to take the game-winning shot...and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed. Michael Jordan."
- Key 5 (Green):** Who's in control? Text: "I'm in control when: I know I'm responsible for something I do. I am able to manage my emotions. I am not in control when: I blame my emotions for something I do. I do not manage my emotions."
- Key 6 (White):** SUCCESS!. Text: "Setting goals & planning. Understanding self. Courage & perseverance. Control & taking action. Emotional skills. Self-advocacy & Support. Social Responsibility."







1403-1-10

# Support



**Hamilton Youth  
Advisory Committee**

# Future Focus

- Youth engagement and participation
- Raise HYAC's profile in the community
- Continue to reflect, revise and develop
- Reach out to other youth in the community
- Advise
- Skill development
- Acknowledgement



# Thank you.



**Hamilton Youth  
Advisory Committee**