



## WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE A NATIONAL MOVEMENT TO STRENGTHEN YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES. EMBRACING BOLD VISIONS FOR CHANGE!

YouthScape is based on the idea that young people can make important contributions to building resilient communities and systems that are inclusive, adaptable and healthy. Our society does not always support and recognize these contributions, especially when youth are 'diverse', excluded and marginalized culturally or economically. By encouraging young people to develop their talents, learn new skills and to become engaged in our communities, we can support positive change and make our communities stronger. YouthScape is an exciting Canada-wide initiative to engage all young people in creating change.

In this first phase, five YouthScape communities across Canada have been selected to develop exciting new projects to create change by encouraging active participation and meaningful engagement of young people:

### Halifax

COMMUNITY : Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM), Nova Scotia  
CONVENING ORGANIZATION : HeartWood Centre for Community Youth Development : [www.heartwood.ns.ca](http://www.heartwood.ns.ca)

#### DEVELOPING THE YOUTH SERVICE SECTOR – CREATING SPACES & PLACES

- Creating inclusive spaces where youth, adults and elders can gather and interact
- Fostering meaningful youth involvement in community building
- Changing attitudes and policies by increasing collaboration and coordination between youth-serving groups, community organizations, government agencies and private sector interests
- Providing opportunities for collective learning and action

### Montreal

COMMUNITY : Rivière des Prairies (RDP), Montreal, Quebec  
CONVENING ORGANIZATION : Boscoville 2000 : [www.boscoville2000.ca](http://www.boscoville2000.ca)

#### MOBILIZING YOUTH PARTICIPATION – BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

- Giving diverse youth a voice (Haitian, Anglophone, Italian, Francophone)
- Involving youth in local initiatives to address challenges that impact their community
- Increasing the influence that youth have in local organizations and political governance
- Creating opportunities for youth to develop their leadership skills



"We all have a blueprint for life...and if we were just to show each other our plans...then maybe the bigger plan can start to change...to adapt to all our needs...but we must first come together...this is the first step."

GABRIELLE FELIX & TALA TOOTOOSIS  
YOUTHSCAPE COORDINATORS  
SASKATOON

### Thunder Bay

COMMUNITY : Thunder Bay, Ontario  
CONVENING ORGANIZATION : United Way Thunder Bay : [www.unitedway-tbay.on.ca](http://www.unitedway-tbay.on.ca)  
BUILDING ON COLLECTIVE STRENGTHS – GENERATING POSITIVE CHANGE

- Promoting innovative means to inspire and foster a strong youth voice
- Developing accessible youth 'spaces' within the neighbourhood and greater communities
- Encouraging creative partnerships to address youth experiences of safety
- Coordinating the collaboration of services and resources for young people



### Saskatoon

COMMUNITY : Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
CONVENING ORGANIZATION : Communities for Children : [www.communitiesforchildren.net](http://www.communitiesforchildren.net)

#### BUILDING BRIDGES FOR ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT – CREATING A HOME

- Developing youth-driven programs for community organizations
- Building community bridges with tangible meeting places and activities for young people
- Creating response bridges to address issues, and to nurture and sustain vulnerable youth
- Supporting public policy bridges that involve young people in important decisions and create positive change within our systems



### Calgary

COMMUNITY : Calgary, Alberta  
CONVENING ORGANIZATION : Child and Youth Friendly Calgary : [www.cyfc.ca](http://www.cyfc.ca)  
CREATING INTER-GENERATIONAL COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS – INNOVATING CHANGE

- Engaging youth and adults in exciting activities to build community
- Developing intergenerational activities to build community
- Working together to address challenges for vulnerable and disengaged youth
- Facilitating, guiding and supporting positive community change

Imagine **acknowledging** young people as competent and enthusiastic contributors. Imagine **engaging** young people in building and managing our communities. Imagine **involving** young people in policy planning and legislation. Imagine **seeing** marginalized and diverse youth as problem-solvers, instead of problems. Imagine **inspiring** young people to learn new communication and leadership skills. Imagine **creating** a society where the engagement of young people is an automatic reflex...

# YouthScape

community based. youth paced.

GET INVOLVED! VISIT OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY >> [HTTP://PROJECTS.TAKINGITGLOBAL.ORG/IICRD](http://projects.takingitglobal.org/iicrd)

Unique Partnerships Meaningful Participation Action Research Systems Change

YOUTHSCAPE IS SUPPORTED BY THE J.W. MCCONNELL FAMILY FOUNDATION AS PART OF A YOUTH ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY TO FOSTER INNOVATIVE CHANGE AND BUILD RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AT BOTH THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL. THE INITIATIVE IS COORDINATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR CHILD RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT (IICRD), AN ORGANIZATION THAT SUPPORTS CROSS-COMMUNITY LEARNING AND RESEARCH, INCREASES LOCAL CAPACITY AND FACILITATES POLICY CHANGES, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD. OTHER KEY SUPPORTERS INCLUDE THE UNITED WAY OF CALGARY AND AREA, A NATIONAL YOUTH YOUTHSCAPE ADVISORY AND TAKINGITGLOBAL, A YOUTH-LED, TECHNOLOGY-EMPOWERED ONLINE COMMUNITY FOR INSPIRING, INFORMING AND INVOLVING YOUTH.



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