



Youth Engagement Strategy



Our Collaborative Work

- Ten year's with the Cumberland Partners
- Work together to identify issues and gaps in youth engagement
- Development of Cumberland Community Youth Development Centre



Poverty Reduction Advisory Committee

- Committee has been working diligently on poverty initiatives for two years
- Developed Strategic Plan to guide work
- Plan highlights two goals under the Youth Outreach and Education Pillar



Goal 1

Increase Opportunities for Youth Engagement

- Coordinated and facilitated our first Youth Summit
- Joint research project through MITACS and Mount St. Vincent University
- Received funding to host another community-based youth event for Newcomers



Goal 2

Conduct Presentations for Students

- Presentations based on the stigma around poverty and why volunteering and grassroots development is important
- Developing presentations with support from the Amherst Youth Town Council
- The Town has been asked to present on May 17th at Amherst Regional High School



Amherst Youth Town Council

- Made up of 14 youth
- Act as an advisory body to Amherst Town Council
- Work to improve the image of the Town of Amherst by raising the profile of the town's youth



Amherst Activities and Events

- Endeavour to create a spirit of inclusivity for youth
- Yearly Ester Fest Festival
- Hosted our first Multicultural gathering: December to Remember



Our School Partnerships

- Winter Carnival included several initiatives that incorporated children and youth
- Partnerships with Elementary Schools brought in 1758 students to participate in activities
- Student interviews conducted to highlight “active” outdoor events



Creating Opportunities and Celebrating Youth

- Flag Day Ceremony Partnership
- Athletic Achiever's Awards Night
- Amherst/Cumberland Multisport Program
- Amherst and the Cumberland YMCA host youth Fun Nights



Achievements and Next Steps

- These initiatives have led to an increased level of engagement
- Able to be more responsive to the needs of youth
- Partnerships and collaborations has allowed us to break down silos
- Able to offer a wider range of services



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