



City of Toronto **Youth Program Inventory**

City of Toronto

Youth Program Inventory

The **City of Toronto Youth Program Inventory** includes high level descriptions of City of Toronto programs for youth (ages 12 to 29) including the status (i.e. active, inactive, and online) of each program as of June 1, 2021 due to COVID-19.

In total, the inventory includes 47 individual programs and program categories from the following City of Toronto divisions, agencies and corporations:

- Economic Development and Culture
- Parks, Forestry and Recreation
- Social Development, Finance and Administration
- Toronto Community Housing Corporation
- Toronto Employment and Social Services
- Toronto Police Services
- Toronto Public Health
- Toronto Public Library

Some divisions, agencies and corporations have grouped multiple programs and/or activities that are similar under one category, such as Parks, Forestry and Recreation community recreation programs for youth. A few programs are delivered through interdivisional collaboration.

The inventory organizes the youth programs based on the most relevant outcome area in the Youth Outcomes Framework. It is important to highlight that most youth programs contribute to more than one outcome area and outcome.

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Cultural Hotspot: Youth Mentorship & Employment, Cultural Hotspot: Youth Participation	Economic Development and Culture

Contents	
xoTO Schools Co-op Placements	Economic Development and Culture
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Youth Leadership Development: Youth Health Action Network (YHAN)	Toronto Public Health
Youth Leadership Development: Youth Engaged in Leadership and Learning (YELL)	Toronto Public Health
Youth Advisory Group (YAG)	Toronto Public Library

Youth Outreach Workers

Overview	
Division/Unit	Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Community Recreation Branch
Delivery location	Youth Outreach Workers work in 31 community catchment areas that have a high youth population in order to connect youth to recreation and other community service supports.
Participants served per year	In 2019, Youth Outreach Workers made 203,695 contacts with youth and 137,443 referrals.
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 to 24 years of age, • 10 to 29 years of age (youth with a disability)
Description	Youth Outreach Workers (YOWs) support youth to grow as individuals, connect to role models and peers, and access the programs and resources they need to succeed. YOWs build their connection to supportive peers and adults, build life, social, and employment-readiness skills, and increase their civic and community engagement
Activities	<p>Youth outreach: 31 experienced and networked YOWs are hired by PFR to advocate for and provide support and outreach services for youth in Toronto, including encouraging participation in recreation, leisure, and community programs, and supporting youth capacity building, and civic engagement. YOWs carry out cold contacts and other outreach techniques to support youth involvement in recreation and community programs. In addition to outreach, YOWs also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-on-one support: provide youth employment support (reviewing resumes and practicing interview skills) as well as mentorship. • Recreation activities: support youth in drop-in programs and assist in recruiting youth for specialized programs or initiatives • Workshops: host workshops based on local needs. This includes workshops on self-esteem, entrepreneurship and employment readiness, such as “How to Apply for a City Job” and “Building Skills through Recreation Employment Readiness.” • Special events: organize recreation opportunities in the form of special events and off-location trips, including Youth Week, Youth Games, and STOMP Urban Dance Competition & Showcase. • Network and relationship building: build relationships with local youth and agencies to support locally-responsive initiatives and by-youth for-youth activities. They liaise with youth-serving agencies and network with community stakeholders. These relationships and networks are then made available to youth through their participation in PFR youth activities. • Referral to services: refer participating youth to support services, including housing, mental health, crisis support, education, training, employment, and leadership programs. For example, YOWs provide youth with information on available technology and/or programs in the Toronto Public Library system as well as the Youth Hubs. • Youth Councils: support and coordinate Youth Councils, which are meant to engage Toronto youth in local decision-making. Youth Councils are a safe space for local youth to learn about civic engagement and to work as a team to achieve common goals such as trips and fundraisers. It is also a place to reflect and provide feedback on what works and doesn't work in their local community. Pre-Covid, there were 42 youth councils active across the city.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

Various Pro Action Cops and Kids Programs

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Police Service
Delivery location	Neighbourhoods designated as at-risk (not necessarily Neighbourhood Improvement Areas)
Participants served per year	500+ students
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 to 18 years of age • Students from Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB)
Description	ProAction Cops and Kids brings police officers and youth together in skill building and mentoring programs to create trust, respect and safer communities through 35 different program activities. The programs aim to establish positive relationship between cops and kids and strength communities. Programming helps create an environment of mutual understanding and respect.
Activities	<p>Program activities can include yoga, cooking, sports, art, etc. All of these programs are led by a community police officer and may include other mentors from the community (e.g. teacher, community leader, etc.).</p> <p>Com Kids is a specific program where youth participate in 5 lunchtime Lead & Learn sessions with their designated community officer and a teacher. Sessions cover topics related to technology, online safety, and community citizenship. Students are expected to submit a creative assignment to the Coordinator of ComKids of their own work using their new laptop computer nearing the end of their first year.</p>
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Community Peers Elevating & Extending Resources and Supports (PEERS)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	Services are offered City-wide, to any community impacted by violence in the City of Toronto. Services are commonly required by Neighbourhood Improvement Areas, Revitalization Communities, and Emerging Neighbourhoods.
Participants served per year	30 Healers, 250+ youth and community members
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healers: 18 to 29 years of age • Youth served: 13 to 29 years of age • Impacted by community violence exposure • Living in the City of Toronto
Description	Through Community PEERS, graduates of the CHP Peer Support Training program are deployed to communities upon community or Community Crisis Response Program request.
Activities	Community PEERS will offer one-to-one supports, workshops, training, debrief and healing circles, one-time events and program engagement on topics of mental health and resiliency within existing programs throughout the City.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

Community Recreation Programs for Youth

Overview	
Division/Unit	Parks, Forestry & Recreation, Community Recreation Branch
Delivery location	Programs are offered in every neighborhood across the city.
Participants served per year	Over 450,000 youth visits in 2019
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 to 24 years of age • 13 to 29 years of age (youth with a disability)
Description	A wide-ranging sports, recreation, and leadership programs for youth across the city.
Activities	Community Recreation delivers over 300 recreational activities/programs targeted towards youth. Drop-in sports programs and instructional skill building programs are offered after school, evenings, on weekends and during the summer break. These programs include basketball, Summer In The Six, aquatic leadership, leisure skate, as well as adapted and inclusive programming.
Status due to Covid-19	All in person community recreation programs are inactive, except for after school care programs and the Adapted and Inclusive Virtual Camp, which is online.

Gym Program (Gyms)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Community Housing (TCHC), Tenant and Community Services
Delivery location	Nine TCHC communities: Gordonridge, Kingston Galloway, Trimbee, Weston Towers, Cooper Mills, Queens Plate, Scarlett Manor, Mabelle and Rownetree
Participants served per year	300 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 to 18 years of age • Living in a Toronto Community Housing community
Description	Gym Program is a recreational program for children and youth who live in TCHC communities to increase their physical activity and knowledge of sports.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animation of physical spaces • Recreation activities • Usage of TCH gyms and rec rooms during after-school hours • Any kind of sport and recreational activities, participants decide
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Midnight Basketball

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Community Housing (TCHC), Tenant and Community Services
Delivery location	University of Toronto
Participants served per year	180 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 to 18 years of age • Lives in Toronto Community Housing
Description	Midnight Basketball aims to engage youth during periods of time in which TCHC typically sees an increase in violent activity, providing youth with a safe space on Friday nights. Youth go through six life skills workshops, develop life skills, and learn to demonstrate self-regulation and discipline through sport.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: Workshop topics include interpersonal skills, financial literacy, leadership, healthy lifestyle. • Recreation activities: Basketball at University of Toronto's gym.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Community Healing Project (CHP) for Crime Prevention

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	2021: Alexandra Park, The Esplanade, St. James Town, Parma Court, Scarborough Village (Markham and Eglinton), Flemingdon Park, Falstaff, Trethewey, Jane-Sheppard/Chalkfarm, Rexdale – Orpington, Jamestown, Martin Grove
Participants served per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 Peer Support Healers • 350 workshop participants
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop participants: 12 to 24 years of age • Peer Healers: 18 to 30 years of age • Willingness to explore experiences of violence, experience of poverty, violence or victimization • Ability to commit to program time requirements
Description	The Community Healing Project (CHP) for Crime Prevention takes a peer-based approach to addressing the impact of exposure to community violence on youth. The City of Toronto partners with community agencies to address root causes of youth violence and gang involvement by supporting the development of young people's mental health literacy and resiliency.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management services: Case management provided to 50 healers and up to 5 youth in each community where workshops are delivered. In addition, youth participants have access to up to three sessions with a private counsellor. • Workshops: Youth in NIAs access 12-week workshops with specific learning goals/topics. • Youth advisory groups: The project has an evaluation and a project implementation advisory group with members from youth outreach, evaluation, mental health and community development backgrounds, who provide project oversight and develop work plans and activities. • Employment preparations: Participants do peer support training, and facilitate workshops for youth to practice facilitation, peer support, logistical planning, and administration.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

SHP Conversations through Art Youth Led Initiative

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Health, Healthy Communities, Sexual Health Promotion Program
Delivery location	Participants sought from the following neighbourhoods: Jane and Finch Kingston Galloway Eglinton East Kennedy-Park Malvern Rexdale Thorncliffe Park
Participants served per year	Total participants for Phase 1 and 2 (2 years) was 149 youth. Eight additional youth were trained to be facilitators.
Eligibility requirements	16 to 29 years of age
Description	SHP Conversations through Art Youth-Led Initiative provides skill building and paid opportunities for diverse, marginalized youth to promote self-efficacy and increase their employability.
Activities	<p>Workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art-based workshops provided in underserved neighbourhoods to explore holistic health needs of youth, including sexual health and HIV • Ongoing workshops provided by youth/peer facilitators after program completion <p>Mentoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training youth artists as peer health educators/mentors to continue implementing innovative and responsive sexual health programming for youth in underserved Toronto neighbourhoods
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

SHP Workshop Series: Healthy Relationships, Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections (STBBI), General Sexual Health, Birth Control

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Health, Healthy Communities, Sexual Health Promotion Program
Delivery location	Workshops delivered at the request of any non-profit group or school for the youth they serve.
Participants served per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy relationships: 2,210 youth • Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections: 4,487 youth • General Sexual Health: 5,689 youth • Birth control: 447 youth
Eligibility requirements	13 years of age and older
Description	Toronto Public Health delivers a series of sexual health promotion workshops to youth, as requested by agencies or schools. The SHP workshop series includes Healthy Relationships, Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections (STBBI), General Sexual Health, and Birth Control. This type of upstream prevention intervention provides accessible and relevant evidence-based education, support, skill-building and resources on how to negotiate relationships that are mutually supportive and consensual. Workshops are delivered where youth are already receiving services and support, tailored to the youth it is being provided to.
Activities	<p>Workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Relationships: Includes elements of healthy and less healthy relationships, how to foster healthy patterns and address less healthy ones early, negotiating consent in relationships, legal rights and options related to violence and assault, reducing stigma related to sex, where to access further services. • Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections (STBBIs): Provides information about different types of STBBIs, signs and symptoms, testing and treatment options, reducing stigma, where to access services, negotiating consent. • Birth Control: Includes forms of birth control, reproductive goals, sexual health, reducing stigma, negotiating consent. • General Sexual Health: Overview of all of the above.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Toronto History Museums - Youth Volunteer Programs

Overview	
Division/Unit	EDC - Museum and Heritage Services
Delivery location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gibson House Museum (5172 Yonge Street) Scarborough Museum (1007 Brimley Road) Montgomery's Inn (4709 Dundas Street West)
Participants served per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gibson House Museum: 50+ participants per year Scarborough Museum: An average of 170+ active youth per year (156 active in 2018, 190 active in 2019) Montgomery's Inn: 4-6 youth volunteers per summer/march break camp
Eligibility requirements	14 to 18 years of age
Description	Toronto History Museums Youth Volunteer Programs create a safe, accessible, and inclusive space that offers meaningful volunteer and development opportunities for Toronto's diverse youth.
Activities	<p>Youth volunteers participate in weekly meetings with workshop-based activities that introduce them to new skills and topics such as mental health, financial literacy, cooking, professional development, how to assist in creating programming, crafts, and history.</p> <p>Volunteer opportunities for youth are offered year-round and can contribute towards their school's community involvement hours. Opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping with special events (greeting visitors, leading family activities, games or crafts, and assisting staff with larger group activities and activations) Assisting with PA Day and summer camps (engaging with campers, leading games, and assisting staff with activities, set-up, and clean-up) Assisting with daily museum programming (cooking, setting up and taking down)
Status due to Covid-19	<p>Since October 2020, the program has pivoted to offering virtual volunteer opportunities through the Toronto History Museums Virtual Youth Program.</p> <p>The Toronto History Museums Virtual Youth Program includes weekly online workshops (topics include; sustainability, cooking and baking, history lessons, etc.) and independent projects (transcriptions, oral history interviews). As of May 2021, more than 200 youth have participated in the online program. Pivoting to a virtual volunteer program enabled Museums and Heritage Services to continue providing resources and support systems for diverse youth through programming, workshops, and independent self-directed volunteer opportunities to count towards their school's community involvement hours.</p>

Enhanced Youth Spaces

Overview	
Division/Unit	Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Community Recreation Branch
Delivery location	10 existing Enhanced Youth Spaces and an additional 10 new spaces, which will open as public health conditions permit. The spaces are located in community centers or partner agency spaces in or near Neighborhood Improvement Areas with higher concentration of youth aged populations and where there were identified service gaps.
Participants served per year	The Enhanced Youth Space locations provided a combined provided a combined over 31,000 service hours and had over 112,000 visits in 2019.
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 to 24 years of age, • 10 to 29 years of age (youth with disability)
Description	Enhanced Youth Spaces (EYS) provide safe spaces where youth can grow as individuals, connect to role models and peers, and access the programs and resources they need to succeed. They build their connection to supportive peers and adults, build life, social, and employment-readiness skills, and increase their civic and community engagement. The spaces are supported by dedicated Youth Recreation Programmers and Youth Outreach Workers.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One-on-one support: Youth employment support (resumes & interview skills) as well as mentorship. • Recreation activities: Youth-led, youth specific programming including specialized, drop in, and structured programs, such as recreational programs, employment skills workshops, leadership programs, arts programs, and cooking programs and volunteer opportunities. • Animation of dedicated, physical spaces: Enhanced Youth Spaces and activities are designed by/with youth, including responsive programming, workshops, initiatives, events. • Youth Councils: Enhanced Youth Spaces are governed through Youth Councils, which are facilitated and coordinated by staff. Youth Council members help co-design the activation of the space as well as approaches to youth outreach and engagement. Youth Councils are integral for cultivating youth ownership and commitment to the success of the space.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Rookie League Leader-in-Training (LIT) program

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Community Housing (TCHC), Tenant and Community Services
Funded by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Toronto Jays Care Foundation
Delivery location	A Recreation Room, onsite gym, City of Toronto park, or TCHC green space at 30 locations across the city.
Participants served per year	130 youth staff
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 to 15 years of age Live in Toronto Community Housing
Description	Rookie League LIT is a leadership development course for youth, providing a supportive and active environment, positive role models, nutritious meals, and life-skills training for youth who, by virtue of their age and socioeconomic condition, lack access to other structured summer programming.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment preparations: Staff trainings on soft skills, mentoring relationships, and self-confidence.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

TCHC Youth Violence Reduction Program

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Community Housing (TCHC), Community Safety and Support (Operations)
Delivery location	South Etobicoke, Markham Morningside, North Birchmount, Kipling Albion, East Finch
Participants served per year	<p>Will vary depending on the needs of the youth and the capacity of the 4 program staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An estimated 40 youth will participate in intensive programming An estimated 90 youth will participate in engagement activities
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Living in a Toronto Community Housing community Referred through Toronto Police Services, Community Crisis Response Program (at SDFA), Community Safety Unit and/or community members 14 to 29 years of age
Description	The TCHC Youth Violence Reduction Program is the youth component of SDFA/TCHC's wider Violence Reduction Program. The Youth Violence Reduction Program is a targeted violence prevention program that connects youth exhibiting risk factors (specifically anti-social behavior) to various social services. The program aims to reduce anti-social activity amongst youth, increase youth engagement, and connections to social supports and improve tenants' perceptions of safety.
Activities	<p>Youth are referred and connected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment supports Parent Support Programs Leadership Programs/Workshops Varied social services depending on their specific needs
Status due to Covid-19	Online and in-person where feasible.

TYES Support Services

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance & Administration, Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	Programs are offered in every neighborhood across the city.
Participants served per year	40-50 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth 18 to 29 on probation and/or parole that have a firearm conviction and/or have been identified as being involved in gang activity Referrals are received from SOLGEN, the probation and parole officers of the Toronto Anti Guns and Gangs Unit (TAGGU) as well as other Toronto Youth Equity Strategy Programs e.g. TYPE.
Description	TYES Support Services provides rehabilitative, community based services for young adults (ages 18-29) that are in conflict with the law. Specifically, the program provides case management support using a youth-centred, trauma informed, strength based, holistic and tailored service to meet the individual goals, strengths, needs, circumstances and preferences of each participant.
Activities	<p>The TYES Support Services are facilitated through Fernie Youth Services, which follows a case management model, which includes intake, needs assessment, service planning and monitoring and evaluation.</p> <p>Case managers develop partnerships with referral sources and organizations that can support the needs of the client. The case managers seek to reduce recidivism and support individuals through a holistic approach that considers each person's overall needs.</p> <p>Case managers develop three month service plans for each program participant, indicating the goals to be achieved within that time period. Following the three month timeline, an assessment is completed by the case manager, along with the program participant and others on the care team to see if additional goals have been identified and/or if previous goals require additional time that would warrant an additional three month service plan. The three month plan cycle can continue for up to one year.</p>
Status due to Covid-19	Active. Providing services virtually, by telephone or through adhering to current social distancing guidelines.

Project Prosper (Integrated Supports for Justice-Involved Youth)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	South Detention Centre in Etobicoke and in participants' communities post-release
Participants served per year	40 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 to 29 years of age • History of involvement in the criminal justice system and firearm-related charges • Lived experience of mental health issues, trauma, and poverty, racism, negative school experiences, lack of relationships with supportive adults or challenging family environments.
Description	Project Prosper supports youth who are incarcerated by connecting them to education and other supports. When youth are released, they are connected to reintegration supports using a strengths-based case management approach. Youth are also connected to peer support workers to support healing and connecting to community resources. The program aims to enhance the support system of youth with criminal backgrounds, facilitate relationships with caring adults, connect youth to support services, and reduce the likelihood of involvement in serious crime.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management services: Youth are supported to access education and other supports while incarcerated, and reintegration supports when they are released, including community-based and City services (including services provided by SSHA, TESS, SDFA). The project model incorporates strengths-based case management, which assesses the participant's strengths and talents (with special emphasis on those strengths identified by the client) and builds on them in the treatment and service plan. • Peer support: Peer support will be provided by youth with lived experience of the criminal justice system who have been trained through the Community Healing Project. Peer Support activities may include: role modeling, empathy based on shared experience, practical information, help to access community facilities and resources, problem solving, and support in identifying aspirations.
Status due to Covid-19	Online due to COVID-19. Providing services in a different capacity now that staff cannot enter detention centers.

Restorative Justice Programs (RJP)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rexdale: Mount Olive/Silverstone • Danzig • Lawrence Heights • Thorncliffe Park • Orton Park • Sparroway • Jane and Finch • Lawrence Heights, Regent Park, Jane and Finch (Success Beyond Limits), Weston And Lawrence currently in development
Participants served per year	15-30 youth in each community
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 to 24 years of age • History of community violence exposure • Living in Toronto Community Housing or Neighbourhood Improvement Areas
Description	Restorative Justice is a means to repair harm caused to people, relationships & communities through collective participation in resolutions. Through this program, youth participants will be able to identify issues that cause harm, be exposed to strategies to cope and manage conflicts, understand accountability and actively participate in resolutions.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: Topics include safety planning, safety audits, crisis management, social media safety, conflict mediation and resolution, program development, understanding trauma and its impacts, coping strategies, systems navigation, needs-specific workshops, violence prevention in spaces, how to recreate and reanimate your space, recovery after an incident. • Youth outreach or referral to services: Participants are referred to services including mental health, physical health, employment, education, housing, justice services, harm reduction for substance use and addictions, counselling (traditional and non-traditional), cultural specific connects, health centres, legal services.
Status due to Covid-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rexdale – Was online until late August 2020. Currently inactive, in the process of renewing for January 2021 • Dazing - Inactive • Lawrence heights -Online • Orton Park, Thorncliffe Park, Sparroways – In Development
Status due to Covid-19	Online

More Life Skills

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	TBD – New curriculum will be made available to youth serving agencies across the city.
Participants served per year	789 youth
Eligibility requirements	None
Description	The “More Life Skills” program engages youth most vulnerable to serious violence and crime to support positive youth development.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: The workshops series includes 12 topics that promote positive youth development, including: Identity, Conflict Resolution, Financial Literacy, Wholistic Wellness, Education, Finding Your Passion/ Entrepreneurship, Understanding Trauma, Critical Thinking, Social Justice, Living My Truth (Values), Art as Healing, and Learning the Landscape (Community Resources).
Status due to Covid-19	In Development. Final curriculum is being revised and will be made available for use by youth-serving agencies in the Fall 2021.

Innovative Case Management (ICM)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Employment and Social Services (TESS), Strategic Program Management
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city
Participants served per year	88 youth in 2019
Eligibility requirements	Ontario Works (OW) recipients
Description	ICM programs provide sector-specific skills training, life stabilization supports, and/or guidance to youth to be more competitive in the labour market. They support youth to obtain a better understanding of the social services landscape to then navigate on their own or with less supports, to exit Ontario Works, and to enter the labour market in the specific sector (construction, digital technology, hospitality, TV/film, etc.) with greater ease and a sense of surety.
Activities	<p>Each program is different, but generally the activities include case management services, workshops, youth outreach or referral to services, and employment preparations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three pilots with CEE Centre for Young Black Professionals focused on providing Black youth on OW with technical skills training in an emerging field (construction, technical, hospitality, and TV/film) with associated wrap around supports, including navigating the criminal justice system. • A pilot with EMYS provides system navigation support and intensive case management to youth with disabilities on Ontario Works, and the services are provided for a year. • A pilot with YMCA's Sprott House provided 12 queer youth on Ontario Works living in a transitional home both wrap around support and technical skills training over a few weeks.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

Life Skills to Succeed

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Police Service Community Partnerships and Engagement Unit
Delivery location	Eight neighbourhoods: Malvern, L'Amoreaux, Oakridge, Kennedy Park, Weston, Pelham Park, Lampton Baby Point, Etobicoke West Mall, Islington City Centre West.
Participants served per year	240 youth
Eligibility requirements	14 to 20 years of age
Description	Life Skills to Succeed aims to enhance the ability of the Toronto Police Service Community School Liaison Officers to deliver life skills training in elementary schools as part of their regular school presentation curriculum.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops (school presentations): Restaurant etiquette, computer/online safety and job preparation, effective communication strategies, financial literacy, wellness, emotional intelligence, relationship building, goal setting • Employment preparations: Emergency First Aid/CPR certification, City of Toronto Food Handler certification, Food management and preparation, Career planning, occupational health and safety
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Youth Programs at Libraries

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Library
Delivery location	Programs are offered at library branches across the city
Eligibility Requirements	13 to 24 years of age
Description	Programming for teens (13-17) and younger adults (18-24) provides relevant, hands-on learning opportunities to develop skills, work towards personal goals, gain confidence, make connections and explore educational and career pathways with the support of caring staff and community experts.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoken word and writing workshops: Teens develop their creative arts skills with guidance from professional artists and mentors. Their work is highlighted during events and in publications. • Author and book programs: Teens and younger adults learn about recommended reads that reflect their diverse experiences. They also hear from authors who encourage them in their own writing and learn about the writing and publishing process. • Digital literacy training and workshops: Teens develop skills and knowledge related to computer use, coding and web development, creative and design software, online privacy, digital citizenship, user experience design, artificial intelligence and misinformation. • Financial literacy programs: Teens and younger adults learn basic financial literacy skills, including saving, budgeting and opening a bank account, as well as more advanced topics, such as applying for loans, funding post-secondary education, renting and more. • Mental health and life skills workshops: Teens develop skills and knowledge related to stress management, conflict resolution, goal setting, self-advocacy, healthy relationships and consent, and navigating the justice system. • Recreational programs: Teens engage with one another in friendly competitions, including escape rooms and trivia nights. • Workforce development and job/career workshops and panels: Teens learn how to create effective resumes and cover letters, as well as how to navigate interviews. Younger adults develop critical soft skills, as well as industry-specific skills for career development. They are also given opportunities to network and connect with experts in their chosen fields of work.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

Poetry Saved Our Lives (PSOL)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Library
Delivery location	PSOL is a program series, often held in branches that serve residents of Neighbourhood Improvement Areas.
Participants served per year	1,119 youth in 2019
Eligibility requirements	13 to 18 years of age
Description	PSOL engages youth by providing opportunities for self-expression, mentorship and artistic development through arts-based workshops, coaching and events. It aims to support youth to improve writing and performance skills, enhance employment skills, increase knowledge of library resources and promote community involvement and civic engagement.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: Weekly skill-building and art-based workshops focused on spoken word, storytelling and leadership training with well-respected spoken word coaches. • Animation of physical spaces: Guest artist performances and annual youth-led showcase event. • Employment preparation: Some program participants build talents and skills to the extent that they return to the program as coaches. Participants receive training and mentorship and develop skills that increase their employability (e.g., performance, networking). • Events: Annual youth-led showcase and performance videos of program participants.
Status due to Covid-19	Online program series began in February 2021. Inactive from March-December 2020 due to COVID-19 with some coaches offering single-session online programs.

Young Voices Magazine (YVM)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Library
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city, in one or more specific neighbourhoods
Participants served per year	2020: 521 submissions to Young Voices magazine (86 published), 26 active members in the Editorial Youth Advisory Group
Eligibility requirements	12 to 19 years of age
Description	Youth contribute art and writing to the Young Voices magazine, published annually. An Editorial Youth Advisory Group, made up of youth, works with library staff and professional mentors to evaluate submissions, select work for publication in Young Voices magazine and celebrate its launch.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Editorial Youth Advisory Group (EYAG) is facilitated by staff and works with professional writers and artists to evaluate and select submissions for each issue of Young Voices magazine. • Staff and EYAG members plan an annual summer event and fall magazine launch event to celebrate the publication of Young Voices and its contributors; open mics are common at various events. • EYAG members benefit from mentoring opportunities, working with professionals to publish issues of Young Voices magazine. EYAG members gain experience, skills and knowledge relevant to fields of publishing, creative writing, fine arts and journalism.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

Youth Hub (YH)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Library
Delivery location	23 YHs located in library branches in or near Neighbourhood Improvement Areas across the city
Participants served per year	77,108 youth at 13 locations in 2019 (attendance)
Eligibility requirements	13 to 18 years of age
Description	Youth Hubs offer an enhanced, welcoming year-round after-school drop-in service for teens. Multi-faceted offerings include a dedicated library space and staff, programs and activities, homework help, access to technology, nutritious snacks, and opportunities for placement students and volunteers interested in working with youth. The hubs aim to increase academic success; support skills development, technological proficiency, and self-directed learning; facilitate social connections; increase knowledge of library resources; and build tutoring and mentoring skills.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: Programs and workshops are held on a broad range of topics based on teen needs and interests, such as financial and digital literacy, health and wellness, careers and employment, writing, arts and crafts, music, photography, technology, social justice and environmental issues. • Employment preparations: Career, job search and entrepreneurship programming and counselling for youth to help build their resumes and connect them to jobs (partnerships with Skills for Change and JVS Toronto). • Recreation activities: Board games, video games, virtual reality games, social events (e.g., special celebrations or gaming events). • Arts-based activities: Writing and illustration, dance, beat-boxing and DJing. • Skills development, technology: Use of laptops, software, tablets and apps that promote digital literacy and learning, 3D Certification and Maker programs, computer coding and media skills development. • Youth outreach: Counselling focused on newcomers, LGBTQ+, young women, Indigenous youth and youth in conflict with the law (partnership with Toronto Youth Partnerships and Employment). Connections with Youth Outreach Workers (collaboration with PFR).
Status due to Covid-19	Reopened 13 existing and launched 10 new locations with revised services and new safety protocols between September and November 2020. Inactive during the City's grey lockdown period.

Toronto Sports Leadership Program

Overview	
Division/Unit	Parks, Forestry & Recreation, Community Recreation Branch
Delivery location	Programs are offered in every neighborhood across the city.
Participants served per year	Up to 300 participants per year (almost 3,000 Toronto youth have successfully completed the program since its inception in 2006).
Eligibility requirements	This program is designed to help youth gain the certifications required for recreation employment as life guards and aquatic or sport instructors. It is available at no-cost to Toronto youth from 16 to 18 years of age, who are registered in a Toronto secondary school, committed to completing up 160 program hours and interested in volunteer opportunities. Youth that declare any need for assistance (financial, social, emotional or scholastic) are eligible.
Description	The Toronto Sport Leadership Program invests in Toronto's vulnerable youth by fostering positive pathways to development through preparation for employment in sport and recreation. Participants gain nationally recognized certifications, job-readiness skills and volunteer experience.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants select a specialization in either the Sport or Aquatics Stream. The specific offerings in each stream are determined on an annual basis in response to available employment opportunities, participant interest and available resources. • Participants earn nationally recognized certifications in their chosen stream. Training sessions are delivered by Master Trainers from the relevant organization in the sport and recreation field, for example Coaches Association of Ontario, Lifesaving Society, Cycling Canada, Ontario Basketball Association and Tennis Canada. • Participants attend job-readiness workshops; past topics include resume writing and interview preparation. • Program staff facilitate employment opportunities for graduates with the City of Toronto (including support with Success Factors, the City's employment portal, and interview sessions). • Participants gain relevant experience in the field through volunteer opportunities coordinated by program staff. • Participant achievements are recognized at an annual graduation event each spring. • Participants receive the support (both group and one-on-one) required to succeed; for example, access to public transportation, mentorship opportunities, session reminders, program equipment, etc.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Building Skills Through Recreation (BSTR)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Parks, Forestry & Recreation, Community Recreation Branch
Delivery location	City wide, including 19 Neighborhood Improvement Areas and 28 Non-Neighborhood Improvement Areas
Participants served per year	2020: 159 youth registered, 107 completed (not including certification) 2021: 159 youth registered, 71 completed (not including certification)
Eligibility requirements	14 to 24 years of age
Description	Building Skills Through Recreation (BSTR) began as a pilot program in 2019. BSTR is a free leadership and employment readiness program that focuses on connecting Black & Indigenous youth to employment opportunities. The program also teaches youth how to navigate the City of Toronto's recruitment process in order to facilitate access to jobs with Parks, Forestry and Recreation.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: participants attend employment readiness workshops to develop soft skills and technical skills, including resume writing, completing written assessment and interview skills • Certification trainings: Participants earn nationally recognized certifications in the High Five Principals of Healthy Child Development and First Aid

Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Volunteer Programs

Overview	
Division/Unit	Parks, Forestry & Recreation
Delivery location	Volunteer opportunities are available at all community recreation centres (i.e. camps, aquatic programs, sport programs) as well as some community locations in ravines and green spaces.
Participants served per year	In 2019, youth volunteered 18,584 hours.
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 to 24 years of age • 14 to 29 years of age (youth with a disability)
Description	Youth volunteerism is a pathway to employment. A variety of roles are available, based on facility needs and season.
Activities	Volunteers gain skills and experience planning and delivering recreation programs, participating in Youth Councils and supporting Parks and Forestry through stewardship programs including but not limited to Tree Planting and Stewardship Events, the Tree Planting Captain Program and the Community Stewardship Program. Youth volunteers are also provided information, resources, tools and supports in their pursuit of employment with Parks, Forestry and Recreation.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Moving Towards Opportunity (MTO)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance & Administration (SDFA), Toronto Employment and Social Services (TESS). Note: This is a collaborative partnership, with no specific program lead at the City level.
Delivery location	Youth residing in Regent Park community or surrounding areas (Moss Park & Rivertowne).
Participants served per year	26 youth in 2019
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 to 18 years of age • Secondary school students • Resident in Toronto Community Housing and within the Regent Park community or surrounding areas • Unemployed • Able to commit to program, including full-time employment in summer
Description	The MTO program is designed to better prepare youth for life-long employment by providing professional development skills training and experience. The program provides youth with opportunities to explore different careers, especially those who are not familiar with those career paths given limited networks. Participating youth are able to gain mentorship, credentials, training and experience to help in their academic and career decisions.
Activities	Employment preparations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHMIS & CPR Certification • Job search preparation workshops, including resume development, interview skills, networking, labour market information and other relevant employment information • Paid summer employment and work-based experiences • Private sector mentorship and support
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive. Program was conducted online in summer 2020.

Work Based Learning Program (WBL)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Various City divisions and Business Improvement Areas (BIAs)
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more site across the city
Participants served per year	4 youth
Eligibility requirements	Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) youth clients who did not complete the Investing in Neighbourhoods program (some exceptions maybe possible, if it fits client's service plan)
Description	Provides paid work-based experience to newcomer youth who need to add recent work experience, Canadian experience or new skills.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-the-job training: orientation to the City, planning of learning goals, training based on learning goals and project needs, exposure to practical application of learning • Case management services: caseworker support in planning goals and next steps as part of service plan, address clients' needs (ranging from financial, childcare, life-skills, mental health, learning disabilities), ensuring that benefits to enable participation are available (i.e. Employment Related Expenses (ERE) to cover the out-of-pocket expenses associated with participating in these activities (transportation, licensing, unions dues, etc.) • Workshops: custom built learning series on topics of interest to the participant, project needs and required City training (i.e. Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), report writing, data analysis, etc.) • Employment preparations and placements: resume writing, interview coaching, life-skills coaching, support with job retention and advancement, social media use/branding, etc. • Other: peer-to-peer support through the WBL network
Status due to Covid-19	Online.

Job Incentive Program (JIP)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Various City divisions and Business Improvement Areas (BIAs)
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city
Participants served per year	39 in 2019
Eligibility requirements	Ontario Works (OW) or Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) youth clients who did not completed Investing in Neighbourhoods program (some exceptions maybe possible, if it fits client's service plan)
Description	Provides part-time unpaid work-based experience to newcomer youth who need to add recent work experience, Canadian experience or new skills.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-the-job training: orientation to the City, planning of learning goals, training based on learning goals and project needs, exposure to practical application of learning • Case management services: caseworker support in planning goals and next steps as part of service plan, address clients' needs (ranging from financial, childcare, life-skills, mental health, learning disabilities), ensuring that benefits to enable participation are available (i.e. Employment Related Expenses (ERE) to cover the out-of-pocket expenses associated with participating in these activities (transportation, licensing, unions dues, etc.) • Workshops: custom built learning series on topics of interest to the participant, project needs and required City training (i.e. Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), report writing, data analysis, etc.) • Employment preparations and placements: resume writing, interview coaching, life-skills coaching, support with job retention and advancement, social media use/branding, etc. • Other: peer-to-peer support through the WBL network
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive.

Cultural Hotspot: Youth Mentorship & Employment, Cultural Hotspot: Youth Participation

Overview	
Division/Unit	Economic Development & Culture, Arts Services
Delivery location	The Cultural Hotspot initiative highlights arts, culture and community in outside the core communities, including Scarborough, East York/East End, North York, Etobicoke and York. Programs are delivered with 25+ partners annually in suburban communities that include NIAs.
Participants served per year	Up to 100 youth
Eligibility requirements	14 to 29 years of age
Description	The Cultural Hotspot's Youth Employment & Mentorship program seeks to provide skills development and employment opportunities in the arts and culture sector for youth living in communities where Cultural Hotspot programming is being delivered. It ultimately aims to support youth to become connected with arts and culture, develop new skills, and gain employment in the sector.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: Arts-based workshops, including spoken word, poetry, photography, dance, and film, as well as leadership skills development. • Employment preparations: Project partners provide youth with formal employment or mentorship opportunities, including opportunities for aspiring artists to shadow a lead artist to deliver a project, and for youth to be hired to coordinate events and festivals.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

xoTO Schools Co-op Placements

Overview	
Division/Unit	Economic Development and Culture (EDC)
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city, not specific to any geographical areas
Participants served per year	15 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 to 17 years of age • Toronto District School Board (TDSB) students
Description	<p>The xoTO Schools Co-Op Placements Program was launched in 2018 and continues to provide TDSB students with experiential learning opportunities and student Co-operative education placements within the film, television and digital media industry.</p> <p>XoTO Schools Co-op Placements aims to support career exploration among diverse TDSB students through opportunities in the film and television industry, a growing sector in the city. Participants develop an understanding of the various roles on film sets, learn about the code of conduct, etiquette and expectations of film crews and develop soft and hard skills that will enable them to confidently choose to pursue a career in this creative sector.</p>
Activities	Employment preparations: Participants visit film crews and sets and spend time in various film crew departments (camera, hair/makeup, etc.).
Status due to Covid-19	Online

SAGE (Supporting Artists Gaining Entrepreneurship/Experiences/Employment)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Economic Development and Culture (EDC), Arts Services
Delivery location	Cedar Ridge Creative Centre, 225 Confederation Drive
Participants served per year	10 per session
Eligibility requirements	Indigenous, Black, People of Colour (IBPoC) youth 18 to 29 years of age identified by one of the partner organizations; Native Child and Family Services Toronto (NCFST) -Scarborough location and Stolen From Africa
Description	SAGE is an arts-based program engaging young people 18-29 in specialized skill development and resiliency-focused arts education programming that is conducted through community partnerships and features customized curricula that responds to localized needs and priorities. Arts Services developed SAGE to increase youth engagement and access to youth focused arts programming in east Toronto, particularly Cedar Ridge Creative Centre (CRCC) and the future program site of Clark Centre for the Arts.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts-based programming: In September 2021, SAGE will focus on the Mural Mosaic Project, which will be led by on-site partners, the Community Arts Guild (CAG) and an artist. Youth participants will draw on words and images gathered through arts-based community research to create a mosaic mural on the grounds of Cedar Ridge. The mosaic combines new and recycled materials along with hand sculpted clay tiles to reflect history and stories of the area. • Paid mentorship: A paid mentorship is included in the program; the mentee will be chosen by CAG and be responsible for providing the instructors with assistance in delivering lesson plans, and supporting participants throughout the program.
Status due to Covid-19	Restarts in September, 2021.

Be.Build.Brand (B3) - Entrepreneurship Development Program

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Community Housing (TCHC), Tenant and Community Services
Delivery location	B3 serves youth city-wide, with a focus on engaging youth living within or near Toronto Community Housing communities.
Participants served per year	12 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 to 29 years of age • Live in a TCHC community
Description	Be.Build.Brand. (B3) provides youth with a series of entrepreneurship training sessions to equip them with the hard and soft skills needed to start turning their ideas into viable business ventures.
Activities	<p>Workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop topics include: self-assessment, value proposition, business model canvas, key strategic building blocks & strategic thinking, marketing, sales, and operations. <p>B3 is delivered in three phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 (Be): youth are given tools to learn how to do a self-assessment and evaluation on their business aspirations. • Phase 2 (Build): youth undergo a series of training and capacity-building sessions on the basics of building a business. • Phase 3 (Brand): youth learn the importance of networking, marketing and digitalizing their business idea. <p>Other: Mentoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants attend a one-day networking event with business, program, and academic leaders the end of the program.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

YouthWorx

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Community Housing (TCHC), Community Economic Development
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city
Participants served per year	12 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 to 29 years of age • Able to work full-time (35 per weeks) for the summer months of July and August • Live in or near Toronto Community Housing community
Description	<p>YouthWorx is an employment program for youth with barriers to employment (e.g. underemployed, previous involvement in criminal justice system, etc.). Youth are offered summer employment opportunities as field workers whose primary focus is on community beautification and small scale repair jobs in TCHC communities or as site leads for teams of field workers. Participants also participate in on-the-job training, including personal development skills training (conflict resolution, goal setting, and stress management), and technical skills training (professional catering, customer service, gardening, professional cleaning).</p>
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management services: Participants are referred to other programs including TCHC's Be. Build. Brand Youth Entrepreneurship Program, Youth Employment Services, Tropicana Community Services, St. Stephen's Community House. Coordinators meet one on one with youth community workers after their labor/beautification shift to explore how they are doing with their job, and other aspects of life such as housing, safety issues, income, and mental health. Case management support and referrals are also offered to 300+ unsuccessful applicants. • Workshops: Workshop themes include health and safety, anti-oppression, youth rights, financial literacy, stress management, conflict resolution, public speaking, networking, mental health and wellness, advocacy, entrepreneurship and small business development, workplace communications. • Animation of physical spaces: YouthWorx teams support TCHC's Tenant & Community Services and Asset Management staff. The beautification, maintenance and upkeep of various TCHC sites across the City of Toronto is the core function of the YouthWorx employees. • Events: YouthWorx encourages youth to be active members in their neighborhoods and to take part in opportunities that strengthen social networks and transform communities.
Status due to Covid-19	Online. Online version of the program is called YouthPLants.

Employment & Wellness Program (EWP)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Community Housing (TCHC), Community Economic Development
Delivery location	EWP serves youth city-wide, with a focus on engaging youth living within the West and Central TCH portfolio. Youth come to regionally located offices within TCH to meet with staff and attend workshops. Some workshops are coordinated centrally.
Participants served per year	60 youth
Eligibility requirements	18 to 29 years of age
Description	The Employment and Wellness program (EWP) supports youth living in TCHC communities to better prepare to obtain and retain employment long-term. The program applies a holistic approach to youth employment, by focusing on mental health and wellness strategies for job retention to ensure participants are better able to retain employment opportunities long-term. The program aims to support youth to develop necessary pre-employment skills, identify their place in the labor market, and recognize their potential contributions to employers.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management services: One on one meetings with the youth related to their mental health and access to supports, coordinating supports with community partners, providing support during job-search and for employment readiness, supporting placements in collaboration with the community partners. • Workshops: Themes include Resume Writing and Interviewing, Dimensions of Mental Health & Wellbeing, Networking, Money Management, Entrepreneurship 101, etc. • Employment preparations: Working with community partners, participants are connected with job placements in the field of their choice on a case-by-case basis. Participants are also connected to an employment agency to ensure they receive employment support after the program ends.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Toronto Youth Partnerships and Employment (TYPE)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance & Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	Mobile delivery
Participants served per year	3,000 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 to 29 years of age • Youth with multiple barriers, including barriers to the labour market
Description	Toronto Youth Partnerships & Employment (TYPE) is a mobile intensive case management program supporting youth in Toronto who are facing multiple complex challenges including barriers to the labour market. Youth Outreach Counsellors help youth identify skills, interests, and employment barriers, develop an action plan, and connect to employment services, skill development and educational programs, and specialized services. Some Counsellors focus specifically on reaching justice-involved youth.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management services: Connection to housing, food banks, mental health supports • Workshops: Resume clinics, interview preparation, job fair preparation, labour market information, and life skills development • Youth outreach or referral to services: A Youth Outreach Counsellor supports youth to develop an employment plan • Employment preparations: Employment events including Retail Council of Canada, Landscape Ontario, Foot Locker Job Fairs, Etobicoke and Scarborough Community Job Fair and additional YEP-led events
Status due to Covid-19	Online

Toronto Youth Job Corps (TYJC)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance & Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	Delivered from 5 locations across Toronto: JVS Toronto, Tropicana Community Services, West Neighbourhood House, Youth Employment Services, West Scarborough Neighbourhood Community
Participants served per year	440 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 to 29 years of age • Unemployed • Not in school • Not collecting Employment Insurance
Description	Toronto Youth Job Corps (TYJC) aims to assist youth who face multiple barriers, specifically those who have a sporadic or non-existent employment history through workshops, coaching, and work experience.
Activities	<p>Workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment readiness activities • Training modules to develop employability and job skills • Soft skills enhancement • Job search assistance • Group and one-to-one job coaching <p>Employment preparations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1: Employment Skills through Work Experience (ESWE) Intervention provides pre-employment engagement where youth will receive additional skills development before entering into the workforce. • Phase 2: Work experience (WE) is a direct job placement opportunity with an employer where youth are allowed multiple placements with different employers. The staff will assist youth in obtaining the skills and resources required to address employment barriers and identifying personal strengths which can be applied vocationally • Community project for employment skills development
Status due to Covid-19	Online

Artworks TO

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city and through mobile delivery
Participants served per year	25 youth in core program 125 youth in portfolio development workshops
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 to 29 years of age • City of Toronto residents • Identify as Indigenous, Black, Persons of Colour (IBPOC), and/or Two-Spirited, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans (2SLGBTQ+) • Identify as media artists with career aspirations in the creative industries
Description	<p>ArtWorksTO provides opportunities for youth media artists (18-29) who identify as Indigenous, Black and People of Colour and/or 2SLGBTQ+ to gain professional experience, skills and network in the media arts industry.</p> <p>ArtWorksTO is a partnership between the Toronto Arts Foundation's Neighbourhood Arts Network (NAN), City of Toronto, The Remix Project, and Ontario College of Art & Design University (OCADU). The project is funded by Future Skills Canada.</p>
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: Portfolio development workshops offered by OCAD U. • Education to Work: Core skills education programming through OCAD U's Continuing Studies Non-Credit Certificate in Art and Design Professional Skills, offered to 15 ArtWorksTO participants annually, selected through an application process. • Skills to Work Employment: Paid contracts with the City of Toronto and partner organizations to create communications materials, offered annually to 25 youth. • Networking opportunities: Industry networking, masterclasses, and panels offered by the Remix Project, Neighborhood Arts Network, and the City of Toronto • Mentorship: industry mentorship provided by the Remix Project offering participants with technical advice on their contracts and career mentorship. • Employment and wrap-around supports through the City's Toronto Youth Partnerships & Employment (TYPE) program.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

Partnership to Advance Youth Employment (PAYE)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Employment and Social Services (TESS)
Delivery location	Delivered through local delivery teams (TESS offices or community partners) throughout the city.
Participants served per year	2,350 youth served in 2019
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 to 29 years of age • Under or unemployed • Living in the city of Toronto • In receipt of OW, ODSP or TAES (Torontonians Accessing Employment Services)
Description	The Partnership to Advance Youth Employment (PAYE) is a partnership between the City of Toronto, private sector employers and community partners designed to increase employment-related opportunities for youth who are under or unemployed.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management services: One-on-one service planning identifies the needs of PAYE participants. • Youth referral to services: PAYE coaches (City staff/community partners) provide referrals to workshops, services, supports and employment-related opportunities (training, an upcoming job fair, etc.). Job ready youth may be referred directly to online opportunities, job fairs and recruitment events. • Workshops: Those who require a little support with their resume and interview skills may attend a short workshop bundle (resume writing, interview skills, networking, etc.) delivered by TESS caseworkers at a TESS office or community based employment service provider, while others may be referred to skill training and work-based learning opportunities.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive. Jobseekers and employers are being connected to Employment Ontario Employment Services Agencies for available programs and services.

Purchase of Employment Services (POES)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Employment and Social Services (TESS) Workforce Development and Employment Programs, Program Administration, Improvement, and Development
Delivery location	Some programs are delivered primarily to participants from specific neighbourhoods (i.e. East Scarborough, Regent Park), and/or demographic groups (i.e. youth or newcomers).
Participants served per year	786 youth in 2019
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 to 29 years of age or 18 to 29 years of age, depending on the age definition provided by agencies as per their proposals for the RFP. • Client of Ontario Work (OW), Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), or Torontonians Accessing Employment Services (TAES)
Description	Through a series of POES programs designed specifically for youth, participants work with a case manager to identify needs and access targeted life stabilization and other supports in order to increase awareness and knowledge of career goals and professional or support networks, increase employability and life skills, and move closer to the labour market and/or advance through the labour market.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management services: Through the POES programs, participants receive case management support. • Youth referral to services: Participants may be referred to services including counselling, addictions/mental health support, and housing services, among others. Youth and other program participants are identified through the service planning process and are referred to programs by their service planning caseworker. • Employment preparations: Centre for Education and Training provides youth with complex employment and social needs with an 11-week program to develop a career path; Dixon Hall Neighbourhood Services provides an 8-week youth program for sector-based training; NPower offers two youth programs to support the development of technical skills and job placements in the IT sector; Operation Springboard provides an 8-week youth digital media training program; St Stephen's Community House offers a retail sector training for youth
Status due to Covid-19	Active. Services delivered with a blend of online and in-person (in accordance with public health guidelines)

Investing in Neighbourhoods (IIN)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Employment & Social Services (TESS)
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city
Participants served per year	86 youth in 2019
Eligibility requirements	<p>In receipt of OW or ODSP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On OW for 6+ months; and • Employment gap of 6+ months; and • Employment readiness to transition to and retain employment in the long term; and • Employment goal related to the position; and • Reporting 1+ barrier to employment
Description	IIN offers opportunities for non-profit agencies to create and offer paid employment (up to one year) for Ontario Works participants, their dependents and ODSP (Ontario Disability Support Program) spouses and dependents who are OW participants. The intent of the program is that placements will lead to employment either through the host organization or with other employers.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case management services • Employment preparations and placements: Placement in a workplace
Status due to Covid-19	Online.

Protégée Program

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance & Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	Program is delivered at City Hall, and at City Councillor constituency offices and wards.
Participants served per year	10 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 to 26 years of age • Young women • Residence in the City of Toronto • Previous engagement with volunteer and advocacy groups, among others • Willingness to commit to fulfilling the time requirement of the program
Description	The Protégée Program is a mentoring program that teams up young women with the City's women Councillors to inspire and familiarize young women with the job of municipal Councillor and provide them with hands on experience.
Activities	<p>Protégées have the opportunity to participate in the following activities during the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminars on public policy, lobbying and overcoming challenges and barriers of women in politics, and professional branding • Job shadowing with a current City Councillor • Opportunities to contribute to motions and policy documents • Networking with senior City staff • In depth understanding of municipal governance • Opportunity to explore skills required to be a City Councillor, such as chairing meetings, understanding the City's finances, supporting neighbourhood and community engagement, creating strategies, undertaking constituent casework, and managing office and staff.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Toronto Youth Cabinet (TYC)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Social Development, Finance & Administration (SDFA), Youth Development Unit
Delivery location	The initiative is based out of Toronto City Hall; however, TYC hosts events and delivers components of the program across the City of Toronto.
Participants served per year	1,000 youth for in-person events, 80,000 youth in online engagement thorough newsletters, webinars, and social media
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 to 24 years of age • Live, work or learn in the City of Toronto
Description	The Toronto Youth Cabinet (TYC) is the official youth advisory body to the City of Toronto. It is a non-partisan youth-led organization that promotes youth participation in civic affairs and policy development. In working with the City of Toronto and fostering partnerships among various organizations, the Cabinet is dedicated to providing young people with a forum in which they are able to build an equitable, accessible, and youth-friendly Toronto.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops: Deputation Training Workshop for youth to learn about the impact of deputations, supporting youth writing deputations, and reviewing how to access deputations for City Committees. • Youth advisory groups: The Toronto Youth Cabinet has several working groups that focus on issue-specific projects and initiatives, such as the Urban Health Working Group, Newcomer Working Group, Community Safety Working Group, Transit Working Group, Education Working Group, Equity & Employment Working Group, Housing Working Group, and Budget Working Group.
Status due to Covid-19	Online

Youth Leadership Development: Investment in Youth Engagement

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Health
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city and through mobile delivery
Participants served per year	448 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 to 24 years of age • Be part of a youth serving agency group that applies for and receives the IYE grant
Description	<p>Through the Investment in Youth Engagement (IYE) Initiative, TPH provides grants to agencies who supports youth engagement work in health topics such as commercial tobacco use prevention, physical activity, healthy eating, injury prevention, and mental health promotion through a funding opportunity. This initiative is youth-driven, meaning that youth are involved in all aspects of the project planning and implementation. IYE is intended to motivate and create opportunities for youth to develop their leadership skills and engage in and act on health issues within Toronto.</p>
Activities	<p>Youth undertake the planning, budgeting and carrying out of activities to address issues of their choosing, such as commercial tobacco, mental health, physical activity, healthy eating and body image/self-esteem. Activities planned by youth have included awareness raising, education and advocacy through community events, developing literature, creating videos, and delivering workshops for other youth.</p>
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Youth Leadership Development: Youth Health Action Network

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Health
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city and through mobile delivery
Participants served per year	37 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 to 24 years of age • Year-long commitment • Application/interview process
Description	The Youth Health Action Network (YHAN) is a youth engagement initiative that brings together young people for the common goal of exploring and taking action on current and emerging health issues by raising the awareness among youth peers and advocating for healthy public policy. Youth are supported by TPH staff who oversee meetings and support the development of youth.
Activities	YHAN activities span from raising the awareness of their youth peers to advocating for healthy public policy. YHAN has deputed to the Board of Health on Hookah and Shisha, and smoke-free movie ratings. In 2018, they hosted a youth mobilization event on smoke-free multi-unit dwellings, and in 2019. They also supported advocacy work on smoke free campus policies through education and collecting signatures.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Youth Leadership Development: Youth Engaged in Leadership and Learning (YELL)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Health
Delivery location	Delivered at one or more sites across the city and through mobile delivery
Participants served per year	249 youth
Eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 to 18 years of age • Be part of a community group where the adult ally requests the YELL program
Description	YELL is a curriculum resource that encourages skill and knowledge building around leadership. It is delivered over a number of sessions by a Public Health Nurse who works in the community. The program is flexible and allows for customization depending on the needs and learning goals of the youth. From participating in YELL, youth gain leadership skills to take action on a health issue within their community.
Activities	Youth participate in a 6-week curriculum, through which they receive training from a Public Health Nurse on how to select a project to work on based on need, and develop a plan. The External Organization that maintains the youth group is responsible for overseeing any further implementation needed after the curriculum is completed.
Status due to Covid-19	Inactive

Youth Advisory Group (YAG)

Overview	
Division/Unit	Toronto Public Library
Delivery location	There are YAGs at multiple branches across TPL. YAGs exist in library locations where they can be supported and will make a difference to community youth and the branch.
Participants served per year	904 YAG members at 40 branches who volunteered for more than 11,000 hours in 2019.
Eligibility requirements	13 to 18 years of age
Description	YAGs provide teens with an opportunity to add their voice to teen services at TPL, recommending changes or enhancements to library policies, programs and services to ensure they best serve the interests of teens and their community. Teens earn volunteer hours, meet other community teens and develop their skills in problem-solving, leadership, decision-making, and communication. TPL staff facilitate activities and discussions to engage members in creating a welcoming and relevant environment for teens that fosters inclusion and engagement. YAGs enable teens to become advocates and promoters of TPL programs, collections and online resources that support educational, professional and creative pursuits.
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth advisory groups: YAG volunteers attend meetings to discuss the creation, development and promotion of library programs, collections, publications and spaces for teens. • Employment preparations: Mentorship and training is provided (e.g., AODA, leadership, anti-oppression, KAIROS Blanket Exercise).
Status due to Covid-19	Online meetings piloted with plans for expansion.