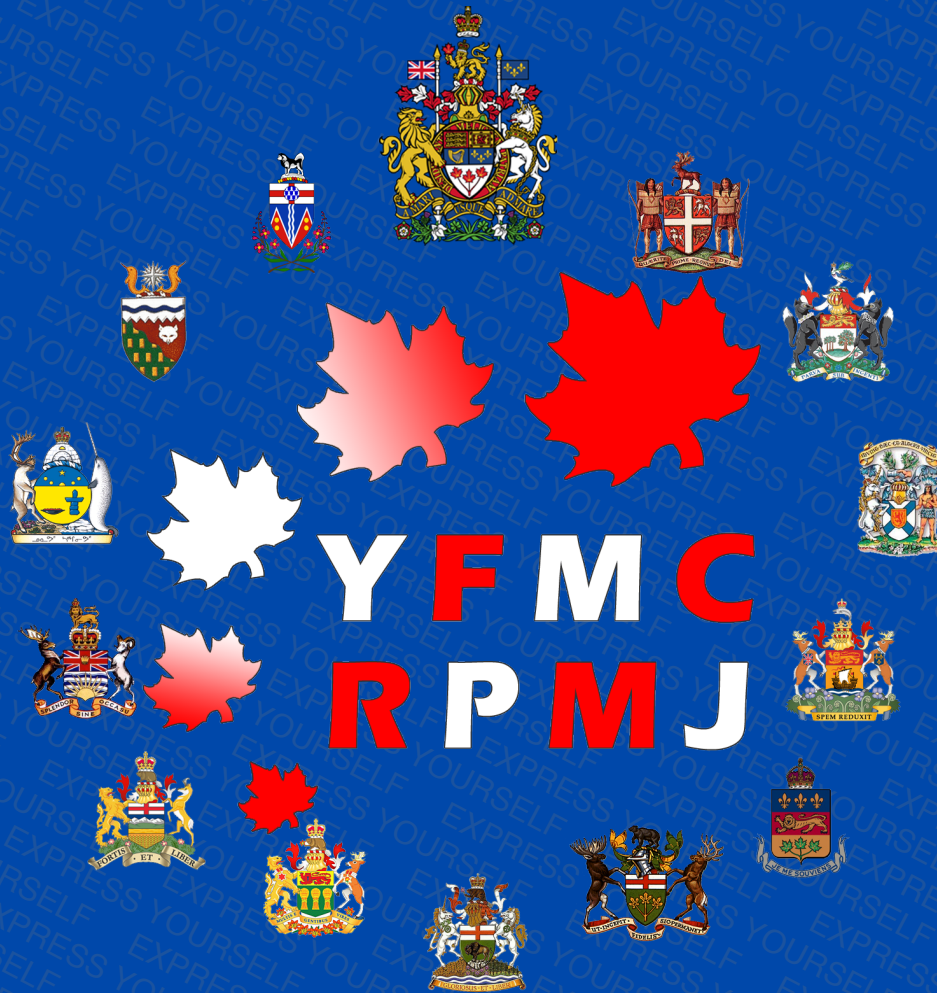


IDELO: Coming Together for a Common Purpose!



Youth First Ministers Conference 2008



Youth-Government
of Canada



Gouvernement de la
jeunesse du Canada

Youth from around the world are making tremendous contributions to their communities every day. Young people are carrying out important initiatives in almost all aspects of community development; from education to the environment and civic participation.

The Youth First Ministers conference **brings youth leaders from across Canada and abroad together** to foster new relationships and partnerships, provide a forum for youth to share experiences and discuss issues of importance, and for youth to build and develop leadership skills while at the same time celebrating each others achievements.

The Youth First Ministers Conference, which is organized by the Youth-Government of Canada, alternates between the major cities across Canada each year to reflect the organizations national mandate. **The Youth-Government of Canada is a collaboration of youth and youth organizations who aim to represent, serve, engage, or empower youth ages 10-24**, and organizes this conference annually in collaboration with the local municipal youth cabinet.

NETWORK

The YFMC is an ample opportunity to **network with other youth organizations, municipal youth cabinets, and provincial youth parliaments**; to foster new partnerships and relationships; and to learn about the amazing initiatives and efforts led by youth from all across the country.

This year the **Youth First Ministers Conference** is being co-hosted by the Youth-Government of Canada, the Toronto Youth Cabinet, and Youth for Transparency International at York University and Toronto City Hall, from Friday, October 17 to Sunday, October 19. The conference will bring over 300 youth in the discussions of various topics via workshops, debates (moderated by Rick Mercer) and presentations. This conference will gain the attention of other youth organizations, media, and politicians from all levels of Government.

On Friday, youth and youth organizations will have an opportunity to **build new friendships and partnerships** through group activities/ice breakers, to **browse the many member organizations and sponsors within The Market**

WORKSHOPS

Both informative and discussion-oriented workshops will be offered at this years YFMC, one of which will result in a report being compiled, sent to all levels of Government all throughout the country, and which will contribute to the compilation of the Youth-Throne Speech in January 2009. **Participants will take a copy home with them!**

Place, and to prepare for an intense weekend filled with workshops, a debate, and fun; Saturday, attendees will have an opportunity to participate in both **informative and discussion-oriented workshops**, to witness a **Youth Leaders Debate moderated by Rick Mercer**, and to attend our **Parliamentary Gala** featuring politicians from all levels of government and business partners; and finally on Sunday, attendees will have an opportunity to participate in a historic moment within the Youth-Government of Canada by electing the first Board of Directors and attend the **Youth Leadership Brunch**.

THE PLAN...

Friday, October 17, 2008

8:45a - 9:30a	Sign-in & Registration <i>Upon request, delegates can be greeted at the Airport, Train Station, and Bus Terminal by a YFMC Committee Member. Upon arrival to the hotel, delegates will be asked to sign-in, get their package, t-shirt and room assignment, and can then get settled in.</i>
9:30a - 10:15a	Opening Session <i>The Conference Co-chairs will open the conference, the national and provincial flags will be marched in, and other speeches will take place.</i>
10:15a - 10:45a	Breaking the Ice <i>- Muhtadi World Drummers</i>
10:45a - 11:30a	Keynote Speakers
11:30a - 12:30p	Lunch
12:45p - 2:15p	Breakout Session #1
2:30p - 4:00p	Keynote Speakers & Group Session Presentations

Saturday, October 18, 2008

8:00a - 9:00a	Breakfast
9:00a - 10:30a	Workshop Session #1 <i>- Foreign Affairs & International Relations: The Youth-Minister of Foreign Affairs & International Relations will lead a discussion around our military involvement overseas and other various international related matters.</i> <i>- Public Safety: The Youth-Minister of Public Safety will lead a discussion around gun & gang violence and public safety in general.</i> <i>- Aboriginal & Northern Affairs: The Youth-Minister of Aboriginal & Northern Affairs will lead a discussion around the accomplishments and challenges of the aboriginal youth community and those who - at times - are extremely isolated from the events and initiatives going on throughout Canada.</i> <i>- Meet and Converse Youth-Prime Minister Candidate #1</i>
10:30a - 10:45a	Break
10:45a - 12:00p	Workshop Session #2 <i>- Social Development: The Youth-Minister of Human Resources & Social Development will lead a discussion around poverty and homelessness, welfare, and education.</i> <i>- Transportation & Infrastructure: The Youth-Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure will lead a discussion around the public transportation systems throughout the country.</i> <i>- Environment: The Youth-Minister of Environment will lead a discussion around the environmental challenges we are facing, climate change, and what we can do.</i> <i>- Meet and Converse Youth-Prime Minister Candidate #2</i>
12:00p - 2:00p	Lunch/Free Time

2:00p - 3:30p	<p>Workshop Session #3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Citizenship & Immigration: The Youth-Minister of Citizenship & Immigration will lead a discussion around the citizenship and immigration barriers faced within the youth community.</i> - <i>Labour: The Youth-Minister of Labour will lead a discussion around the labour laws, employment access, and student wages.</i> - <i>Health: The Youth Minister of Health will lead a discussion around the health care system and its access barriers, the promotion of healthy eating habits and recreational involvement, and the awareness and prevention of HIV/Aids.</i> - <i>Meet and Converse Youth-Prime Minister Candidate #3</i>
3:30p - 3:45p	Break
3:45p - 5:00p	<p>Workshop Session #4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Taking IT Global: Creating Local Connections will be hosting a workshop called "A Virtual Reality".</i> - <i>Intergovernmental Affairs: The Youth-Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs will lead a discussion with the Municipal Youth Cabinets, Provincial Youth Parliaments, and MYPs around our structures, the challenges we face, and how we can all work together to achieve more.</i> - <i>Building Constituency, Capacity, and Leadership</i> - <i>Naming & Designing the YGC's Award Program</i>
5:00p - 7:00p	<p>Youth-Prime Ministers Debate</p> <p><i>The three Youth-Prime Minister Candidates will participate in a debate moderated by Rick Mercer.</i></p>
7:00p - 8:00p	Free Time
8:00p - 10:00p	<p>Parliamentary Dinner</p> <p><i>Delegates will have an opportunity to meet and dine with Members of Parliament, Senators, and Business Partners. [NOT CONFIRMED DUE TO ELECTION]</i></p>

Sunday, October 19, 2008

9:00a - 12:00p	<p>Youth Leadership Brunch</p> <p><i>The Youth Leadership brunch is dedicated to recognizing and showcasing the talents and accomplishments of Canada's young people. During this years brunch the YGC's Award Program will be launched; in future years 30 youth will be inducted into the YGC's Award Program during the brunch.</i></p>
12:00p - 1:00p	<p>Closing Remarks & Next Steps</p> <p><i>The Co-Chairs will close the conference and delegates will be given a draft* copy of the Strategic Plan created during the workshop sessions.</i></p> <p><i>*A draft copy of the Strategic Plan will be distributed because the plan will need to be fine tuned and printed in a comprehensive and presentable format.</i></p>

INSPIRED!

EMPOWERED!

RECOGNIZED!

QUICK REFERENCE...

WHO CAN ATTEND?

This Youth First Ministers Conference is designed for any and all youth organizations who aim to represent, serve, engage, or empower youth between the ages of 10-24. It is important for your organization to attend to ensure the conference is diverse, representative, and reflective of the diverse youth community. (chaperones are welcome)

Unfortunately space is limited at this years conference, therefore it is best for your organization to register as soon as possible to reserve your spot. Organizations who send two or more individuals will receive a FREE table in the Market Place to showcase what your organization has accomplished and what you hope to accomplish.

WHERE AND WHEN WILL THE CONFERENCE BE HELD?

Friday, October 17, 2008 - Sunday, October 19, 2008

York University
4700 Keele St.
Toronto, Ontario
M3J 1P3

Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street W
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

REGISTRATION

The conference fee is \$20 for one day and \$50 for the entire weekend. A Limited amount of subsidies are available upon request. Travel and Accommodations is not covered!

To register please visit www.yfmc-rpmj.ca and click on REGISTER!

STRATEGIC PLAN

During the YFMC, youth and youth organizations from across Canada and internationally will create a Strategic Plan which will help guide the youth community in a direction we all agree upon and which will lead us into uncharted territory as a coalition. How will this come to life? Easy... we can work off of each others strengths and, as a team, strengthen our weaknesses.

LIVE DEBATE

The candidates for Canada's first Youth-Prime Minister will participate in a debate moderated by Rick Mercer and attendees will have an opportunity to meet them, ask them questions, and watch the debate live!

CONTACT

Steven Nicholls
Conference Chair
Youth First Ministers Conference
e: steven.nicholls@yfmc-rpmj.ca