



# YOUTH MATTER

*A Newsletter for Those Committed to  
Supporting Youth from  
Canadian Forces Families  
November 2006*



A Division of the Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency  
Une division de l'Agence de soutien du personnel des Forces canadiennes



## *Youth Funding – An Approval Committee Perspective*

By Major Cheryl Baldwin, Family  
Policy Team, DQOL

arose as we considered the funding requests or 'asks'.

# T

he Youth Funding Approval Committee met in June to distribute over \$750,000 of Non- Public Funds for CF youth programs. Our committee allocated less than 30 per cent of those funds. Given these results, it is important to share some common themes that

### Have a question for the Youth Matters Newsletter?

Send it along to Lara Rooke, National Recreation and Youth Services Coordinator at [rooke.lara@cfpsa.com](mailto:rooke.lara@cfpsa.com) and we will print it, with the answer, in the next edition of this newsletter.

First, expect the request forms to change. Regardless of what the form looks like, fill in all the sections. The committee does not have time to ferret out missing information that could jeopardize the success of your 'ask'. Avoid gobbledygook—be concise and be real. If we read a statement numerous times and remain puzzled, we'll question the intent and value of the 'ask'.

Planning is key. The opportunity to ask for funds will exist, but you may not know exactly when the call will occur, or if there will be other priorities that will detract from the time you have to prepare the 'ask'. Be ready. Keep a budget in your back pocket for each of the activities or programs that you want to fund.

Speaking of budgets, the committee includes representatives from PSP or MFRCs, an external expert in youth programming and CF youth. At least one person on the committee has insight into costs of certain types of 'asks'. Submit a SWAG and we will know—your 'ask' may not be viewed seriously.

It's all about youth. If your last CYNA results don't support the 'ask', then the committee is unlikely to approve the request. If your CYNA is out of date or if you've asked for activities that have not previously been identified in an assessment, explain how you know that this particular 'ask' is desired by the youth.

Look beyond the borders of your military community. Tap into off-base resources in the community for partnering and funding opportunities. CF youth living off base may readily identify with these external partners be more inclined to participate. Connections with local groups may be helpful in obtaining necessary matching funds for proposals in their second or third year.

Ultimately, the Approval Committee wants to distribute as much money as possible. Make sure your 'asks' are well thought out and meet all of the funding request requirements. You'll then be in a good position to get the funding you've asked for.



## Teleconferences Provide Clarity on Youth Funding Process

In August, the National Youth Project Team hosted a series of teleconferences aimed at providing additional information and clarification on the application process with the ultimate goal of strengthening the quality of the applications being received.

In total, 40 staff representing 20 locations in Canada, the US and Europe participated.

Many thanks to all who participated. For those who were unable to attend, the following is a summary of the key messages:

- Be clear.
- Be realistic, wild guesses are obvious.
- Answer all of the questions.
- This is meant to be a simple and direct process.
- It's not about quantity of information....it is quality that matters.
- Does each piece of the application fit together to create an accurate outline of what you are requesting funding for?
- Does your application support the results of your CYNA?
- Impact, impact, impact.
- Does it fit in with the Pillars of the Youth Model?
- Is it sustainable?
- Have someone outside of your program read your application. Does it make sense?

Additional questions can be directed to any member of the National Youth Project Team.

## Military Family Services Program Youth Model Planning Conference

The weekend of September 22nd to 24th was an amazing weekend in Lommel Belgium. That was the weekend that Canadian Military Youth, Staff and Volunteers from across Europe gathered to share best practices, learn, network, and plan the way ahead for the continued advancement of the National Youth Model in Europe. Participants were engaged in presentations, which covered such topics as Mapping Your Community, Event Planning, Peer-to-Peer Support, Marketing and Promotion, Strategic Planning, and supporting the working relationship between adults and Youth Councils.

Youth had the opportunity to join their peers to network, share their stories, support one and other, and develop new and innovative ways to further incorporate the pillars of the National Youth Model locally.

Adults and Volunteers participated in training sessions on asset building, sharing best practices, and discussing their plans to continue advancing the National Youth Model in their local communities.

All participants enjoyed a social evening of "Survivor Games," working together to accomplish goals and have a little fun at the same time.

A big "thank-you" goes to the organizing committee of this successful conference, which was led by Caterina Perry and Ann Ramsay. Everyone went home full of new ideas and enthusiasm having made new associations and friendships.

Submitted by: Dean McCuaig  
Policy Development and  
Research Manager  
DMFS



**Do you run an after school homework club?**

**Why not visit:**  
[www.olympicschool.ca](http://www.olympicschool.ca)  
and  
[www.paralympic.ca/english/education](http://www.paralympic.ca/english/education)

These sites offer teachers and youth advocates, resources related to the Olympic and Paralympic movements. Resources are available in both French and English. Check it out.



### Youth Jam 2006—Celebrating Success

Submitted By: Lindsay Chmilnisky—PSP Community Recreation 17 Wing

The first ever 17 Wing Youth Jam was held this year at Building 90 Recreation Centre on September 16<sup>th</sup>. It consisted of a fun casino, swimming, video games on the movie Screen, a DJ, an inflatable joust, juice bar and much more.

One of the biggest hits of the evening was the fun casino. Games included blackjack, chicken toss and a wheel of chance. Youth were given the opportunity to chance their luck and win prizes.

Another great attraction was the juice bar ran by the Health Promotion. They served up funky monkeys, strawberry daiquiris and punch. Everyone loved trying all the complimentary beverages.

If you like playing video games at home then you would have loved playing in the theatre on a huge screen. Two separate systems were set up and we ran elimination tournaments all night long.

The event was a significant accomplishment for 17 Wing youth with more than 50 attendees. It was evident that all the youth had a fantastic time from the feedback we received. Positive feedback continued to flow in post-event from Administration and parents.

Many factors contributed to the success of this event. The evening was staffed and run by volunteers and organized by the Youth Advisory Council, Community Recreation and the MFRC. Without the staff and volunteer's hard work and dedication the event would have not succeeded.



Marketing was a very important aspect for the outreach of this program. Trying to reach all the CF youth living off base in urban Winnipeg was a challenge. It was posted in 3 community newspapers, general e-mail notices, and poster campaigns within the community and schools.

Funding was possible through the Youth Advisory Council and the Wing Fund.

This event was run in partnership with Youth Advisory Council (YAC) and Wing Family Day. This outreach program was run within the pillars of the National Youth Model put out by Ottawa. We wanted this event to reach CF and non-CF youth in our community and make them aware of the programs we have available to them. During this event all participants had the opportunity to fill out a needs assessment for a chance to win a Nintendo DS. From this assessment we discovered that 70% of youth that attended the event were from Canadian Forces Families.

If you would like more information on upcoming events contact Lindsay Chmilnisky at 833-2500 ext 2057 or Diane Brine at 833-2500 ext. 4508.