



Promoting Sexual Health

"I think it was a good idea because you learn life lessons and you have fun doing it." – Youth participant

Projects

- Partnership with Saskatchewan Advisory Committee on Family Planning
- Engaging Young Parents to take Action: Wellness Adventures, Snuggle Up and Read
- On the Move: Mobilizing Communities and Engaging Youth to Reduce Rates of Teen Pregnancy in Canada
- Canadian Federation for Sexual Health National Youth Engagement Strategy

Needs

- To engage youth and young parents in strategizing effective ways to promote sexual and reproductive health.
- To develop prevention and intervention strategies to arrest risky sexual behaviours such as unplanned, early pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, sexual exploitation of youth (males and females).
- To provide support to young parents; particularly re the barriers for those trying to complete their education.
- To support gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgendered youth.

Knowledge Transferred

- Peer to peer approaches in creating dialogues amongst youth are effective ways to promote sexual health and pregnancy prevention.
- Youth engagement arrests risky sexual behaviour such as unplanned pregnancy, sexually transmitted infection, sexual exploitation.
- Youth engagement promotes healthy attitudes, understanding and respect toward gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgender youth.
- While pregnancy prevention is a focus, our research with young parents is informing a new knowledge base that early pregnancy may be a protective factor for other risky behaviours such as substance abuse, unhealthy relationships and lifestyles, school drop out, exit from sexual exploitation on the street, poverty.

Outcomes of Youth in Action in Promoting Sexual Health:

- Youth input into development of local, provincial and national resources, such as resources for CAPC/CPNP programs
- Skill building training for adult allies supporting the involvement of youth in sexual health promotion
- Improved services for young parents and non-parent adolescents

"I have no money for books for my girl or even for my self. So thanks a whole lot." (Young Student Dad)

Linkages

The Centre of Excellence for Youth Engagement supports local, provincial and national initiatives, building capacity and providing resources, primarily to assist others to develop the capacity to engage youth more effectively in their work. Please visit our website for more information: www.engagementcentre.ca