

PROCESS OF YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

(a model)



Centre of Excellence
for Youth Engagement

Initiating Factors How and why youth first became engaged / involved

Want to:

- personal interest / passion / enjoyment
- professional / personal development / benefit
- boredom
- inspired / encouraged by another person (e.g. family member, peers, role-model, youth friendly advocate) or event
- seeking social networks
- youth friendly environment (e.g. food being offered, good people already involved)
- not satisfied with current state of affairs
- have a voice / make a difference

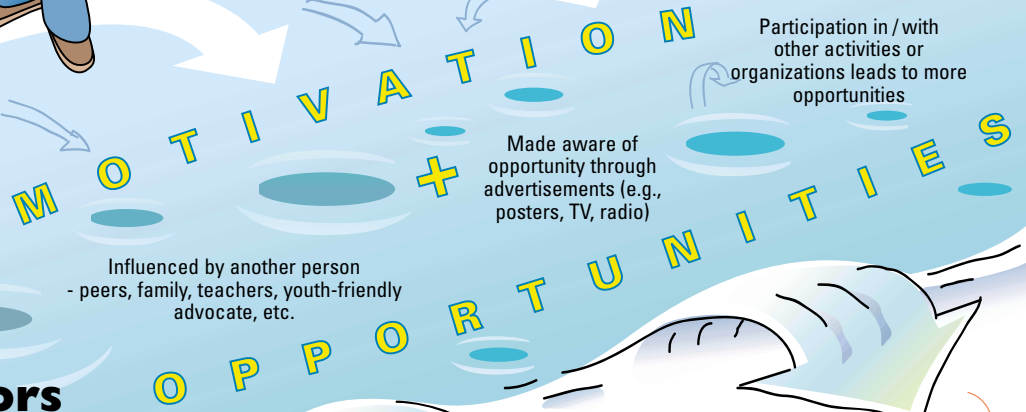
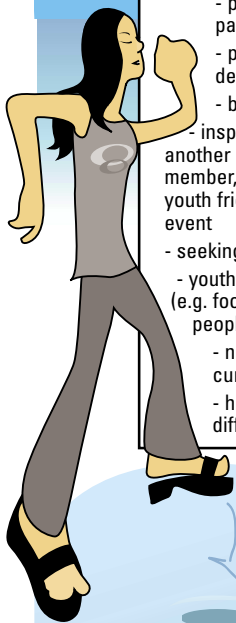
Need to:

- sense of obligation
- sense of guilt
- sense of responsibility
- values / beliefs
- prove something
- norm / natural progression

Have to:

- family initiated – parent / guardian signed you up
- school initiated mandatory community involvement
- post-secondary application requirement

GET INVOLVED



Sustaining Factors

What keeps youth engaged / involved

Individual Factors

- enjoyment/personal interest / passion
- personal rewards/benefits
- sense of responsibility / commitment / obligation
- need for acceptance / raise
- values/beliefs
- supportive peers / family
- working towards a goal
- social aspects
- need to

Organizational Factors

- provides opportunities
- youth friendly environment
- supportive environment
- role models
- recognition of accomplishments

Community and Societal Factors

- make significant, sustainable changes in the community
- problems in society and community
- nothing else to do in one's community

Barriers

What prevents youth from becoming and / or staying engaged / involved

PERSONAL BARRIERS

- time
- indifference
- disillusionment
- lack of confidence
- personal limitations
- limited capacity
- unrealistic goals
- life circumstances
- individual personalities
- negative experiences

SCHOOL / FAMILY / ORGANIZATIONAL BARRIERS

- parent disapprove / don't provide support (financial)
- organizational environment is not youth friendly
- organizational structure
- activities are not youth friendly
- group dynamics
- limited opportunities
- discrimination
- school structure
- limited resources

COMMUNITY / SOCIETAL BARRIERS

- lack of guidance / support from adults
- lack of opportunities and knowledge of opportunities
- lack of respect for youth
- limited community resources
- ageism
- attitudes
- media

GLOBAL / STRUCTURAL BARRIERS

- poverty
- consumerism



Health Canada Santé Canada

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