



Measuring Youth Engagement

Snapshot Youth Engagement Survey

Welcome to the launch of the Centre of Excellence for Youth Engagement's online Snapshot Youth Engagement Survey. This tool is free to use and we encourage your organization to find out how your programs and services are impacting youth, what they are getting out of their engagement and ideas to strengthen services and programs for children and youth in Canada. By having youth participate in this snapshot survey you not only get a report for your organization, you also help contribute to an exciting body of research that will help inform policy makers across the country!

What is the Snapshot Youth Engagement survey?

The Snapshot Youth Engagement survey includes two tools. The first is the Portrait Survey, which measures an individual's engagement in an activity. It includes questions about what youth do in the activity and what we call the Head, Heart, Feet and Spiritⁱ aspects of young person's activity involvement. The second tool is the Landscape Survey. It includes questions about the qualities of the activity setting, or the 'landscape' where youth are participating.

Who can use the Snapshot Youth Engagement survey?

The tools are available for use by youth organizations, government, and researchers. The use of the tools has received clearance from the Brock University Research Ethics Board.

Youth can complete the Surveys based on their involvement in a specific organization or group or based on any other activity that they choose. They can complete it once or two or more times to measure change over time. Youth ages 14 and older can provide their own consent online for participation. Youth under 14 years of age can use the survey with parental consent. If you anticipate youth under 14 responding to the survey, please contact us to discuss how consent can be obtained.

How is the Snapshot Youth Engagement survey ethically administered?

Please adhere to the following principles when using the Surveys:

1. Participation by youth needs to be voluntary and anonymous.
2. Youth need to be informed about the purpose of the survey and how the information will be used.
3. Youth should be given feedback about the results of the survey, based on group data.

How will the responses be used?

We hope this format will allow organizations to have youth fill out the tool and, if there are at least ten respondents from each organization, we will provide a summary of the responses specific to those organizations. We will contact you before sending out any reports.

Responses to online questionnaires will be saved as part of our anonymous database, which we will use to assess and improve these two questionnaires. In addition, our analyses will allow us to explore the nature of engagement and how it may be related to characteristics of specific activities. Individuals and organizations will not be identifiable to researchers using this database.

How can I get started?

Please contact tgmag@tgmag.ca to have your organization or group added to the online survey drop down menu. The online surveys can be found by following the links below:

English: <http://www.engagementsurvey.ca/snapshot/individual/index.php>

French: http://www.engagementsurvey.ca/snapshot/individual_f/index.php

For paper versions or any other questions, please contact tgmag@tgmag.ca

ⁱ “Head” represents cognitions (e.g., thinking about the activity, concentrating on the activity while doing it)

“Heart” represents affective involvement in the activity (e.g., excitement, frustration, enjoyment)

“Feet” represent behavioral aspects of involvement (e.g., participation frequency, diversity of involvement)

“Spirit” represents meaningfulness and connectedness to something outside the self (e.g., gives sense of belonging to community, connects individuals to others).

For more information about the Head, Heart, Feet, Spirit, please see the HHFS Tool at: