

2021 Youth Action Plan Update

The 2021 Youth Action Plan (YAP) update looks at progress to date, and prioritizing actions moving forward. Since 2014, there has been a high level of engagement and growth from youth-serving organizations, including an increase in communication and information sharing. This, coupled with more community collaboration and meaningful youth engagement is a testament to the positive work being done by Revelstoke's youth-serving organizations.

As you will see outlined in the following tables, the Youth Action Plan Update reflects on community highlights with regards to priority actions identified in the 2014 YAP. While significant progress has been made, there is still much work to be done.

Additionally, the Youth Action Plan Update identifies priority action status moving forward. Actions may be dropped, carried forward, updated or new. The status of the priority actions are based on input from various sources, including the previous Youth Action Plan, as well as, the Youth Initiative Committee, Youth Advisory Committee, community members and youth themselves.

While this update sets direction for future action, it is important to note that a plan of this nature requires regular updating as new programs and services are offered in the community and as the needs and desires of youth in the community change.

Part 1.1: Education, Employment & Training

Goal: Youth have opportunities to make meaningful contributions to their community and personal growth through advanced education, employment and training.

| Objective 1: Provide youth with opportunities to explore potential career paths and post-secondary education options | | |
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| 2021 Priority Action | Highlights Since 2014 | Action Status |
| 1. Provide youth with opportunities to learn about potential campuses and cities where | RSS: hosting post-secondary school fairs, Providing trips to Kelowna and Kamloops to tour campuses | In Progress (carry forward) |

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| they may like to attend college/university/trade school | | |
| 2. Encourage youth/high school students to study science and technology | After School maker space at RSS, Robotics camp at Okanagan College, development of the IDEAS factory and youth focused programming. RSS Tech Summit and guest speakers. ORL STEAM initiatives. | In progress (carry forward) |
| 3. Provide job shadowing and mentorship opportunities | Currently happening through the RSS's work experience program and as students are interested. Tech mentorship program through StartUp Revelstoke. | In progress (updated) |
| Objective 2: Provide local training and advanced education opportunities/support. | | |
| 4. Work with post-secondary education institutions to offer accredited, transferable, academic courses locally and increase local apprentice opportunities with local industry. | Tourism course, health care course, forestry courses, residential construction program. Increased online education opportunities for youth to study remotely. | In progress (updated) |
| Objective 3: Provide spaces that can be used for studying. | | |
| 5. Identify and create more designated spaces for studying and access to learning and tutoring supports (especially spaces that can be accessed evenings and weekends) | RSS homework club, ORL library, youth drop-in after school programs with Community Connections. | In progress (updated) |
| Objective 4: Support job creation projects (including youth entrepreneurship) that provide youth with opportunities to develop skills and earn a reasonable living wage. | | |
| 6. Develop partnerships with community organizations and businesses in order to coordinate and expand learning opportunities for all ages | Avalanche Canada training, Okanagan College (OFA and foodsafe course), RSS careers programs with BC Wildfire and Revelstoke Mountain Resort. Student works program at ORL. Parks and Rec offering lifesaving, cooking, babysitter training etc. | In progress (carry forward) |

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| 7. Work with SD19 and high school to develop opportunities for entrepreneurial training | Careers program and work placements | In progress (carry forward) |
| Objective 5: Encourage businesses to hire youth. | | |
| 8. Support businesses wanting to hire youth | Promote job postings at RSS. Promote CBT and government wage subsidy grants. | In progress (carry forward) |
| Objective 6: Improve employment accessibility for youth | | |
| 9. Expedite the involvement of youth in local employment | WorkBC job fair, student job board at RSS, careers program | In progress (carry forward) |
| 10. More diversity and opportunity for inclusion in male-dominated employment | | New Action |
| 11. Develop resources to remove barriers and provide support for youth employment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mental health ○ Physical health ○ Parental support ○ Skills/confidence | | New Action |
| Objective 7: Provide experiential learning opportunities for youth to learn and develop skills outside of the classroom. | | |
| 12. Develop opportunities for youth to gain soft skills that will enhance their employability | Leadership training and Job Readiness Workshops through SYN, volunteer opportunities, teacher assistant program at RSS | In progress (carry forward) |
| 13. Where possible, support local organizations in creating and expanding upon already existing experiential education opportunities for students | Open Mountains Project outdoor skills camps, Stoke Youth Network programming, IDEAS factory tech camps, Stoked on Science cooking and outdoor education programs, NCES Glacier Adventure Stewardship Program | In progress (carry forward) |

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| 14. Promote and support programs and initiatives that engage youth with hands on learning | Ongoing support of GASP, in addition, new organizations and clubs like Stoked on Science and the Alpine Club of Canada have begun to offer hands on learning opportunities. IDEAS factory and OK College tech and robotics camps | In progress (updated) |
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Part 1.2: Entertainment, Recreation and Culture

Goal: Youth have opportunities to build confidence and community through participation in positive entertainment, recreation and cultural activities.

| Objective 1: Creation of low/no cost, community-based programs/recreation and entertainment options that are accessible to all youth. | | |
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| 2021 Priority Action | Highlights Since 2014 | Action Status |
| 1. Seek and support organizations in securing funding for more youth programming | Stoke Youth Network/Basin Youth Network funding (2016-2022) .Securing additional funding through CBT, Revelstoke Community Foundation and Revelstoke Credit Union. | In progress (carry forward) |
| 2. Encourage community event organizers to include a youth focused element to their event. | Luna Art Festival, community drama productions, Alpine Club of Canada youth focused camps, free RPAC passes for youth to attend their movies and events, Revelstoke Snowboard Club youth ride days. Youth movie edits at the beginning of ski and bike premiers at the roxy. Revelstoke Cycling Association's Pedal and Pop. | In progress (carry forward) |
| 3. Maintain the Youth Access Fund and support partnerships that improve accessibility by subsidizing fees for extra-curricular activities. | Raised YA Fund financial guidelines and increased youth outreach since established in 2014. Free RMR passes and rentals for youth programming. Free nordic ski rentals for youth under 18. Free | In progress (carry forward) |

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| | golfing for youth under 18. Increased affordable outdoor programming through Open Mountains, Wandering Wheels, Flexpeditions, NCES. Dance Club, drop-in sports and yoga at lunch. | |
| 4. Collaborate with Revelstoke's Arts Council and community to engage youth in the Arts. | Shrek the musical, Flying Arrows drama camps, Arts Revelstoke march break programs. Stoke Youth Network lunch programming such as; Pottery Club, Knitting Club, Dance Club and yoga. | In progress (updated) |
| 5. Create opportunities for youth to experience different arts, recreation and culture activities and receive guidance/instruction from local experts | SYN: Summer explorers, diverse march break camps, climbing and biking programming, art based clubs, board games and D&D opportunities. Programming provided by Flexpeditions, Open Mountains, Alpine Club of Canada etc | In progress (carry forward) |
| 6. Explore options to combine informal education with healthy outdoor activities | Various programming through North Columbia Environmental Society, Wildsight, CBEEN, Open Mountains, Flexpeditions, Stoked on Science, Stoke Youth Network. Development of an outdoor education course, 'Learning on the Land' at RSS for senior students. | In progress (carry forward) |
| Objective 2: Identify, enhance and create community spaces that are youth friendly | | |
| 7. Support the development of social infrastructure that will benefit youth, (such as the mountain bike trails, pump track and indoor rock climbing) | Skatepark was reconstructed in 2019. Significant mountain bike and hiking trail expansion. Increased youth volunteerism with Revelstoke Cycling Association trail building initiatives. Youth letter of support for infrastructure grant applications | In progress (updated) |

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| <p>8. Develop a Youth Centre or Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure access to existing public and private locations and funds for staffing, programs, equipment, etc. for youth-friendly programming and activities. | <p>Various programming offered at the ORL, Community Centre, Sugar Shack, RSS, United Church, Community Connections.</p> <p>Community Connections securing a new outreach building on 2nd street with intent of establishing a youth centre.</p> | <p>In progress (carry forward)</p> |
| <p>9. Recognize business/organizations that provide 'youth friendly' spaces</p> | <p>Utilized youth friendly spaces for programming and activities. Chamber of Commerce Youth Employer of the Year award.</p> | <p>In progress (carry forward)</p> |
| <p>Objective 3: Utilizing geographic location and landscape to its full potential</p> | | |
| <p>10. Develop wilderness based programming for youth</p> | <p>Glacier Adventure Stewardship Program, Girls Gone Wilderness, outdoor march break camp, Summer Explorers, rock-climbing club at RSS, mountain bike club at RSS, Open Mountains summer programs, Avalanche Skills Training courses, establishing 'Learning on the Land' course at RSS, after school nordic program.</p> | <p>In progress (carry forward)</p> |
| <p>11. Develop adventure sports programming</p> | <p>Mountain Bike Club at RSS, Pedal and Pop summer bike rides, Daily Dirt summer bike program, after school rock climbing club, intro to whitewater kayaking.</p> | <p>In progress (carry forward)</p> |
| <p>12. Continued development of outdoor recreation facilities and infrastructure.</p> | <p>Significant development in mountain bike trails (in particular, blue and green), increased youth volunteerism with community trail building nights, expansion of Revelstoke Nordic XC trails, completion of the Kovach Skatepark Upgrade</p> | <p>In progress (updated)</p> |

Part 1.3: Home, Health and Safety

Goal: To ensure youth feel a sense of wellbeing and safety in both their home and community.

| 2021 Priority Action | Highlights Since 2014 | Action Status |
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| Objective 1: Ensure youth are aware of services that are available to them in the community | | |
| 1. Create easily accessible directory of services | Youth survival guide, welcome week, RevelstokeLife.ca, RSS counselling page, CYMHSU wallet cards. | In progress (Updated) |
| 2. Create more services geared and easily accessible for youth | Physician clinic at RSS, Revelstoke Ops Clinic at RSS, Community Connections Youth Outreach at RSS | In progress (Updated) |
| Objective 2: Ensure adequate housing and basic needs are met | | |
| 3. Ensure all youth have access to healthy and nutritious food to meet their needs | Accessing the food recovery program for school and after school programs, SD19 breakfast program, food outreach services through Community Connections | New Action |
| Objective 3: Encourage healthy choices, harm reduction and injury prevention | | |
| 4. Support the work of the Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Committee | Professional development training, RSS wellness fair, youth drug and substance use survey | In progress (carry forward) |

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| <p>5. Develop opportunities that teach youth how to assess and manage risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Examples: Cyber Safety, Avalanche Awareness, Street Smarts, etc. | <p>Delivered Avalanche Skills Training Courses, CPR and First Aid Training, Screen Smart Week, Wellness Fair, Teens and Screens event/Digital Detox, Safeteen Training</p> | <p>In progress (carry forward)</p> |
| <p>6. Implement priority actions, particularly around community and parent education, prevention supports for youth, and reducing alcohol-related harms in the community.</p> | <p>Parent Mental Health info night, community professional development workshops (substance use, mental health, screen use)</p> | <p>In progress (carry forward)</p> |
| <p>7. Critically review the range of services offered for youth and families in Revelstoke and look where gaps might exist (e.g. school based prevention program) and how to support existing services (e.g. Community Connections Youth Program, DARE program).</p> | <p>Gaps identified: After school and Friday night programming, boys groups, sex education and support for youth who have been sexually harrassed/assaulted, increased mental health supports and resources, trauma informed professional development, increased access to mentorship</p> | <p>In progress (carry forward)</p> |
| <p>8. Promote mindfulness, physical activity and art as a mental health strategy.</p> | <p>Screen Smart Week, drop-in sports at lunch, digital detox, extra-curricular after school programs</p> | <p>New Action</p> |
| <p>9. Enhance community partnerships to restore a high level of school-based substance use prevention in all schools.</p> | <p>SD19 hosting presentations, RSS medical clinic, Grade 8 and 9 wellness days, preventure program</p> | <p>In progress (Updated)</p> |
| <p>10. Create a fund that grants subsidies for youth risk reduction training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Avalanche courses ● WHMIS ● First Aid | <p>Funding secured through organizations to offer free and subsidized courses for Avalanche Training, First Aid, Serving it Right, Lifeguard certification</p> | <p>In progress (Updated)</p> |

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| 11. Provide information and support for parents to communicate with their children | RSS counselling services, Community Connections family services | In progress (carry forward) |
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Part 1.4: Citizenship, Connectivity and Engagement

Goal: Develop avenues for youth to make meaningful and sustained contributions to civic life and decision-making. Work to develop a culture in which the contributions of young people are valued and celebrated, and in which youth are able to develop confidence and power.

| 2021 Priority Action | Highlights Since 2014 | Action Status |
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| Objective 1: Maintain The Youth Liaison position in the community to build capacity for youth, support additional program development and liaison between service providers, businesses, media and youth. | | |
| None defined | Columbia Basin Trust funding secured through Basin Youth Network. Directed at youth 12-18 | In progress (carry forward) |
| Objective 2: Engage youth in decision making and support youth driven initiatives and ideas | | |
| 1. Engage youth in identifying priority actions throughout school year | Youth Action Plan actions are met through Youth Liaison and Youth Advisory Committee actions. Plan is updated annually | In progress (Updated) |
| 2. Promote youth grants available to the community and provide support to young people throughout the proposal-writing process | Supported numerous serving organizations and nonprofits to secure funding for youth focused programing and resources. Youth have been engaged in letter of support writing, grant writing and presentations for CBT community Initiatives Program. | In progress (carry forward) |

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| 3. Expand involvement of teens and youth in community processes through meaningful engagement. | Youth engaged in Vibrant Revelstoke - Affordability for All. Engaged in City of Revelstoke Transit Review process. Youth engaged in OCP vision update | In progress (carry forward) |
| 4. Encourage youth to engage in RSS and SYN leadership initiatives | RSS leadership council, Environmental Action Team, SYN Executive, Free2Be throughout SD19 | In progress (Updated) |
| 5. Update the community and Council annually on youth-oriented programs available or planned. | Youth Initiative Committee meetings, presentations to council, articles in local paper and updates on radio and social media | In progress (Updated) |
| Objective 3: Create a centralized place for youth to find and share information. | | |
| 6. Expand SYN's marketing and outreach to youth and community. | Expanded SYN's social media presence through Instagram and Facebook. RSS announcements, sandwich board and bulletin board. Utilize parent PAC pages to connect with the community. | In progress (Updated) |
| Objective 4: Showcase youth talent, accomplishments and positive contributions | | |
| 7. Celebrate both local youth accomplishments, talent and the accomplishments of those youth who grew up in Revelstoke and may be living elsewhere. | Stoke Youth of the Month, articles in local paper, social media post and radio announcements | In progress (carry forward) |
| Objective 5: Create avenues for Youth Mentorship | | |
| 8. Develop mentorship opportunities for youth and adults to connect and share skills and knowledge. | Tech mentorship, Community Connections mentorship program, RCA volunteer trail building, members of community giving talks at RSS | In progress (carry forward) |

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| 9. Create opportunities for youth to connect with people outside of their normal peer group. Promote cross generational interaction | Community Connections peer-to-peer mentorship. Inter-grade lunch groups, after-school SYN programming, careers placements, community volunteering opportunities. Career fair, environmental fair, wellness fairs at RSS. | In progress (carry forward) |
| Objective 6: Promote Youth Volunteerism | | |
| 10. Promote and create volunteering opportunities as a way for youth to develop skills, gain a sense of belonging and build confidence. | Volunteer experiences promoted through SYN and RSS, group volunteer opportunities through GASP and SYN, creation of volunteer opportunities specific to youth interests | In progress (carry forward) |
| Objective 7: Embrace Diversity & Inclusion | | |
| 11. Establish zero tolerance for hate/bullying | Love is Louder campaign, RSS Pride Day, Free2Be Clubs, increased education within schools | In progress (carry forward) |
| 12. Acknowledge the abilities of young people with disabilities and develop programs to support their skills and interests. | Open Mountains Project, Special Olympics BC, Community Connections youth programming. | In progress (carry forward) |
| 13. Recognize the significance of youth's First Nations heritage | RSS indigenous studies, development of 'Learning on the Land', Aboriginal Friendship Society's events and programs within SD19 and community. | In progress (carry forward) |
| 14. Support student transition from elementary to highschool | | New Action |
| 15. Increase cultural content in schools via instruction, extracurricular activities (e.g. field trips, performances), and work experience with cultural groups. | | New Action |

| Objective 8: Encourage youth to become responsible global & community citizens | | |
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| 16. Raise awareness of global issues and expose youth to different cultures and ways of thinking | Incorporated into RSS curriculum, in addition to; environmental action team and leadership group initiatives. Revelstoke Aboriginal Friendship Society events, Revelstoke's Multicultural Society Carousel of Nations. | In progress (carry forward) |
| 17. Support & create opportunities for youth-driven environmental initiatives | RSS Environmental Action Team, Glacier Adventure Stewardship Program, Fridays for Future events, RSS Environmental Expo, volunteer opportunities with North Columbia Environmental Society, in-class presentations and education. | In progress (carry forward) |
| 18. Promote youth philanthropy | WE Day, SD19 Leadership groups, accessing funding support through Community Futures Revelstoke, Stoke Youth Network Leadership Training | In progress (carry forward) |