YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION CHAMPIONS (YMHAC) INITIATIVE

Definitions of Terms



TERM	DEFINITION
Youth Leads	Youth Leads may be students between 12-20+ years of age. They are youth who have attended the training sessions and take a leadership role in mentoring and providing support to YMHAC Champions who are actively creating healthy, safe, welcoming and resilient schools and communities.
Youth Champions	Youth Champions are students in grades 7-12. These youth participated in the YMHAC Champion workshops and take on informal leadership roles as 'Champions'. Champions work alongside Public Health Leads, School Mental Health ASSIST Leads and Youth Leads to develop youth engagement strategies to create healthy, safe, welcoming and resilient schools and communities.
	NOTE: Based on local factors, group dynamics and site preferences, Youth Champions can take on more of a leadership role. Please note if this route is employed, the training and responsibilities associated to the Youth Lead must be distributed to the Youth Champions to ensure all tasks are met.
Public Health Unit Leads	Public Health Unit Leads are health-care professionals who are involved in the YMHAC Initiative. The Public Health Leads primary responsibilities are in the areas of planning, implementation and evaluation support.
School Mental Health ASSIST Lead	School Mental Health ASSIST Leads are trained psychologists and social workers, who are part of a provincial implementation support team designed to help Ontario school boards promote student mental wellbeing, and provide enhanced support for students who struggle with mental health and addictions issues. They do so with a focus on leadership, capacity-building, and implementation support.









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School Staff Lead	School Staff Leads are teachers, administrators, and other school staff (i.e., guidance counsellors, child and youth workers) within local schools who may assist with planning, training, implementation, and/or evaluation activities.
Local Youth	Local Youth (between the ages of 10-21) are those Initiative participants in areas served by the public health unit. These youth will be engaged in youth engagement activities led by the Youth Lead and Youth Champions.





