

The Scoop on the Scape

Change Starts with Youth: The YouthScape Public Forum

The YouthScape public forum, held in Victoria, BC on November 27th 2009, brought together approximately 80 policy makers, practitioners, funders and young people from coast to coast to discuss goals they all share in common: How are young people strengthening their communities? How can we advance a youth-centered movement?

Check out YouthScape's story on the [public forum](#) which features a summary of the panel presentations, creative spotlights and learning circles.



Enter » Legal Literacy

Exit » Tackling Gaps in Youth Justice!



At a public forum about homelessness in Victoria, concerns about unlawful backpack searches, detainment of property, misguided arrests and taser use dominated the discussion. It wasn't the first time that the City of Victoria Youth Council had heard about young people's frustration with local police departments.

The council decided to tackle the issue head on to bring police officers and various representatives from the justice system together with youth to create the street legal pocket guide. Check out the full [story](#). Aussi disponible en [français](#).

Café Le Spot: Causing a Stir!

Finding the right recipe for a successful project is always a challenge. In Rivière des Prairies, 12 young people have discovered that the perfect café demands a lot more than a few decadent drinks and some yummy treats. Their discoveries led them to create Café Le Spot - a project they could all work towards and believe in.



Café Le Spot, which is organized and run entirely by young people, is open four days a week. It is already causing a stir - attracting between 20 and 40 young people aged 18 to 25.

Learn more about [Café Le Spot](#). Aussi disponible en [français](#).



Check out these opportunities and resources!

- 1) Youth are Awesome!
- 2) YOU Breakfast 2010 -Keynote Marc Langlois
- 3) United Nations Proclaims Year of the Youth
- 4) Get Outside Your World - National Contest
- 5) GYA releases conference report
- 6) Funding Community Organizing: A Resource Guide

1) Youth are Awesome!

Child and Youth Friendly Calgary have launched a new interactive website called [Youth are Awesome](#).



The site is all about the awesome things that youth do or can do in Calgary. The site is updated by 20 youth who blog about upcoming events, music, movies, news, sports and just about anything else that they want to talk about! They are still looking for more youth bloggers so if you have something you want to talk about, check it out!

2) YOU Breakfast 2010!

YouthScape's Marc Langlois is the keynote speaker at the [YOU Breakfast 2010](#) in London, Ontario on February 4, 2010. This event is about learning how to empower youth and create communities which support active youth engagement.

Marc, along with YOU ([Youth Opportunities Unlimited](#)) youth leaders, will be leading the event and giving a presentation on effective youth engagement. YouthScape will be featured in his presentation!



3) United Nations Proclaims 2010 to be the International Year of the Youth!

On December 18th, 2009 the United Nations announced that 2010 will be the year of youth!

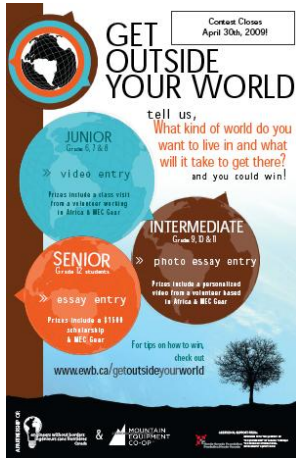
"The International Year is about advancing the full and effective participation of youth in all aspects of



society," says UN Focal Point Youth Nicola Shepherd said. "We encourage all sectors of society to work in partnership with youth and youth organizations to better understand their needs and concerns and to recognize the contributions that they can make to society."

[International events](#) to celebrate this announcement are scheduled throughout the year. It looks like this will be an exciting year for increasing youth engagement!

4) Get Outside Your World



Engineers Without Borders (EWB) and Mountain Equipment Coop are proud to announce a national contest in which youth, from ages 12 - 18, are challenged to consider the world as they want it to be. Youth are encouraged to find a creative way to depict this vision in answering the question "What kind of world do you want to live in and what will it take to get there?"

Prizes for winning submissions include a visit from an EWB overseas volunteer, a \$1,500 scholarship for post-secondary education, and more. The contest closes on **April 30th, 2010**, so get outside your world today! Learn more about the full [contest](#) details.

5) The Global Youth Assembly releases Conference Report

Check out the [report](#) released by the GYA that outlines their recent conference.

Seventeen YouthScapers - from coast to coast - ignited the [Global Youth Assembly \(GYA\)](#) on July 29-August 2, 2009 in Edmonton, Alberta. Thanks to a partnership with the [John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights](#), YouthScape was able to participate in this exciting event that brought together hundreds of youth from diverse geographical and personal backgrounds.



6) Funding Community Organizing: Social Change through Civic Participation



This is a great [resource](#) for grantmakers who fund community organizations. It contains information from funders and organizers that discusses what makes community organizing unique and uniquely effective, how to manage grantee relationships over time, understanding the value of process, and the grantmaker's special role in fostering change.

Visit www.youthscape.ca for more stories, updates and resources!



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