



Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network's mission:

To make youth violence prevention a priority issue in the community by increasing community awareness, engaging the community, and strengthening networks of the involved partners.

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PYVPPN Notebook

April - June 2009

Volume 1, Issue 2

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The "voice" of our youth

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Featuring information on participating agencies and partners.

Erin Mills Youth Outreach Program (EMYOP)

PYVPPN Community Forum

This Spring, Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network (PYVPPN) will be hosting "Uprooting Youth Violence" – Peel's community response to the Roots of Youth Violence Report.



Peel's Community Response to the Roots of Youth Violence Report

The **Peel Youth Violence Prevention Network Steering Committee** has endorsed this community forum designed to bring awareness to our community members about the recommendations presented in the Roots of Youth Violence Report. In our last issue, we made reference to this extensive Provincial report, written by The Honourable Roy McMurtry and Dr. Alvin Curling. PYVPPN would like the public to voice their opinions on these recommendations, and support a call to action to ensure the necessary steps are taken to address the issue of youth violence, and violence as a whole.

The forum will take place at the HJA Brown Education Centre in Mississauga and will feature Dr. Alvin Curling as the keynote speaker, along with representation from the Region of Peel, the cities of Brampton, Mississauga, and Caledon. We are planning to have a youth panel and an open forum for discussion, with an opportunity for people to provide feedback and make their own recommendations. Peel Region is working on several initiatives to ensure that residents are aware and engaged in issues that affect them, their families and their communities.

To find out more about the Roots of Youth Violence report and its recommendations, read the **[Executive Summary](#)** of the report.

Look for updates and highlights of what's happening in Peel – we're taking note!

[Multi-cultural Calendar](#)

[PYVPN Events – What's up?](#)

May 1 – 7, 2009



National Youth Week

PYVPN Reports:

2006 Community Report

2008 Community Report

Roots of Youth Violence

Read the report at

www.rootsofyouthviolence.on.ca

Is there something you would like to see on our newsletter?

Let your voice be heard. We're listening!

Connect2ENDviolence

A link to safety in our community.

With a focus on engaging the community to help identify solutions that reduce and eliminate violence, Connect2ENDviolence launched at 12:00 noon on April 14th, 2009. This website hosts a wealth of resources and information on different types of violence and the integrated services that are offered to help deal with them. This site was developed with the support of a steering committee co-chaired by Councillor Frank Dale and Regional Councillor Gael Miles, and is comprised of staff from Peel Public Health, Peel Regional Police and Peel Police Services Board, Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board, and Peel District School Board.

Connect2ENDviolence is an incredible tool for the public as it provides an avenue for people to get involved and to take action. It will be interactive, allowing members of the community to have open discussions and two-way dialogue. Peel Region is giving residents the chance to stand together and lead the way to a safer, connected society.

For more information, visit www.connect2endviolence.ca or dial 211.

iPod Presented to Winner!



Now that we have our new look, we would like to say thank you to all of the youth who participated in the branding sessions and choosing to develop this new image. All participants' names were entered for an opportunity to win an iPod Touch, and in January 2009, Mississauga and Regional Councillor Pat Saito presented "Mack" with his gift. The presentation was made at the Dam Drop-in centre.

Congratulations Mack!

The Parenting Program

PYVPN's Families working group started the Parenting Program, a pilot series of workshops designed to get parents more involved, develop better relationships with their children, and communicate more effectively with them. Engaged parents are better equipped to deal with difficult situations and help diffuse potential causes of youth violence. The first phase of the program was held in Brampton at Clark Blvd. Public School, the second was in the Meadowvale area of Mississauga at Shelter's Bay Senior Public School, and the final set of workshops runs from March 31st to May 5th at Allen Drive Middle school in Bolton. Program evaluation is

Contact Us

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Are you on “the list”?

PYVPN keeps an ongoing **inventory** of all programs and agencies available to youth in Peel. If you know of any that we may have missed, please let us know.

Next issue::

PYVPN at the Youth Can Move The World Symposium

Uprooting Youth Violence and Connect2ENDviolence update

still in process, but feedback from both parents and children that have attended has been very positive. This serves as a good reminder of the important role of parents and how they can be a positive influence for our youth. *For more information on the Parenting Program, please [contact us](#).*

PYVPN Working Groups



Community Development
Youth Services and Supports
Families
Education, Policy & Program

Member: Erin Mills Youth Outreach Program (EMYOP)

Catherine Hughes is a member of our Youth Services & Supports working group, and represents EMYOP, which is an excellent support for not only PYVPN, but for the youth in the west Mississauga area. The program runs out of Erin Mills United Church in the Erin Mills & Collegeway area and has not only a drop-in program (OASIS), but a literacy and employment program too. In March 2009, EMYOP hosted a Roots of Youth Violence forum and as a result, they are now in the process of creating their own youth advisory committee. In the upcoming months, you can look forward to them having a Summer Day Camp, and a new Leadership in Training workshop.

To find out more about EMYOP, visit their [website](#) or call (905)820-9466.

IMPACT: PYVPN’s Youth Advisory Group

PYVPN’s Youth Services & Supports working group has initiated a youth advisory group which met for the first time in February 2009. Youth from previous focus groups and different locations throughout Peel, along with youth who signed up at this year’s [Youth Can Move The World Symposium](#), were invited to speak their minds about what they would like available to them. Some of their issues involved challenges with transportation, police relationships, and lack of free programs in some areas. More than a dozen youth agreed to participate as youth advisors on what we can offer youth to keep them engaged and make them feel safe in their schools and communities. The members who attended in February agreed to become involved in planning activities and encouraging their peers to participate, and they plan to meet the third Thursday of each month. At a recent meeting, the youth decided on the name **IMPACT** for this group.

If you or any young people that you know would like to get involved in this group, please send us the contact information including name, phone number, and e-mail address if you have one. We’ll send you updates on our meetings and activities.

e-mail: PYVPN@peelregion.ca or call (905)791-7800 Ext. 2174