

Green Street Youth Engagement Program Youth Advisory Committee and Youth Mentor Application May 2008



What is Green Street?

Green Street is a national program that supports environmental and sustainability education programs across Canada. Green Street was started by the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation. Under Green Street, Canadian environmental groups (for example, Earth Day, Sierra Club, Ducks Unlimited, etc.) deliver high quality school programs. Over 18 environmental groups are currently involved in Green Street! Through these programs students are actively engaged in learning about the environment and are motivated and supported in taking action. Want to learn more? Check out www.green-street.ca or www.youthactioncentre.ca for more info!

What's the Green Street Youth Engagement Program?

The **Youth Engagement Program (YEP)** links students from across Canada that have participated in Green Street sponsored events, such as in-class school programs and youth forums, with other on-going environmental and sustainability opportunities. We do tons of stuff – like host a youth-driven, on-line *Youth Action Centre* website, send out monthly *Youth Action E-newsletters*, and support youth-friendly events. We are currently recruiting new youth for our awesome **Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)** and new **Youth Mentor** program!

What is the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)?

The **Youth Advisory Committee (YAC)** is a dynamic team of 8 environmentally-aware, passionate youth who come together from across Canada to represent the YOUTH VOICE and help Green Street reach its goal of having youth participate in environmental learning. These middle to secondary school youth help make decisions, like: What kind of school programs should Green Street offer? What should our youth-outreach materials, like our website and e-newsletters, look like? What environmental and social justice issues are REALLY important to youth, and what do they want to do to help? The YAC has great ideas for new programs, resources and other stuff students need to help them be a serious force for positive change! As a YAC member, you would commit to a two year term doing the following:

1. meet other youth leaders through monthly YAC conference calls, email and chatting online with Green Street *Youth Mentors*
2. Make decisions about the best way to promote youth engagement in environmental stewardship with other members of the YAC
3. Help develop the Youth Action Centre select articles for the E-newsletter and youth directed Green-Street marketing materials
4. Represent the ideas and interests of youth through participating in national Green-Street Steering Committee calls, annual meetings and other special events.

What are Youth Mentors?

The YAC has developed a new program to bridge the gap between the YAC and organizations known as “Program Providers” that currently offer Green Street certified programs for kids and youth. Youth Mentors will act as consultants on effective youth programming to a Green Street Provider whose programs they are familiar with and keep the YAC up to date on their Provider’s programs, events and opportunities. As a Youth Mentor, you would commit to doing the following for at least a year:

1. Contribute articles, images, event announcements and cool links to the e-news.
2. Participate in online discussion to help the YAC represent the vision of young leaders across the country.
3. Offer suggestions to your local Green Street Provider to help them develop fun and effective programs.
4. Attend cool events and conferences with staff and volunteers from your Provider organization, promoting Green Street and the Youth Engagement Program

How do I get involved?

You can apply to be either a YAC member or a Youth Mentor, or be considered for both. Fill out the **Application Form** on the next page and submit it by May 15th, 2008. YAC applicants do not have to be currently involved with a Green Street Program, but Youth Mentors will need a staff member from the Green Street Program Provider you are involved with to endorse you by sending in the attached Provider Nomination Form.

Green Street Youth Advisory Committee APPLICATION FORM



Section One: About You (Contact Information)

Name: _____ Email: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Best Time to Call: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Grade completed as of June 2008 (circle/bold one): Grade 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Other: _____

Name of High School (if currently attending): _____

Have you participated in a Green Street program? (**Not sure? See the box below) No Yes

If Yes, which one? _____ When? _____

**This could be a Green Street Internship, a summer gathering (like a Sierra Youth Coalition Gathering), a Green Street-supported conference (like the Youth Climate Change Conference), or a Provider delivered school program. If you need to see what a Provider is, or what school programs Providers offer, go to www.green-street.ca, click on *Teacher Zone*, then *Book a Program*. There you can look at what programs are offered in what provinces. During 2007-2008 Green Street Providers included:

*Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (BEST)	*Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
*Citizens' Environment Watch	*Clean Nova Scotia
*WildEd	*Conservation Corps
*Destination Conservation	*Ducks Unlimited Canada
*ENJEU	*Établissements verts Brundtland
*Fallsbrook Centre	*Green Kids Incorporated
*Québec'ERE	*Safe Drinking Water Foundation
*The Pembina Institute	*Trout Unlimited Canada
*Sierra Club of Canada Atlantic Chapter	*Comité de valorisation de la Riviera Beauport

How did you learn about the Green Street Youth Steering Committee or Youth Mentor Program?
(Please check all that apply)

- Green Street Provider
 Youth Action Centre E-Newsletter
 Friend /Former YAC member
 Youth Action Centre website
 Teacher/Advisor
 Other: _____

Which Role are you applying for?

Applicants will be selected as either a YAC member or Youth Mentor. Please check both if you wish to be considered for either one of these roles.

- Youth Advisory Committee Member**
 Youth Mentor

*If you are applying to be a Youth Mentor, what Green Street Program Provider do you want to work with?

Organization: _____ Contact Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Youth Mentors, please make sure your application is accompanied by the attached Nomination Form on page 4, completed by your Program Provider!

Applying for the YAC: Tell Us About You – What You Think, What You Do...

*** Please attach answers on a separate sheet if you are not filling this out electronically.*

1. Tell us about your non-academic activities, such as employment or volunteer service, clubs, youth groups or hobbies. *Tell us something interesting about yourself!*
2. Pick one environmental and/or sustainability issue that is important to you. In 150-200 words tell us why you think this is an important issue, and how you think youth can be engaged to help address this problem.
3. How do you think social and environmental issues are interconnected; and should social justice issues be incorporated into environmental education? If so, how?
4. Why do you want to sit on the Green Street Youth Advisory Committee? What do you expect to gain and contribute to the Youth Engagement Program?
5. a) What do you like best about Green Street? And b) what is the most valuable part of the Youth Engagement Program?
6. In your opinion, what is the importance of diversity in the Green Street Youth Advisory Committee and reaching out to marginalized youth, and how can you contribute to this goal?

Applying for the YAC: References

Your reference should be someone who can tell us about you. Your reference should **not** be a friend or a relative. **Good** references are teachers, advisors, employers, coaches, group leaders or other similar people.

Reference #1

Name: _____

Phone Number: _ (____) _____ Best time to call: _____

Email: _____ School (if teacher): _____

Relationship to you: _____

Reference #2

Name: _____

Phone Number: _ (____) _____ Best time to call: _____

Email: _____ School (if teacher): _____

Relationship to you: _____

What Now?

Send your completed application form to the Green Street Youth Engagement Program Coordinator:

Email: youthaction@green-street.ca
 Post: c/o Kerri Lanaway
 #302-733 Johnson Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 3C7

Application Deadline: May 15th, 2008

And don't forget to check out our Youth Action Centre Website:
www.youthactioncentre.ca

Provider Recommendation: Youth Mentor Nomination Form

Provider Information

Name: _____

Provider Organization: _____

Email Address: _____

Nominations for Youth Mentor

Name of Nominated Youth: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

1. How has the youth you are recommending been involved with your provider organization's program(s) or otherwise in Green Street's Youth Engagement Program?

2. What are your reasons for nominating this person?

3. If selected, how will this person you are recommending be of benefit to Green Street's Youth Advisory Committee?

All Nominations Must Be Submitted by May 15th, 2008

Please send complete application to:

Email: youthaction@green-street.ca

Post: c/o Kerri Lanaway

#302-733 Johnson Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 3C7