



MUNICIPALITY OF  
*West Perth*

# YOUTH PROGRAMMING SPECTRUM

2022 Municipality of West Perth



# PROGRAM SPECTRUM STRATEGY

- Focus areas for youth programming
- Program growth strategy
- Goals of youth programming
- Current program spectrum (2021)
- Proposed 2022 program spectrum
- Adaptive Management
- Potential partners & contributors
- Special event brainstorm

# WHAT IS A SPECTRUM?

1. A band of colors, produced by separation of the components of light.

2. Used to classify something, in terms of its position on a scale between two opposite points.





# MWP'S YOUTH PROGRAMS

- Programs offered by Municipality of West Perth (MWP) and partner organizations targeted at youth.
- Diverse program offerings for youth ages 4-19 (focus on 13-17).
- Day programs, day camps, special events, youth centre location.
- Focus on youth development and contribution to community.

# YOUTH PROGRAM FOCUS AREAS






- **Socialization:** Making connections with peers, character development and enrichment.
- **Experiential:** Experience, mentorship, training, crash-course learning days
- **Community Enrichment:** Giving back to the community through donation, food drives, bake sales, food bank/soup kitchen, public service, or youth-connection.
- **Environmental:** Clean-up days, community garden, plastic/single use reduction (e.g. EcoExeter, clothing swaps, single use swap sales).
- **Health & Wellness:** Mental health, physical health, mindfulness, 'Vitamin N', coping mechanisms and strategies.



# PROGRAM GROWTH STRATEGIES

- **Focus on:**
  - Program longevity
  - Participant retention
  - Sustainable funding structure
  - Partnerships & Collaborators
- **How we'll get there:**
  - Advertisement
  - 'Word of Mouth' positive experiences
  - Diverse programming
- **Adaptive management:**
  - Core programming
  - Seasonal program rotations
  - Special events

Engaging  
*Youth*

-  **Connecting** → Advertising programs, partnerships, 'what's in it for me'.
-  **Engaging** → Encourage enrollment, create positive experiences, foster desire for more.
-  **Encouraging** → Positive experience lead youth to bring friends and grow attendance.
-  **Liberating** → Encourage youth to take leadership roles to execute events/ programs.
-  **Guiding** → Guide youth as they continue to lead in their personal lives.

# GOALS OF YOUTH PROGRAMMING

- Contribute to positive youth development in West Perth.
- Engraining community service and pride in community in youth.
- Fostering positive relationships and connection with peers.
- Supporting youth to bring positive ideas to the community.



# 2021 PROGRAMMING SPECTRUM

Socialization	Experiential	Community	Environmental	Health & Wellness
Let's Get Crafty	Drop-in			
Who's Got Game	Cooking with Class			
Baker's Table				
Happy Homeworkers				
Pinterest Pals				
Special events				

\* Lack of programs in Community, Environmental, and Health & Wellness



# 2022 PROGRAMMING SPECTRUM

Socialization	Experiential	Community	Environmental	Health & Wellness
Let's Get Crafty	Drop-in	Community Connection	Clean-up days	Partnership with LW4L
Who's Got Game	Nature is Neat	Partnership with Mitchell Outreach	Eco-Life	Mindfulness Matters
Baker's Table	Partnership with Library		Community Gardens	
Happy Homeworkers	Cooking with Class		Partnership with UTRCA	
Pinterest Pals				
Special events				

\* Focus on partnerships, engagement with existing programs, use of Youth Centre



# ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM EXAMPLES

- **Nature is Neat:** Participants earn volunteer hours while learning about nature. Would look like species identification hikes, bird counts, astronomy/ dark sky study, soil samples.
- **Clean-up Days:** Participants earn volunteer hours either planning a community clean-up, plogging hike, or garbage audit at a municipal building.
- **Community Gardens:** Participants earn volunteer hours creating and maintaining community gardens in Mitchell (e.g. weeding, harvesting, composting, watering).
- **Eco-Life:** Participants learn how to reduce their environmental impact at home and in daily life. Guest speakers, carbon footprint calculations, making petitions for community change.



# COMMUNITY PROGRAM EXAMPLES

- **Community Connection:** Participants earn volunteer hours while planning food drives, raising money for causes they're passionate about, engaging with seniors through partner groups.



# HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAM EXAMPLES

- **Physical Fitness:** Participants do fitness classes or opportunities for unique events in the community. Examples include female fitness, trail running, kayaking, cross training.
- **Mindfulness Matters:** Participants focus on mental health, meditation, self-care, and understanding personal boundaries. Setting the foundation for stable mental health into adulthood.



## SOCIALIZATION & EXPERIENTIAL PROGRAM EXAMPLES

- **Let's Get Crafty:** Crafts and creative activities.
- **Who's Got Game:** Participate in games and competitive activities.
- **Baker's Table:** Learning to bake.
- **Happy Homeworkers:** Drop-in collaborative homework sessions.
- **Pinterest Pals:** Craft of activity based on an idea from Pinterest.
- **Special Events:** Movie nights, escape rooms, special guests or speakers.
- **Drop-In:** Opportunity to seek socialization or mentorship in the Youth Centre space.

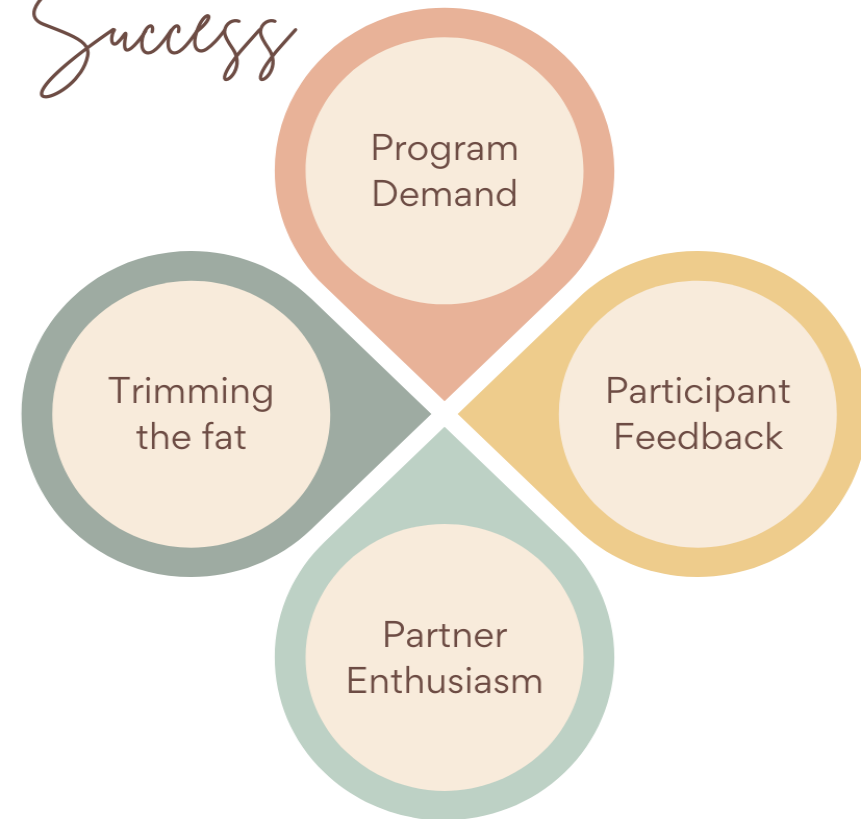
# MONITORING PROGRAM SUCCESS/FAILURE

- **Program demand:**  
Tracking participation numbers
- **Feedback from participants**
- **Funder/ partner enthusiasm**
- **'Trimming the fat':**  
Conservation of resources

**Adaptive management is imperative to the success of these programs**

Monitoring Program

*Success*





## POTENTIAL PARTNERS

- **West Perth Public Library (Experiential)**
- **Live Well 4 Life (Health & Wellness)**
- **Jennifer Cates (Health & Wellness)**
- **UTRCA/ABCA (Environmental)**
- **Early ON (Environmental)**
- **Mitchell Outreach (Community)**
- **Mitchell Community Food Bank (Community)**

# SPECIAL EVENTS BRAINSTORM

Socialization	Experiential	Community	Environmental	Health & Wellness
Youth fall fair	Spearhead a local author book signing (WPPL)	Spring food drive (Mitchell Community Food Bank)	Dark sky appreciation star gazing (RASC London Centre)	Cross country run/walk relay for awareness
Chinese New Year w/ chinese-canadians	Poetry slam coffee house (WPPL)	Fall bake sale for awareness of ____	Earth Day art installation downtown Mitchell	Bike-fest for national bike to work day (3rd friday in May)
	Tour wastewater treatment plant for world oceans day June 8	Learn local history from our first nation.	National Clean-up Day (3rd Sat in Sept)	May mental health awareness month 'geurrela positivity' campaign (sidewalk chalk e.g. Goderich)
			Petition council to invest in net-zero infrastructure for international day of climate action.	





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