



Taking Action!

ART and ABORIGINAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP for HIV PREVENTION

We want to hear *YOUR* stories

Youth Leader Application form

There is so much in different Aboriginal (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) history and teachings that supports healthy sexuality. And many Aboriginal traditions have always recognized the power behind youth voice. Yet there is a huge lack of culturally relevant information about HIV, which affects Aboriginal youth and their communities at sweeping rates across Canada. We know though that lots of youth are involved in trying to change things!

Have you ever been:

- *part of an event about HIV, drugs, poverty, human rights, justice, Aboriginal rights, sexual health, or violence?*
- *a volunteer or peer outreach worker?*
- *part of a sexual health, HIV or harm reduction committee or group?*
- *a helper or organizer of a workshop, event, or fundraiser about HIV?*
- *a speaker on a panel about living with HIV or supporting someone who is positive?*
- *part of any effort to spread the word about HIV?*

We are seeking MOTIVATED, PASSIONATE and ENERGETIC ABORIGINAL YOUTH to share their stories about HIV leadership or activism to become a TAKING ACTION YOUTH LEADER!

Selected leaders will:

- Get an all expenses paid trip to Toronto to learn about how to create a "digital story" short movie, and assistance with widely distributing their films to national and international audiences.
- Receive a "Flip Camera" to use throughout this project
- Meet other Aboriginal youth leaders from across Canada and join the national network of young people who have begun TAKING ACTION! on HIV in their local communities
- Be supported to host a movie night in their own community to showcase their work
- Learn about community based research
- Receive a \$1,000 honoraria

THANK YOU! NIA:WEN! MIIGWETCH! MAHSI CHO! QUJANNAMIIK! MARSE EKI!



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Successful candidates will participate in:

- (a) monthly teleconferences/internet chats between March-June 2012
- b) a week-long Youth Leaders Retreat in Toronto in July 2012
- (c) hosting one movie night in their own community between September 2012 and September 2013
- (d) opportunities to learn about community based research and share their work

All Aboriginal youth are encouraged to apply! Although not a requirement, please note that preference will be given to Aboriginal youth who are HIV positive and/or who have experience or a strong interest in sexual health/HIV prevention work.

For more information visit www.TakingAction4youth.org

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To Apply

Please fill-out the application attached and send it to us no later than Tuesday January 31st, 2012!

Submissions will be accepted in English, French, and Inuktitut. If you would like to submit in another Aboriginal language please let us know and we will do our best to ensure translation.

- **Online submission:** You can fill out the form online at www.takingaction4youth.org
- **E-mail:** You can e-mail it directly info@takingaction4youth.org
- **Fax:** You can fax it to the attention of *Taking Action* at 416-736-5986.
- **Regular mail:** You can send it in the mail to:

Taking Action c/o
ATTN: Marc Settino
York Institute for Health Research, 5021 TEL
York University
4700 Keele St, Toronto ON M3J 1P1

- **Video:** If you would prefer to speak (or perform) the answers to the questions, you can video yourself and send us the link preferably on youtube.com
- For more information, feel free to contact Marc Settino at 416 736 2100 ext. 20712
- If you need any help filling out the form, or have questions, or would prefer to do it over the phone, please let us know.
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- If you need more space for your answers, please feel free to attached additional pages!

Youth Leader Application Form

Full name: _____

Nation/Affiliation (First Nations/Inuit/Métis/Non-Status/Not known):

Date of Birth: _____

Gender: _____

Home community: _____

Current location: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Facebook: _____

1) What do you currently do: (student? volunteer? work? where?)

2) Have you ever been involved in any HIV (or sexual health, social justice, Aboriginal rights, harm reduction) prevention, treatment and/or support activities in your community? Can you tell us about them in a few sentences or bullet points?

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- 3) What does being a leader in HIV prevention mean to you? "Leadership" does not necessarily mean being an elected official or winning awards - it means different things to different people. Talk about this and how you feel about it. What accomplishments are you **most** proud of?

- 4) What does it mean to you to be Aboriginal (First Nations/Inuit/Métis status or non status) and involved in HIV/sexual health work? Does your culture and/or community impact HIV/sexual health work?

- 5) In a couple of sentences, please tell us why the Taking Action Project is important to you? What skills you think you can bring? What do you hope to gain?

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6) We know that taking action on HIV is hard work and we have learned that youth are often more successful when they have support from others. We want to encourage candidates to apply in pairs (ie with support from another youth, elder or trusted adult) in your community! Is your application being submitted with a partner? *If yes, who? If no, what supports do you have in your community to help you be successful in hosting a movie night?*

7) Do you have access to a telephone and/or the internet? Would you be able to use it consistently for one hour once a month uninterrupted? If not, how can we help facilitate you in regards to having access?

HIV Status (Optional)

Positive

Negative

Not Known

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