

Meeting Minutes

Anti-Black Racism Working Group: Youth Subcommittee

Wednesday, October 27, 2021, 6:30pm

Online – Zoom Web Call

Attendees: Stephen Linton

Library Staff: Elaine Knox, Brady Williamson, Joel Sutherland

Absent:

1. Brainstorming Activity: Methods to Connect with Black Youth

- Bribes
 - Black youth have been coming into library in evening
 - Snacks?
 - Gift card
- Volunteer community hours earned
 - Elaine could sign off on time directly with school
 - Joel to confirm with senior management
 - Stephen reports this makes it hard for teens to earn sufficient hours this way (an hour here or there)
 - Could we take on a cohort of teens to work on this and earn more hours?
 - Regular schedule, X numbers per week
 - Could use this as a reference
 - Maybe 2 students per high school (6 total volunteers)
 - Connects us with more teens (wider net)
 - Joel and Elaine to investigate
- Are we looking for feedback from youth who already use the library or youth who don't?
 - Valuable to get feedback from both
 - What are the barriers to coming to the library?
- Reach out to partners
 - Newcomer Youth Program through CDCD and Welcome Centre
- Reach out to teacher-librarians at high schools
- Outreach
 - Utilize outreach staff to go out in the community and speak with teens at skate parks, the mall, City youth events, maybe in schools (covid restrictions?)
 - Possibly teen staff and outreach staff working together

- Hand out swag, business cards with more info, snacks and drinks
 - Fill out surveys
 - Good way to get honest feedback
- Good way to get honest feedback is to have youth present, or youth handing out the survey
- Digital survey
 - Front and centre on teens page, main page
 - Share link on Discord, social media
 - Volunteers could help guide us on where to promote this
 - Make it interactive (surveys are boring), gaming element
- In-library scavenger hunt
- Video game tournaments
- Focus group
- Table Talk Series
 - Facilitated dialogue with compensation
 - Members of Pickering Soccer Club, music groups, etc.
 - Facilitators are a key component
 - Social media influencers
 - Invite youth to speak about their interests