



UHS Parent Weekly Bulletin –Vol.7

Friday, October 16, 2020



201 Town Centre Blvd.
Markham, ON
 L3R 8G5
 (P) 905-479-2787
 (F) 905-479-1539

Extensions:
 Reception - 431
 Attendance - 230
 Guidance - 458

Principal
 Suelyn Cheong
 suelyn.cheong@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal
 Andrew Gazaneo (A-L)
 andrew.gazaneo@yrdsb.ca

Vice-Principal
 Patrick Belmonte (M-Z)
 patrick.belmonte@yrdsb.ca

Superintendent
Becky Green
 becky.green@yrdsb.ca

Board Trustee
Ron Lynn
 ron.lynn@yrdsb.ca

Email:
 unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca

School Website:
[Click here](#)

Tweets
[@UHSupdates](#)

Course Rotation 3 - October 13 - October 26, 2020

Rotation - 3	Oct 1: - Oct 26
In Person 8:30-11:00 AM	Period 3
11:00 12:30 PM	Transportation and Lunch
Synchronous Learning 12:30-1:20 PM	Period 4
Synchronous Learning 1:20-2:10	Period 1
Synchronous Learning 2:10—3:00 PM	Period 2

Thanksgiving	12	Rotation #3	13	3A	14	3B	15	3A	16
3A	19	3B	20	3A	21	3B	22	3A	23
3B	26	Rotation #4	27	4A	28	4B	29	4A	30

OCTOBER EVENTS

Monday, October 19	•
Tuesday, October 20	•
Wednesday, October 21	•
Thursday, October 22	•
Friday, October 23	•
Monday, October 26	• Rotation 3 Ends • School Council—ELL Anthology Launch (7:00 - 8:30 PM)
Tuesday, October 27	• Rotation 4 Begins
Wednesday, October 28	
Thursday, October 29	• Parent/Guardian Virtual Interviews
Friday, October 30	•

NOVEMBER EVENTS

Monday, November 2	•
Tuesday, November 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STEM Guest Speaker from IBM (3:15 PM) • Arts Unionville Virtual Information Session (7:00P M)
Wednesday, November 4	•
Thursday, November 5	•
Friday, November 6	•
Monday, November 9	• Rotation 4 Ends
Tuesday, November 10	• Rotation 5 Begins
Wednesday, November 11	• Remembrance Day Virtual Presentation
Thursday, November 12	•
Friday, November 13	•
Monday, November 16	•
Tuesday, November 17	•
Wednesday, November 18	•
Thursday, November 19	•
Friday, November 20	•
Monday, November 23	•
Tuesday, November 24	•
Wednesday, November 25	• Virtual Graduation Broadcast
Thursday, November 26	• Rotation 5 Ends
Friday, November 27	• Rotation 6 Begins
Monday, November 30	• School Council (7:00pm)

COVID-19 school and child care screening tool

Version 2: October 1, 2020

Children must screen for COVID-19 every day before going to school or child care.
Parents can fill this out on behalf of a child.

Screening Questions (place an "X" in the appropriate column)

1. Does your child have any of the following **new or worsening** symptoms? Symptoms should not be chronic or related to other known causes or conditions.

Fever and/or chills (temperature of 37.5°C/100.0°F or greater) Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., asthma, reactive airway)	D Yes	D No
Cough (more than usual if chronic cough) including croup (barking cough, making a whistling noise when breathing) Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., asthma, reactive airway)	D Yes	D No
Shortness of breath (dyspnea, out of breath, unable to breathe deeply, wheeze that is worse than usual if chronically short of breath) Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., asthma)	D Yes	D No
Decrease or Loss of smell or taste (new faculty or taste disorder) Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., nasal polyps, allergies, neurological disorders)	D Yes	D No

2. Does your child have any of the following **new or worsening** symptoms? Symptoms should not be chronic or related to other known causes or conditions.

Sore throat (painful swallowing or difficulty swallowing) Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., post nasal drip, gastroesophageal reflux)	D Yes	D No
Stuffy nose and/or runny nose (nasal congestion and/or rhinorrhea) Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., seasonal allergies, returning inside from the cold, chronic sinusitis unchanged from baseline, reactive airways)	D Yes	D No
Headache that is new and persistent, unusual, unexplained, or long-lasting Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., tension-type headaches, chronic migraines)	D Yes	D No
Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., transient vomiting due to anxiety in children, chronic vestibular dysfunction, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, side effect of medication)	D Yes	D No
Fatigue, Lethargy, muscle aches or malaise (general feeling of being unwell, lack of energy, extreme tiredness, poor feeding in infants) that is unusual or unexplained Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction, anemia)	D Yes	D No

3 Has your child travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days?

D Yes D No

4 Has your child been identified as a close contact of someone who is confirmed as having COVID-19 by your local public health unit (or from the COVID Alert app if they have their own phone)?

D Yes D No

5 Has your child been directed by a health care provider including public health official to isolate?

D Yes D No

Results of Screening Questions

!

If you answered "YES" to any of the symptoms included under question 1:

Your child should stay home to isolate immediately.

Contact your child's health care provider for further advice or assessment, including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment.

If you answered "YES" to only one of the symptoms included under question 2:

Your child should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started.

If the symptom is improving, your child may return to school care when they feel well enough to do so. A negative COVID-19 test is not required to return.

If the symptom persists or worsens, contact your child's health care provider for further advice or assessment, including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment.

If you answered "YES" to two or more of the symptoms included under question 2:

Your child should stay home to isolate immediately.

Contact your child's health care provider for further advice or assessment, including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment.

If you answered "YES" to question 3, 4 or 5:

Your child should stay home to isolate immediately and follow the advice of public health.

If your child develops symptoms, you should contact your local public health unit or your child's health care provider for further advice.

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If you answered "NO" to all the questions, your child may go to school.

Public Health Ontario - Contact Tracing

Answering these questions is optional. This information will only be used by Public Health officials for contact tracing. All information will be deleted in 28 days.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone or Email: _____

Adult ESL Programs

Please click the following link for more information on adult ESL programs: [Adult Classes Information](#)
Chinese Translation: [Adult Classes Information - Chinese Version](#)

Cleaning Our Schools

The Board follows the recommendations of [Public Health Ontario](#), and ensures frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected twice per day in addition to our regular cleaning practices. Once confirmation is received from York Region Public Health that a positive or probable COVID case was present in the school, the board undertakes additional cleaning and disinfection of the areas occupied and any shared items used by the individual. All disinfectants used in schools are on the Health Canada list of disinfectants effective against COVID-19.

Full Disclosure Deadlines

October 8

Deadline for potential graduates who are not planning on applying to an Ontario college to notify their Guidance Counsellor if they do not want data shared with OCAS this school year.

October 13

Deadline for potential graduates who are not planning on applying to an Ontario university to notify their Guidance Counsellor if they do not want data shared with OUAC this school year.

November 12

Teachers will share mid semester mark updates with students in Grade 11 and 12 courses.

November 12 - 19

Potential graduates applying to an Ontario College or University that are planning to drop a course, and do not wish to have the course mark shared with OUAC/OCAS are advised to connect with their Guidance Counsellor.

November 20

School to submit Semester 1 midterm and/or final marks (for quadmester courses) to OUAC and OCAS

December 16

This is the full disclosure date which is the final day that a student, in a grade 11 or 12 course, may drop a course in order that it not be recorded on the Ontario Student Transcript.

Grad Google Classroom 2020-2021

Grade 12 potential grads have been asked to join the Grad Google classroom. Information regarding graduation information, post-secondary programs, scholarships/bursaries and much much more will be posted here.

Classroom code: **fdae3qe**

Guidance Moodle:

Students can join the Guidance moodle to learn about scholarships, bursaries and other enrichment opportunities.

Please visit: <https://moodle2.yrdsb.ca/login/index.php>

Search: UHS Guidance

Username: UHS student number

Password: UHS login

Guidance Appointment Booking

Although Guidance counsellors are not seeing students in person, students and parent/guardians can still speak to a counsellor by booking an appointment with the student's alpha counsellor through Teach Assist (<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/yrdsb/>).

We ask that once the appointment is booked, please email the counsellor indicating whether the student would prefer a phone appointment (provide a phone number where the student can be reached) or a google meet appointment (the counsellor will email the google meet code prior to the appointment).

Ms. Farwell (A - Hou): michelle.farwell@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Riolo (Hu - Ma): rita.riolo@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Hawkins (Mc - Wr): Stephanie.hawkins@yrdsb.ca

Mr. Tam (Wu - Z): jonathan.tam@yrdsb.ca

You can also contact Ms. Simtikidis, the Guidance secretary if you are having any difficulty with appointment bookings or have general questions.

Ms. Simtikidis: nellie.simtikidis@yrdsb.ca

Health Care Plans

Dear families,

Supporting your child's health and well-being is our priority. If your child has a medical condition, please complete the applicable form(s) below and submit them electronically to priscilla.chan@yrdsb.ca. Also, if your child carries an epi-pen or inhaler, we would like to reserve a second one in our main office (Note: Please check the expiry date). Once we receive your child's health care plan, your child will be notified to supply us with a second epi-pen or inhaler in case of emergency. If you would prefer a hard copy of one or more of these forms, please let us know. Any questions regarding health care plans can be sent to patrick.belmonte@yrdsb.ca. Thank you for providing us with this important information in a timely manner.

[Anaphylaxis Health Care Plan](#)

[Asthma Health Care Plan](#)

[Diabetes Health Care Plan](#)

[Epilepsy Seizure Disorder Health Care Plan](#)

[Health Care Plan \(Other\)](#)

[Staff Administration of Medication](#)

[Self Administration of Medication](#)

International and Indigenous Languages

International and Indigenous Language (IIL) classes will be held online. There will be no in person classes operating in the school buildings.

To find out more, please visit the ConEd webpage: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/ConEd/Pages/International-Languages-ElementaryProgram.aspx>

If you have any further questions, email international.languages@yrdsb.ca or call (905) 884-2046 ext. 242.

Memory As Legacy Series: Holocaust Education

Please click the links below for more information on Memory As Legacy Series:

[Memory As Legacy Series Flyer](#)

[How to Register](#)

Mental Health Resources

To find out how to support your child's mental health during COVID-19 and the return to school please click the link below:

[Mental Health Resources](#)

Islamic Heritage Celebration

Please click the following link for a virtual Islamic Heritage Celebration on October 17, 2020: [Register on the Islamic Heritage Month website.](#)

THE ALLIANCE OF EDUCATORS FOR MUSLIM STUDENTS
& YORK REGION MUSLIMS
PRESENTS...

ARTS, AUTHORSHIP & ATHLETICS
A HISTORY OF MUSLIM ACTIVISM

ISLAMIC HERITAGE MONTH EVENTS 2020

IN CONVERSATION WITH AUTHOR: S.K. ALI

IN CONVERSATION WITH ATHLETE: SHIREEN AHMED

HIP-HOP-ED MUSLIM VOICES WITH TIMAJ GARAD

SPOKEN WORD WORKSHOP WITH: WALI SHAH

IN CONVERSATION WITH ARTIST & EDUCATOR: YUSRA RASOOL

MULTIPLE FAMILY PAINT NIGHTS WITH @MRS.CHAGPARART

FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION VISIT: [BITLY/AEMSIHM2020](https://bit.ly/AEMSIHM2020)

Start Up and Verification Forms

On September 16th and 17th, families were emailed the **School Start-Up Package**. This package contains mandatory forms for both parents/guardians and students that must be submitted electronically. To help ensure security and privacy, we cannot provide the Start-Up Package link in this email. However, if you, as a parent/guardian (via personal contact email) or student (via gapps email) did not receive this electronic package from YRDSB, please email the main office at UHS (Unionville.hs@yrdsb.ca) so that we can personally send you the link. Parents/guardians and students who have already received this package via email should submit the necessary forms as soon as possible.

We have also distributed our **student registration verification forms**. Please check these forms at home to ensure all information is accurate. Please make changes on the form itself. All forms are due back to the school, with or without changes, as soon as possible.

STEM

In an effort to address the underrepresentation of Black students in STEM areas, the University of Toronto is partnering with the **Leadership By Design program** to sponsor a new STEM cohort for high achieving Black students in Grade 10. We would like to encourage parents to seek out this opportunity if their child is in Grade 10 with an interest in Math and Science. The application and admission process for the PURSUE STEM Cohort is managed entirely by the Leadership By Design program. This opportunity is open to Black and African Canadian Students in the Greater Toronto Area. Please visit the following site for further details: lileaders.com/leadership-by-design-lbd.

News From Special Education

Special Education Resource Teachers (SERTs) are busy working on student Individual Education Plans (IEPs) for this year. If you haven't already, **please return your child's IEP Parent Consultation form to your child's SERT.**

October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month.

What is LD Awareness Month?

Learning Disabilities Awareness Month is recognized every October and events are often held by the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region. It is about raising awareness and reducing stigma to allow people to get the supports they need to reach their potential.



Parking

Please be aware that the school driveway is very busy in the mornings between 8:00 and 8:30 am. Do not stop your car in the "No Idle Cars" zone. This is also a **Fire Route**. Cars left idling may be ticketed. As well, parking passes are required for all cars. Cars that do not have a parking pass will be ticketed by the City of Markham.

Protecting Yourself During COVID-19

You can protect yourself and others from COVID-19 by observing the following measures:

- Stay at home if you are not feeling well—even if your symptoms are only mild
- Practice physical distancing keeping 2-metres from others outside of your household members
- Wash your hands thoroughly and often
- Practice good respiratory etiquette
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
- Wear a face mask or covering when inside public spaces and when physical distancing cannot be maintained
- Clean high-touch surfaces often
- Download the COVID-Alert app
- Avoid travel

It is also important to keep your body healthy and strong by getting lots of sleep, eating nutritious food, drinking plenty of water, exercising and spending time on self-care.

[To find out more, click here.](#)

Requesting copies of transcripts and other documents from the Guidance department

Students, parents and guardians requesting hard copies of transcript documents, etc. must email the Guidance secretary, Ms. Simtikidis (nellie.simtikidis@yrdsb.ca) first. Ms. Simtikidis will schedule a time with the student as to when the documents can be picked up.

Rotation Schedule

Students are now in their 3rd in-person rotation. This means they are in person for their period 3 classes, every other day. Afternoon classes are periods 4, 1, and 2 classes. [Here is a handy link](#) for students to see all the cohorts and rotations.

Scholarship News

Please continue to check the Guidance Moodle as information is continually shared as it becomes available. Please also review the publication called "The Scholarship Report", as it provides scholarship news and opportunities.

Loran Awards

<https://loranscholar.ca/becoming-a-scholar/>

Oct 22nd - Direct Pool Application due

Morehead-Cain Scholarship (North Carolina University - Chapel Hill)

<http://www.moreheadcain.org/prospective-scholars/#canada>

Volunteering Opportunities:

Online/virtual opportunities have been added to the Volunteering Google Classroom. Please continue to look for eligible non-profit organization volunteer opportunities to complete your 40 hours.

School Council Hot Topics Request

Thank you to the 61 parents who participated in our first school council meeting held on Tuesday, September 29.

If you were unable to attend but would like to see a copy of the information shared at that meeting please go directly to [School Council Meeting Sept 29 2020 Presentation](#).

Monday October 26th at 7:00 p.m. is our next school council meeting. If there are specific topics you would like us to discuss, please use the link below and submit your ideas on or before October 19th.

[School Council Hot Topics Request](#)

School Entry & Dismissal

Classrooms will be opened 15 minutes before the first bell. Students will be allowed entry to the building as of **8:15 a.m.** Students may enter through one of four entry points below in a single file fashion while maintaining social distance:

1. Town Centre Blvd. (main entrance)
2. Warden (Cafeteria)
3. Caretaking (Music)
4. Small Gym/Tech Wing

All students must be wearing a mask and sanitize their hands as they enter. Doors at all four entry points will be locked at 8:45 am. Students who arrive before 8:45 am should proceed directly to class. **Students who arrive after 8:45 am must enter from Town Centre Blvd. only and report to the office prior to going to class.** Parents/guardians cannot enter the building unless they have a pre-arranged appointment that has been approved by the principal.

Students are expected to leave the school and school property after their last scheduled class is completed at 11:00 am. Students may not socialize in corridors or the cafeteria and must leave the school directly. Students are expected to continue wearing a face covering until they leave school property. All students must sanitize their hands as they exit. Students can exit at one of five exit points:

1. Town Centre Blvd. (main entrance)
2. Warden (Cafeteria)
3. Caretaking (Music)
4. Small Gym/Tech Wing
5. New wing (stairwell 13)

Please note that dismissal will be staggered by grade beginning at 10:50 in order to prevent crowding.

10:50 am - grade 9

10:53 am - grade 10

10:56 am - grade 11

11:00 am - grade 12

Study Skills Virtual Workshop

This workshop will give students an opportunity to learn about effective study skills for tests and quizzes.

Who is this workshop for?

All Grade 9 students are welcome and anyone else who needs a refresher!

How do I sign up for the workshop?

Students sign up for: **UHS Study Skills Google Classroom**

The code is: n3n2jya

On the day of the presentation a Google meet code will be shared with all students who have registered.



When is the workshop?

Wednesday October 28th **OR** Thursday October 29th

From 11:45am– 12:15pm

UHS School Council Executive 2020-2021

Thank you to all parents who took the time to cast their vote for our new school council executive. Congratulations to the elected Executive Team for 2020-2021:

Chair Person: Jeevan Trehan

Secretary: Anoosh Sharif

Treasurer: Paul Giuliano

Community Member- Arts: Gloria Ko

Community Member- STEM: Raymond Lu

We would like to expand our school council to include all nominees. This will ensure continuity and smoother transition if and when council members move on when their children complete high school.

Please extend a warm welcome to the following nominees who will be joining us as a part of our Executive Team:

Mandip Rai

Dongmei Xiang

Felix Lee

Malek Aboluhom

Nadine Cyr

This continues to be a challenging school year and the diverse voices of our school council executive will be very much appreciated.

We look forward to seeing you at our next virtual meeting will be held on **Monday, October 26, 2020 at 7:00 PM.**

UHS Library Learning Commons

Although the physical library is closed this semester, the UHS library is available online to support student learning.

Many great resources are available on the library's webpage: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/unionville.hs/library/Pages/default.aspx>

This is where students can find the GALE and EBSCO databases, which support research in any subject.

Also, students are invited to join the library's Google Classroom. The enrollment code is sv427pg. The Google Classroom is the best way for students to ask their questions about research and book recommendations. It is also where to find the passwords for the databases.

Finally, remember that e-books can be accessed through the YRDSB's subscription to SORA. Students can find SORA by clicking on "search for a book" on the library's webpage. The link to SORA is at the bottom, in the middle of the page. Students can login with 0 + their student number.

Virtual School

Virtual Secondary School contact information:

Phone: 905-900-1163 or 647-749-4328

Email: secondary.VS@yrdsb.ca School

Website: <http://yrdsbsvs.yrdsb.ca/>

Any concerns or inquires regarding Virtual School should be directed to the administration team at Virtual School:

Principal: Maria Maiato

Vice-Principals:

North: Pamala Agawa

Central: Patrick McQuade

East: Tanya-Lynn Paul

West: Hubert Brard

Virtual School Transfers

Dear Secondary Families,

On September 3, we sent communication to all families informing you that our schools have confirmed spaces in the virtual schools and home schools for all students.

Our Secondary Virtual School (SVS) has developed timetables for over 8,000 students. And over the past two weeks, we have finalized this process for all students who selected the SVS through the Reopening Registration Form.

As we indicated previously, no further transfers between the different models would occur until the end of Semester 1 (January 29, 2021). We appreciate this may be disappointing for some families, however, we've based our reopening strategy on a balance of health and safety, as well as teaching and learning benefits. We are making every effort to ensure that each learning model YRDSB students will participate in this year will be both safe and engaging.

Later this month, all families will be notified about how to access the second semester Secondary School Model Transfer process. The transfer process provides all families the opportunity to request a change. Only families/students requesting a change in their current school model will need to complete this process. Semester 2 will begin on February 3, 2021. Students changing models will continue to be supported through the process by their home school Guidance departments. This will be the only opportunity to transfer between models for Semester 2.

Korean Heritage Month in Ontario (Bill 123, Korean Heritage Month Act, 2017)

Ontario is home to about 80,000 Korean Canadians. Koreans started to migrate to Ontario after the devastating Second World War (1939-1945) and Korean War (1950-1953), both of which heavily affected the Korean peninsula.

Korean Canadians have made important contributions to the economic, political, social and cultural fabric of Ontario's society. Having a Korean Heritage Month will provide an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about the outstanding achievements and contributions of Korean Canadians in the province of Ontario.

October is a historically significant month for the Korean Canadian community. On October 3, the Korean people celebrate National Foundation Day. National Foundation Day celebrates the legendary formation of the first Korean state of Gojoseon. It is widely seen by the Korean people as the creation and foundation of the modern Korean state.

Volunteer Hours

Students are encouraged to continue working on completing their community involvement hours. A minimum of 40 hours is required to earn an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

Community involvement opportunities can be completed in person and virtually.

To ensure their activity is eligible, students are asked to receive approval for their activity from their alpha counsellor prior to completing their hours.

Students can still pick up community involvement tracking forms outside the Guidance office or can obtain a digital form. Completed forms can be submitted in one of two ways: making arrangements to drop off the form to the Guidance office (contact Ms. Simtikidis), or by scanning or taking a picture of the complete form and sending it to the student's alpha counsellor:

Ms. Farwell (A - Hou): michelle.farwell@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Riolo (Hu - Ma): rita.riolo@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Hawkins (Mc - Wr): stephanie.hawkins@yrdsb.ca

Mr. Tam (Wu - Z): jonathan.tam@yrdsb.ca

Ms. Simtikidis (Guidance Secretary): nellie.simtikidis@yrdsb.ca

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, students are encouraged to join the google classroom (Code: **gsrz264**).

Additional information can be found here: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/Programs/Guidance/CommunityInvolvement/Pages/default.aspx>

Graduation

As has been previously communicated, all YRDSB graduations for the 2019-2020 school year were postponed until the Fall of 2020.

While we had originally proposed different potential options to consider for this Fall, we are currently in a position where conducting them virtually is the only viable, safe option. Through consultation with York Region Public Health, and in the interests of the health and safety of our students, staff and families, we have been advised to avoid in-person gatherings. Regardless of social restrictions and limited numbers being considered for any face-to-face options, there is significant concern for the changing landscapes upon us (increasing COVID cases in schools, flu season approaching, mixing of cohorts at any Graduation Ceremony).

As a result, all schools in the YRDSB will be developing Virtual Graduation ceremonies for all Elementary (Grade 8) graduates and Secondary (Grade 12) graduates from the 2019-2020 school year. We will be planning for speeches from the Director and Chair of the Board, and arrangements to include the recognition of each graduating student along with the Valedictorian Address. Given the scope of the planning for these virtual graduations, the ceremonies for all schools will take place in the last 2 weeks of November and schools will provide the details, including the specific date and time, format and platform in the next couple of weeks.

Further information will also be provided with respect to refunds to parents for gowns and caps, plus the distribution of Diplomas, Awards/Certificates and Yearbooks.

We appreciate how disappointing this news may be for graduating students and parents. While we continue our work to effectively plan within the conditions of the current pandemic, we will continue to maintain the safety of our students, staff and community as our utmost priority.

If you have any questions regarding the planning for Graduation ceremonies in Fall 2020, please contact us at the school.

Arts Unionville Information Night

Arts Unionville information night: Tuesday, November 3, 2020, 7:00pm.

Please register to receive the link:

[Arts Unionville Information Session Registration](#)

Auditions: January 2021

Online Application Opens on Monday, November 9, 2020

Application Deadline: Tuesday, December 1st, 2020 (guaranteed audition).

Please note: Applications will not be accepted after the deadline.



The poster features a red header with the York Region logo and the text 'COMING SOON SECONDARY Arts SCHOOL INFORMATION NIGHTS'. Below this, it states 'YRDSB OFFERS REGIONAL ARTS SCHOOLS FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS WHO ARE COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS'. The central part of the poster is a collage of images representing various art forms: Drama (a stage performance), Music (a band playing), Dance (a group of dancers), and Visual Art (a person painting). The words 'Drama', 'Music', 'Dance', and 'Visual art' are written in a large, white, cursive font over the collage.

PLEASE VISIT YOUR REGIONAL ARTS' PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PROGRAMS, INFORMATION NIGHTS AND HOW TO APPLY

ARTS
MACKENZIE

[Alexander Mackenzie HS](#)

Thursday Nov. 5th

ARTS
HURON

[Huron Heights SS](#)

Thursday Nov. 5th

ARTS
UNIONVILLE

[Unionville HS](#)

Tuesday Nov. 3rd

ARTS
Westmount

[Westmount CI](#)

Thursday Nov. 5th

REMINDER applications open November 9th, due December 1st

Parent-Teacher Interviews

Parent/Guardian Interview Night is on October 29th. You will have an opportunity to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher (s) and learn more about the classroom. We regret that for health and safety reasons, we are unable to host an event at the school as we normally would, however we look forward to meeting with you virtually.

Parents/Guardians can use TeachAssist, an online platform, to schedule a meeting time with their children's teacher(s) on Parents' Night. All students in our school currently have a TeachAssist account to access information associated with their class assessments.

Parents/guardians may access appointment bookings on Tuesday, October 20th through the TeachAssist Parent Portal available at <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents>. From there, enter in your email address and leave the password blank, to set up a one time access link, or to reset a password that you've created. An email will be sent with a time limited link that will look similar to this:

teachassist@yrdsb.ca

To: parent_email

Click here for your one time access to teachassist

<https://ta.yrdsb.ca/live/parents/listReports.php?email=parent&token=serdftyugio678>

Once logged in, parents/guardians will have the option to set up a password.

For instructions on how to book a parent-teacher interview through TeachAssist, please click [here](#).

If you have any questions about this process, please contact our main office.

Families who do not wish to book a time online can contact their child's teacher directly.

Important Timelines

October 20th - Parents' Night schedule opens at 8:30 AM for booking. Parents/Guardians will go to the TeachAssist parent portal <https://ta.yrdsb.ca/parents> to book their appointment(s).

October 23rd - Interview Scheduler closes at (9:00 a.m.)

October 23rd - Parents to receive confirmation email(s) from teachers. Virtual Interview meeting links will be sent to families through email.

October 29th - Virtual Interviews

USAC (Unionville Student Activity Council)

The deadline for student council applications is today at midnight (Friday, October 16). We are pleased with the overwhelming number of applicants. Once the application closes, we will proceed with a panel selection process, to narrow down the number of applicants, followed by electronic student elections.

Virtual Clubs

Revised club guidelines and a revised application process will be available next week. Teacher advisors will be required to submit the application (with a list of student participants attached) to Mr. Belmonte for approval. Students participating in a club must have submitted their start up forms.

Virtual Opportunities

<p>Youth Assisting Youth</p> 	<p>https://www.volunteertoronto.ca/networking/apply_now.aspx?view=2&id=582285</p> <p>More info https://youthassistingyouth.com/</p>
<p>Virtual Program Assistant Volunteer (be able to speak Tamil)</p> 	<p>https://www.volunteertoronto.ca/networking/apply_now.aspx?view=2&id=617184</p> <p>www.splc.ca</p>
<p>Virtual Community Outreach Volunteer</p> 	<p>https://www.volunteertoronto.ca/networking/apply_now.aspx?view=2&id=617916</p>
<p>The Corporation of Roy Thomson Hall and Massey Hall</p> 	<p>https://www.volunteertoronto.ca/networking/apply_now.aspx?view=2&id=617779</p>
<p>Call and Response Youth Volunteer</p> 	<p>https://www.volunteertoronto.ca/networking/apply_now.aspx?view=2&id=518178</p>
<p>Bengali Information & Employment Services</p>	<p>https://www.volunteertoronto.ca/networking/apply_now.aspx?view=2&id=611529</p>
<p>Letter and Smiles (letters to the elderly)</p> 	<p>https://lettersandsmiles.wixsite.com/mysite/letter-to-elderly</p>
	<p>https://www.volunteertoronto.ca/networking/apply_now.aspx?view=2&id=616848</p>

A lim Together

While we're keeping physical distancing in the current situation, let's get together to play badminton and table tennis!



Date: Sep 10 - Dec 17, 2020
Thursdays
Time: 3:30-5:30pm
Age: 14 - 22

Fee: **FREE**
ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Registration:
<https://105gibson.com/online-registration>
Participants bring your own gears

Youth Success Initiatives

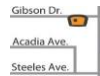


DATE: Sep 19 - Dec 12, 2020 Saturdays
Time: 10:00am - 11:30am
Grade: 9-12
Location: Online
Registration: www.105gibson.com/online-registration

Youth Success Initiatives offers **FREE** tutoring on Math, Science and ESL for **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**. Register online!

GISSON
CENTRE

105 Gibson Drive
Markham ON L3R 3K7
905.946.8787
info@105gibson.com
www.105gibson.com



Get hands-on and transform "trash" like plastic bags or an old shirt, into treasure!

ONE'S TREASURE

An online workshop on repurposing used items into something fun and functional

Term 1: Sept 12 - Oct 3, 2020 Saturdays
Term 2: Oct 31 - Nov 2, 2020 Saturdays

Time: 2-4pm
Age: 14+
Fee: \$10 per 4 week term

Registration: www.105gibson.com/online-registration

LET'S HIKE

Let's hike and explore the outdoors with our youth group. We'll be hiking in the beautiful hills of Markham and surrounding areas. This is a great opportunity for students to get some exercise and enjoy the outdoors. We'll be hiking on Saturdays from September 12 to October 3, 2020, and from October 31 to November 2, 2020. The hikes will be from 2-4pm and are suitable for ages 14 and up. The fee is \$10 per 4-week term. Registration is required at www.105gibson.com/online-registration.



TERM 1: Sep 12 - Oct 3, 2020 Saturdays
TERM 2: Oct 17 - Nov 7, 2020 Saturdays
Time: 2pm - 4pm
Age: 14-25
Fee: Free
Registration: <https://105gibson.com/online-registration>

GISSON
CENTRE

105 Gibson Drive
Markham ON L3R 3K7
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MOBYSS VIRTUAL CLINIC

Even though the MOBYSS Bus is off the road for now,
the team is still here for you.

Attend the Virtual Clinic to access free medical and
counselling services in a confidential, virtual setting.

When? Thursdays 130 PM to 4 PM. from October to December
(No clinics: Oct. 22, Nov. 79 and Dec. 24)

Who? Anyone between the ages of 12 and 25, living in York Region and South Simcoe

What? Free, confidential counselling and medical services

NO HEALTH CARD NEEDED

To Attend:

<https://cmha-yrzoom.usfj/95439191653>

Meeting ID = 954 39191653

Password = 425127 (not always required)

For More Information:

289-879-2376

mobyss@cmha-yrnca



**Canadian Mental
Health Association**
YORK and SOUTH SIM
Mental health for all





WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

At York Hills we know the impact COVID-19 has had on children, youth and families. We are aware of the effects this has had on the mental well-being of children and youth in our community and that families are looking for help.

We are the largest children's mental health agency in York Region and have been working hard to respond to the needs of our community. We have assessed our resources and have aligned our resources to meet the changing needs of our community.

What does this mean?

Increased Brief Programming – 3-6 sessions, with a focus on strengths, resources and solutions for children, youth and families.

Here to Help Line – quick access, single session therapy, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30 to 4:00.

New CBT Counselling Program - evidence based programming designed to address anxiety, depression and behavior, coming soon!

Increased parent/caregiver groups with a unique emphasis on relationships and emotions.

Ongoing webinars – for parents and caregivers that aim to support the community in York Region.

Online therapeutic groups – for children and youth.

We remain committed to offering our full range of services and maintain a high standard of quality of care, which includes; Play Therapy Programming, longer term therapy, DBT programming, intensive quick access service, day treatment and Live in Treatment programming, ADR and specialized consultation and assessment.

General Inquiries

905-503-9560

Email

yorkhills@yorkhills.ca

Here to Help Line

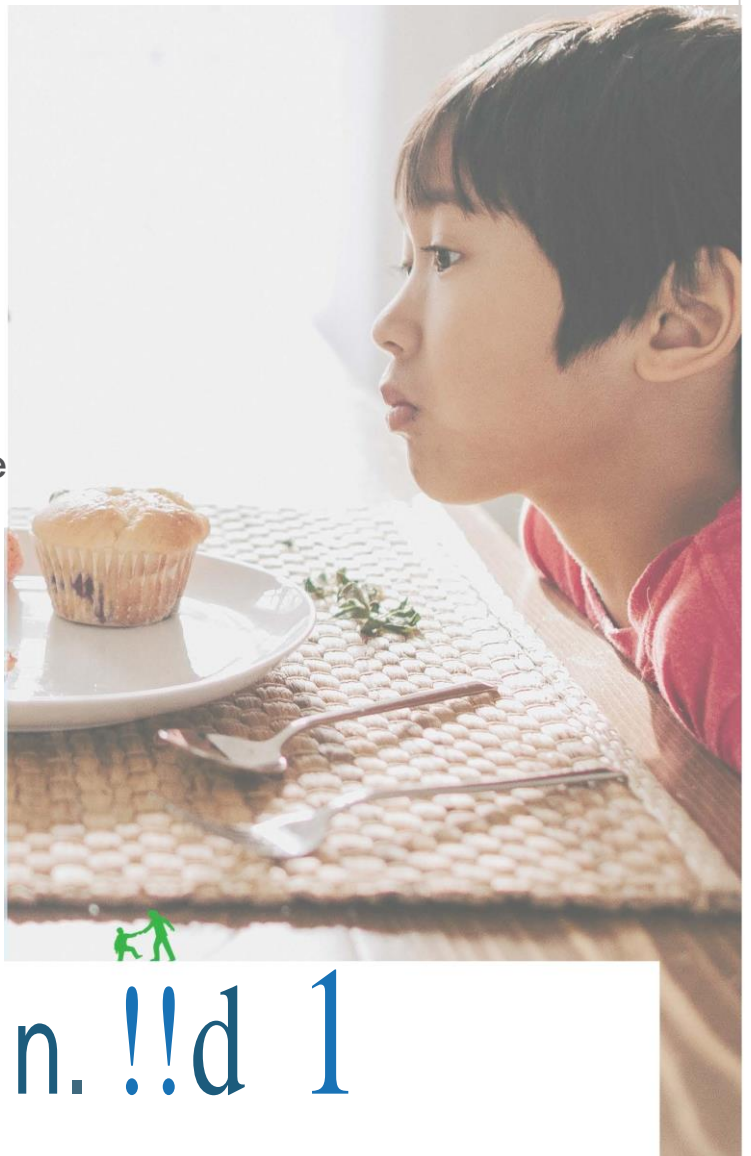
905-503-9561

Has your child been feeling anxious?

Have you noticed a change in their behaviour?

Not sure how to manage their emotions?

We can help.



Kids can't wait.

Call us to learn about how we can help you make sure their mental health is the best it can be.

(9

905-503-9560

www.yorkhills.ca

We're here for you!

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If you are receiving services from York Hills, please connect with your clinical worker to register for one of the workshops.



Register at
www.yorkhillscentre.eventbrite.com
or scan the barcode!

PLUGGED IN-TIPS AND STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING SCREEN TIME

(Michelle Holzapfel-Child and Family Therapist, Jelum Raval-Child and Family Therapist)

Does screen time in your home ever feel like scream time? Is it hard to get your children unplugged? If you answered yes, the Plugged In workshop is for you. Topics include: Guidelines for healthy screen time use, understanding how screen time effects the brain, how your own technology use impacts children, and strategies for managing screen time.

Monday
October 19, 2020
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

CONSCIOUS PARENTING- RAISING TEENS (Abner Lico- Child and Family Therapist)

This workshop will provide an opportunity for parents to better understand their adolescent, and their role as parents. During our time together we will explore questions such as: How do I see myself as a parent? Why do I choose to parent the way I do? We will also look at what our triggers are and our reactions to these triggers.

Conscious parenting includes awareness of ourselves as individuals, as parents, and of our teenage child. We will look at the developmental period of adolescence and the specific factors that distinguish it from other developmental periods. The aim of this workshop is to introduce you to the concepts of conscious parenting. It is an invitation to become more aware, reflective, understanding and deliberate in the relationship with your child.

Tuesday
October 20, 2020
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

PARENTING TRAPS AND STRATEGIES- SMALL CHANGES, BIG DIFFERENCES

(Uma Bhatt - Community Outreach Worker)

This workshop is informed by the evidence based parenting program Triple P. While parents hope to have positive relationships with their children, these relationships can sometimes be difficult to navigate when power struggles and challenging behaviours are encountered.

Come and learn about how to identify and respond to children in order to avoid power struggles, and develop strategies that will work for your family.

Tuesday
October 27, 2020
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Zoom Webinar



If you are receiving services from York Hills, please connect with your clinical worker to register for one of the workshops.



Register at
www.yorkhillscentre.eventbrite.com
 or scan the barcode!

TRIPLE P STANDARD GROUP - POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM

Triple P Positive Parenting Program Group is for parentings of children 2-12 years of age. During this 8 week virtual parenting group you will:

- Learning How to create a safe and positive learning environment for your child.
- Learn why your child responds the way they do, how to support them during challenging moments
- Learn how to build your children's self-esteem and sense of self-worth.
- Learn how to teach children to become independent problem solvers.



Thursday
 Evenings
 October 1, 2020-
 November 12, 2020
 6:30 PM-8:00 PM
 Zoom Meeting

To Register for this group please call York Hills Intake department (905) 503-9560

TRIPLE P FAMILY TRANSITIONS GROUP

Family Transitions Triple P is a positive parenting program that helps you protect your child from the impact of divorce or separation. Over five weeks, in small group sessions with a Family Transitions provider, you will explore everything from stress and anger management, to how to communicate better with your ex-partner. Your Family Transitions Triple P provider will give you new ideas about managing the day-to-day dramas and ongoing trauma of your situation. It is not a mediation program, so you attend without your ex-partner. The group will be offered virtually.



Thursday
 Evenings
 October 22, 2020-
 November 19, 2020
 6:30 PM-8:00 PM
 Zoom Meeting

To Register for this group please call York Hills Intake department (905) 503-9560

If you are receiving services from York Hills, please connect with your clinical worker to register for one of the workshops.



Register at www.yorkhillscentre.eventbrite.com or scan the barcode!

BRINGING YOUR FAMILY INTO FOCUS - PARENTING CHILDREN WITH ATTENTIONAL DIFFICULTIES. Tuesday
 (Laurie Blow and Rick Rotchild - Intensive Child and Family Workers) November 10, 2020
 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
 Zoom Webinar

The goal of this workshop is to provide information to support parents/caregivers of children and adolescents who experience challenges with focusing, attention, and managing impulsivity. The workshop will cover: What ADHD is and what it is not, how living with ADHD impacts your child and family, and will provide strategies to assist in managing and coping when your child struggles with attentional difficulties.

UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORTING CHILDREN WHO EXPERIENCE BEING BULLIED DISCUSSION Tuesday
 (Uma Bhatt - Community Outreach Worker) November 17, 2020
 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
 Zoom Webinar

Is your child being bullied? Does your child bully others? Being bullied can be a very disturbing and often traumatic experience for children and their families. Come and learn what bullying behaviour is, how to recognize signs and symptoms indicating that a child may be bullied, or is engaging in bullying behaviour. Learn how to support, and empower your child.

POSITIVE CONNECTIONS- HOW TO RESPOND TO YOUR CHILD IN POSITIVE AND EFFECTIVE WAYS Thursday
 (Larisa Levalds - Child and Family Therapist, Cindy Inacio - 0-6 Worker, Vibhuti Bhatt - Speech and Language Pathologist) November 19, 2020
 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
 Zoom Webinar

This workshop is for parents/caregivers who are looking for new ways to connect with their child(ren) aged 0-6. Caregivers will learn how to connect with their child(ren), and will gain a solid understanding of how, why, and when connections are optimal in order to overcome behavioural challenges that child(ren) may be experiencing.

SIBLING RIVALRY TO SIBLING RELATIONSHIP (Uma Bhatt - Community outreach Worker) Tuesday
 November 24, 2020
 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
 Zoom Webinar

Come and learn! This workshop will discuss what sibling rivalry is, what causes it, and what parents can do to build and strengthen this important relationship.

- Explore the meaning of 'fairness' from a child's perspective, and learn how to handle each child's feelings.
- Learn how to respond to challenging behaviours, and how to balance the parental role of being a 'coach and a referee'.
- Learn the value of 'cooling off time', and teach your children to use 'quiet spaces' for calming and learning to work together with a sibling to problem solve.
- Learn ways to encourage positive and respectful sibling relationships.
- Learn additional ways to cope and manage when one/both siblings have mental health challenges.



If you are receiving services from York Hills, please connect with your clinical worker to register for one of the workshops.



Register at
www.yorkhillscentre.eventbrite.com
or scan the barcode!

PARENTING DURING CHALLENGING TIMES (Nathalie Gonsalves - Community outreach Worker)

Thursday
November 26, 2020
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

These uncertain times have disrupted our daily work, home and school routines. When we are experiencing difficulties and extraordinary challenges it can make all aspects of our lives a lot harder, including parenting. Learn strategies to help you build resilience and parent effectively while coping with uncertainty, anxiety and fear. Various approaches for managing your child's social and emotional adjustment to the new (temporary) normal will be explored. This workshop will:

- Encourage the use of various methods to help manage the anxiety in your child's life.
- Explore ways to keep your child engaged during their time at home.
- Suggest useful tools that will help to answer children's questions effectively.
- Propose various ways to take care of yourself and embrace self compassion.

UNDERSTANDING THE BRAIN AND BEHAVIOUR DEVELOPMENT IN CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (Neil Walker - Compass Manager)

Wednesday
December 2, 2020
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

This webinar will assist in understanding the brain development of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and will explain the cause of behaviours commonly experienced. Participants will learn strategies that can be used to support and manage the challenges that children with ASD often face.

UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING CHALLENGING BEHAVIOURS (Angie Chan and Vanessa Suarez - Child and Family Therapists)

Monday
December 7, 2020
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Zoom Webinar

Understanding challenging behaviours and where they stem from is the first step to being able to better manage them. This workshop will focus on how behaviours function in a child's brain and will explore the use of tools within the parent/child relationship to manage challenging behaviours.

Visit our [website](#) for new events, webinars and information!

FOLLOW us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Eventbrite for the latest!



eventbrite



All Groups are an
LGBTQ positive
space

Family Services York Region

PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM START DATES AS
THEY ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO
INSUFFICIENT REGISTRATION

PARENTING

Triple P 0-12 Triple P stands for Positive Parenting Program. This unique program has been proven to (parents of children 0-11) be effective in providing parents with tools to help their children with behavioural and emotional problems. Pre-group interview required. Call Janice at 905-895-2371

English	Date: 8 Thursdays, October 22 to December 10, 2020	Time: 6:30 - 8 00 pm
Farsi	Date: 8 Wednesdays Winter 2021 TBD	Time: 5:30 - 7:00 pm
Cantonese	Date: 8 Wednesdays , October 21 to December 9, 2020	Time: 7 30 - 9:00 pm
Mandarin	Date: 8 Sundays October 25 to December 13, 2020	Time: 2 30 - 4:00 pm
	Location: FSyr Zoom Video Meetings	Fee: FREE with purchase of workbook \$35.00

Triple P Teen Triple P stands for Positive Parenting Program. This unique program has been proven to (parents of Teens 12-17) be effective in providing parents with tools to help their teens with behavioural and emotional problems. Pre-group interview required. Call Janice at 905-895-2371 .

English	Date: 8 Mondays, fall TBD, 2020	Time: 6:00 - 8 00 pm
Spanish	Date: 8 Wednesdays, October 14 to December 2 , 2020	Time: 6 00 - 7 30 pm
	Location: FSyr Zoom Video Meetings	Fee: FREE with purchase of workbook \$35.00

Family Transitions Triple P This 7 week group promotes a healthy transition for parents going through separation or divorce. This course will address self care and is designed to help a parent manage the anger and resentment that often accompanies relationship breakdown. Pre-Group interview required; call Janice at 905-895-2371 . Apply Online.

English	Date: 7 Wednesdays, Fall 2020 TBC	Time: 6:00 - 8 00 pm
	Location: FSyr Zoom Video Meetings	Fee: FREE with purchase of workbook \$35.00

Parenting for Life An 8 week support program that helps parents learn more positive ways to think about and act on their child's behaviour, how to communicate with their child more effectively, learn positive approaches to discipline , and explore many other strategies to enhance the parent child relationship

English	Date: 8 Wednesdays, October 21 to December 9, 2020	Time: 6:00 - 8:30 pm
	Location: FSyr Zoom Video Meetings	Fee: \$140 or Free to those who qualify with a \$20 registration fee



Greater Toronto

All Groups are an
LGBTQ positive space " ; "



GROUP CALENDAR FALL 2020 PRE REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Groups for Women

Farsi Women's Support Group This 6 week program will focus on self-confidence, assertiveness, communication skills, parenting, healthy relationships, immigration and settlement issues, self care, health & wellness and community resources.

Date: 6 Thursdays, October 8 to November 12, 2020

Time: 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Location: FSYR Zoom Video Meetings

Fee: FREE

Raising Hope An 8 week course to build resiliency. Learn and Practice CBT, mindfulness and centering techniques to build confidence and assertiveness, conquer anxiety and depression, overcome codependence and learn the advantages of goal setting.

Date: 8 Tuesdays, October 27 to Dec 15, 2020

Time: 9:30 to 11:00 am

Location: FSYR Zoom Video Meeting

Fee: \$120.00 (or Free to those who qualify with a \$20.00 registration fee)

Groups for Men and Women

Farsi Emotion Regulation Skills Group This 4 week group will review the purpose of emotions and emotional reactions. This group will explore factors that make regulating emotions hard and how to increase awareness and understanding of emotions. This group will introduce skills to help change emotional responses.

Date: 4 Thursdays, November 19 to December 10, 2020

Time: 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Location: FSYR Zoom Video Meetings

Fee: FREE

LGBTQ Groups

TRANSGENDER SUPPORT GROUP

A free group for anyone experiencing or questioning changes on the gender spectrum. Discussions include but are not limited to a variety of issues such as coming out, health and hormones, dealing with discrimination, negotiating relationships. This group is ongoing **Register for zoom ID by calling Barb Urman at 1-866-415-9723**

Date: Third Wednesday of each month,

Time: 7:00 - 8:30pm

Location: FSYR Zoom Video Meetings

Fee: FREE

SOUTHASIANOUTREACH

South Asian Women's Support Groups:

Ongoing programs for South Asian Women. Topics will include Parenting, Health & Nutrition, Family Stress, Immigration & Legal Information, Yoga & Exercise, Employment and other topics that matter to you and your families.

Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu & English

Date: Tuesdays, to December, 2020

Time: 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Location: FSYR Zoom Meeting

Fee: FREE

TO REGISTER: Call Leena 416-818-7075 or Email: lnayyar@fsyr.ca

Urdu, Punjabi, Hindi

Date: Thursdays, to December 2020

Time: 12:00 am - 2:00 pm

Location: FSYR Zoom Meeting

Fee: FREE

TO REGISTER: Call Aisha at 647-545-8241

Tamil & English Women's Support and Parenting Groups

Date: Thursdays TBD 2020

Time: 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Location: FSYR Zoom Meeting

Fee: FREE

For Information: Call Sudha at 905-415-9719 or Email: scomarasamy@fsyr.ca

Uncomfortable going back to school?

Something bothering you?

Need to talk?

Virtual WALK IN Counselling

Free immediate mental health single session counselling



Offered in Cantonese, Mandarin, English for age 12 to 25



VIRTUAL COUNSELLING

How can I have a session?

Please call 647-619-9030 for more information or to book your session. We will schedule you in for a 45 - 60 minutes phone or video counselling session. We speak Cantonese, Mandarin and English.

How Long will I have to wait for a session?

Your session will be scheduled to happen within 5 business days.

What platform will be used for video counselling?

We use OTN (Ontario Telemedicine Network), a private and secure platform used by many health care practitioners in Ontario to communicate with and care for patients, and connect with peers and specialists. We also use Microsoft Teams.

What equipment do I need for video counselling?

A computer, a webcam, and stable internet. Or, a smartphone or tablet with the download of an App. If possible, set up in a private space you feel comfortable to speak openly in.

What can I expect if I choose phone counselling?

You will receive a call from a Clinician named "No Caller ID" at your scheduled time.

When can I come to the Walk-In in-person again?

We are closely following provincial re-opening guidelines. Announcements will be made on our website and social media when in-person service is available again. For now, all services continue to be offered virtually first.

What Languages will be offered?

Cantonese, Mandarin and English

Who do you offer services to?

We offer counselling to Asian youth age 12 to 25 living in Toronto and York Region.

What are the qualifications of the Clinician?

Your Clinician is qualified and trained to provide mental health counselling. Your Clinician is registered with their professional College.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010

FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES IN TURNER ISLAND: UCLUELET FIRST NATION

Located on the West coast of Vancouver Island the Yu'ukw'at Government - Ucluelet First Nation (YGN) traditional territory spans much of the area on the north end of Barkley Sound including what is now the District of Ucluelet. The community of Hstacuh has a population of approximately 200 residents and is located across the harbour from Ucluelet. (from www.urca)

INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES IN TURNER ISLAND: Ojibwa and Cree

The Chipewyan, or Ojibwa, live in their language and also used Dene occasionally, is a Northern Athabaskan language of Canada. The Chipewyan people are from many Canadian provinces, such as Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba, and Northwest Territories. To the south of the Chipewyan is the Cree, and to the west, the Slavey. Above them is the Dogrib and to the east is the Arctic. There are many dialects in various communities, and in some communities, young children still learn Chipewyan as a first language. In many different tribes are bringing back the language in early weeks for youths, especially in literacy. A recent census in 2006 recorded about 12,950 speakers out of 23,000 registered tribal members.

First European contact occurred during the 1700's when the Hudson Bay Company for fur trapping encountered the Dene people, led by a Dene woman. Eventually, the Hudson Bay company and the Dene people made relations to trade furs. The Chipewyan eventually created a business relation with the company, and started to have competing relations with the Cree to the south and the Inuit in the north. Meanwhile, diseases brought by the Europeans such as smallpox decimated the Dene population. During the 1800's, the Dene entered political treaty processes with the Canadian government. As a result, many different communities were given reserve land. During this period, the Canadian government was also conducting the Indian boarding schools, where many young indigenous children were taken to boarding schools to discourage their native culture and language, conforming them to European traditions. During the 20th century, it was difficult for the Dene people to keep their land as corporations and industries began to settle on their native lands. However, today, there are many recognized communities with reserves.

In 2006, there were 23,000 registered tribal members of Dene descent. In many reserve schools, young children are learning the Dene language as a first language. There are numerous communities that are recognized for the Dene people, scattered all around Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan. (from WWI reviving lost languages website)

FIRST NATION ARTISTS: Bill Reid

Bill Reid (1914-1998) was a Haida artist and community activist. Reid was born in Victoria, BC to a Haida mother and an American father with Scottish-German roots, and only began exploring his Haida roots in the age of 23. This journey of discovery lasted a lifetime and shaped Reid's artistic career.



The Bill Reid Gallery of Northwest Coast Art created in 2005 to honor his legacy and celebrate the diverse indigenous cultures of the Northwest Coast. Bill Reid inspired Haida tradition with his own modern art as he continued to create bold and exquisite images as well as monumental works that captured the public's imagination, and introduced a timeless vocabulary to the modern world. (from www.billreidgallery.ca)

CALLS TO ACTION (FROM THE TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION REPORT, 2015)

#7. We call upon the federal government to develop with Aboriginal groups a joint strategy to eliminate educational and employment gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.