

Expanded Support for Surrey Youth

Announcement:

On April 29, 2017 the City of Surrey, Surrey School District and YoBro YoGirl announced expanded support for the YoBro YoGirl program to deliver education, early intervention and physical training opportunities to Surrey youth in elementary and secondary schools.

Through expansion of the existing partnership, more kids will have access to recreation programs, physical education opportunities and education about the risks of drugs, gangs and other negative lifestyle choices.

YoBro YoGirl Background

The goal of YoBro YoGirl youth initiative is to improve the well-being and self-worth of at-risk youth and reconnect them to their schools, the community, and existing resources. Programs are designed to motivate and equip youth with the tools and resiliency to avoid drugs and violence, pursue education, and set positive goals for the future. We do not charge for our programs.

Ary Azez is a Program Facilitator with the YoBro YoGirl Initiative, working out of the Newton Recreation Centre. His story shows the impact of the program as he started out as a grade 9 student struggling in school and talked about how getting involved in YoBro struck a chord with him and sent him down a new path. Ary is now a second year student in Engineering and is going to lead the expansion of the program into Surrey elementary schools.

Yo Bro Yo Girl Youth Initiative started in 2009 as an outreach program for youth at-risk of involvement in drugs, violence and gangs. The programs reach boys (Yo Bro) and girls (Yo Girl), aged 12 to 18 years, and allow older program participants to play a mentorship role. Delivered at both the elementary and high-school level, program titles includes *Taking it to the Streets*, *Keep it Real*, *Respectful Relationships*, *Know means No*, *Team Yo Bro*, and *Team Yo Girl*.

The mission of the organisation is to engage at-risk youth in their schools and communities so they attain the skills and values necessary to realize their educational and career potential and contribute to the safety and well-being of their communities.

Surrey School District

The Community-Schools Partnership (C-SP) is an initiative of Surrey Schools in collaboration with municipal, funding and community partners to work alongside schools in addressing vulnerabilities creating opportunities for all children to flourish. Under the City of Surrey's Public Safety Strategy the Schools Partnership includes several programs and brings together the resources of the School District, RCMP, Parks and Recreation Services, and many other not-for-profit organisations to support Surrey youth.

Event Information

From March through June, the City of Surrey and its community partners will host a series of informative events to raise awareness about the City's current and planned public safety initiatives, as well as provide tips and information on how residents and businesses can contribute to keeping our city safe.

Participants will enjoy games, prizes and activities while exploring a variety of interactive community booths offering tips and information on topics ranging from crime prevention to personal safety, transportation safety, emergency preparedness, child and youth programs, volunteer opportunities and various community services.

Saturday, April 29

12 pm - 4 pm
South Surrey
Recreation Centre

Saturday, May 6

12 pm - 4 pm
Cloverdale
Recreation Centre

Saturday, May 13

12 pm - 3 pm
RCMP Main
Detachment