

# Advisory Committee

## Terms of Reference

Address mental health and substance use issues and build the capacity of youth and their communities, using youth engagement strategies. Program objectives include:

- Use established/trained cohort of Youth Wellness Champions as a creative peer-to-peer strategies to promote good mental health and wellness and reduce the stigma of mental illness as a part of the health and illness continuum.
- Provide Youth Wellness Champions with strategies to assist peers with substance use prevention through raising awareness of available information and resources/services.
- Support youth in planning, implementing and evaluating youth-led health promotion activities at local schools across Ontario to create supportive communities.

## Purpose

The Advisory Committee provides overall advice and strategic direction, as required, and implementation of the YWC Program. The Committee works closely with the RNAO YWC Champions Project team.

## Mandate

1. Provide relevant input related to various YWC Program activities, reflecting partner viewpoints.
2. Provide overall strategic direction and feedback to the program.
3. Continue to implement and expand the program within local communities where possible.
4. Monitor program progress toward the overall objectives through periodic status and sharing meetings.
5. Provide direction for strategies to sustain the program's work.
6. Promote involvement in program activities and events to various partner networks.
7. Serve as advocates for the program on an ongoing basis.
8. Each advisory committee member should represent youth input and voices from their geographical regions and local contexts.



## Composition

The RNAO YWC Program Manager will act as chair for the advisory committee.

Members will include:

1. Chair of the Youth Wellness Champions Advisory Committee.
2. Membership will include up to a maximum of two representatives from RNAO.
3. Membership will include up to a maximum of two representatives from each public health partner who bring expertise in youth, mental health and/or substance use.
4. Provincial partners, based on their knowledge, expertise and interest in the area of youth, mental health and/or substance use.
5. Youth members involved ad hoc.
  - a. **Note:** The YWC Program will seek youth voices using a consultative model, with the understanding of extending invitations to youth representatives when needed.
6. Other members with key knowledge/experience in youth, mental health and/ or substance use as consultation and/or resources will be invited ad hoc, when necessary.

## Term of Appointment

- August 1, \_\_\_\_\_ to August 30, \_\_\_\_\_\*
  - \*Subject to change. Dependant on future funding.

## Meetings

- There will be a minimum of four virtual meetings during the duration of the program duration, with additional meetings as needed.