



QWYC

**MAY 2022**

Committee for Innovative  
Thinking for Youth Inc.

**Annual General Meeting**



## About Committee for Innovative Thinking for Youth

Quinte West Youth Centre officially opened in the fall of 2011. Our initial purpose for coming together was to develop strategies to respond to a number of issues facing youth in Quinte West. We were aware that our cooperation, sharing of resources, expertise and coordination would lead to greater accessibility, visibility and success for all youth in the community. We recognized youth in our community needed a place to come for recreational and pro-social leisure activities, but also needed a place to be able to come for resources and supports. QWYC was formed under C.I.T.Y. and C.I.T.Y. began looking at the creation of the centre to provide youth a place of their own; where, programs and activities, are youth driven for youth. QWYC has staff on at all times with a variety of background with the commonality of wanting to support youth in our community. QWYC is overseen by a Board of Directors with the goal to continue finding supports to provide to our youth.

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## Our Mission

A safe, inclusive and welcoming space dedicated to empowering the youth of Quinte West while providing opportunities for growth within each youth through need-based programming.

## Our Vision and Values

All youth will be happy, healthy contributing members of our community.

Youth-focused and inclusive; caring and compassionate, accountable and transparent



## 2021 Annual Report

The year 2021 was a year unlike any other year. It was our first full year grasping on how to handle a pandemic - learning to pivot from lockdown to lockdown, all while learning to be flexible and available for our youth members. During this particular year, QWYC decided to take on a hybrid approach to our programs by offering in-person and virtual programming. This allowed us to be able to serve all youth. We created our virtual centre using Discord and Zoom with having 42 members using our virtual centre.

QWYC continues to pride ourselves as a youth-led centre which allows for our youth members to have a voice within our centre and provide insight on the programming offered at the Centre. Recently, youth have requested to create a QWYC Podcast, which is being funded by the Ted Rodger's Community Fund. Youth also have shown high interest in our Sports and Recreation program, SPECTRUM, What's Cooking and Youth LYNK. To ensure these programs are available to our youth, we were able to secure grants from United Way HPE, City of Quinte West, Kay Stafford Fund, OTF's Resilient Community Fund, Enbridge, Hydro One and Walmart.

One thing the pandemic had shown us is the rising need for support. Prior to the pandemic, QWYC was averaging around 10 youth a night; now, QWYC is seeing on average 30 youth a night. The amount of youth attending our centre has tripled and continues to grow.

Without our community supports and our local funders, the QWYC would not be where we are today, celebrating our 10 year anniversary. We cannot thank them enough for their generosity in supporting our mission and values. We are proud to work with an organization that makes youth the priority and for having a Board of Directors dedicated to ensuring the youth of Quinte West have a voice within their community. Thank you to all of those who believe in our mission. We cannot wait to see what the future holds for us.





## TESTIMONY

"I really enjoy my time at QWYC. The people there have let me be myself for so long and I seriously appreciate things like that, and the staff there are very caring and understanding. This place gives me somewhere to be free to have my own identity and not get backlash for it. This place overall gives me somewhere to be happy. I see everyone there as family and I always feel a great sense of security when I'm there. QWYC is incredible and I believe everyone would feel the same way. "

-Current Youth Member, 13



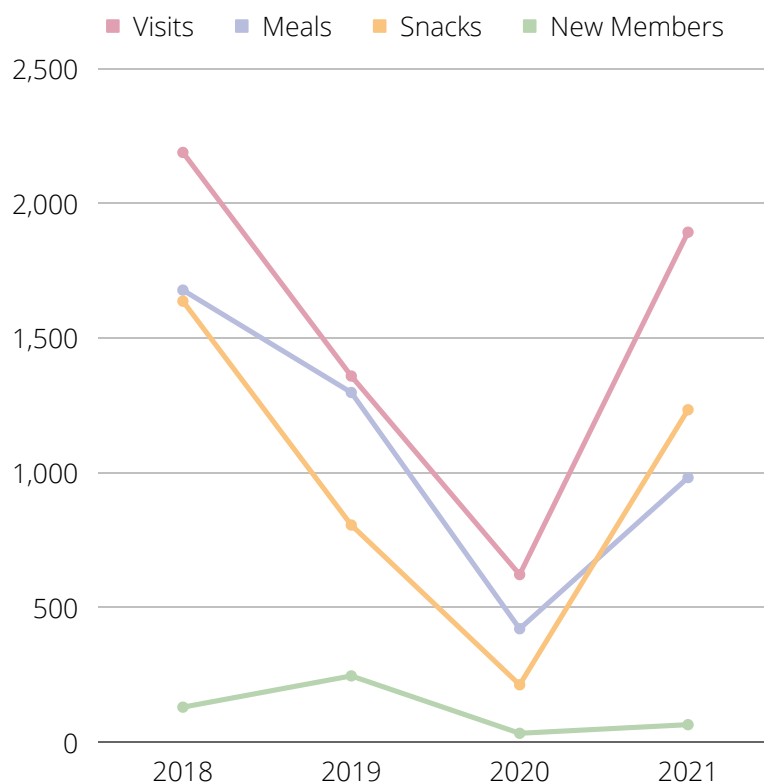
## STATISTICS for 2021

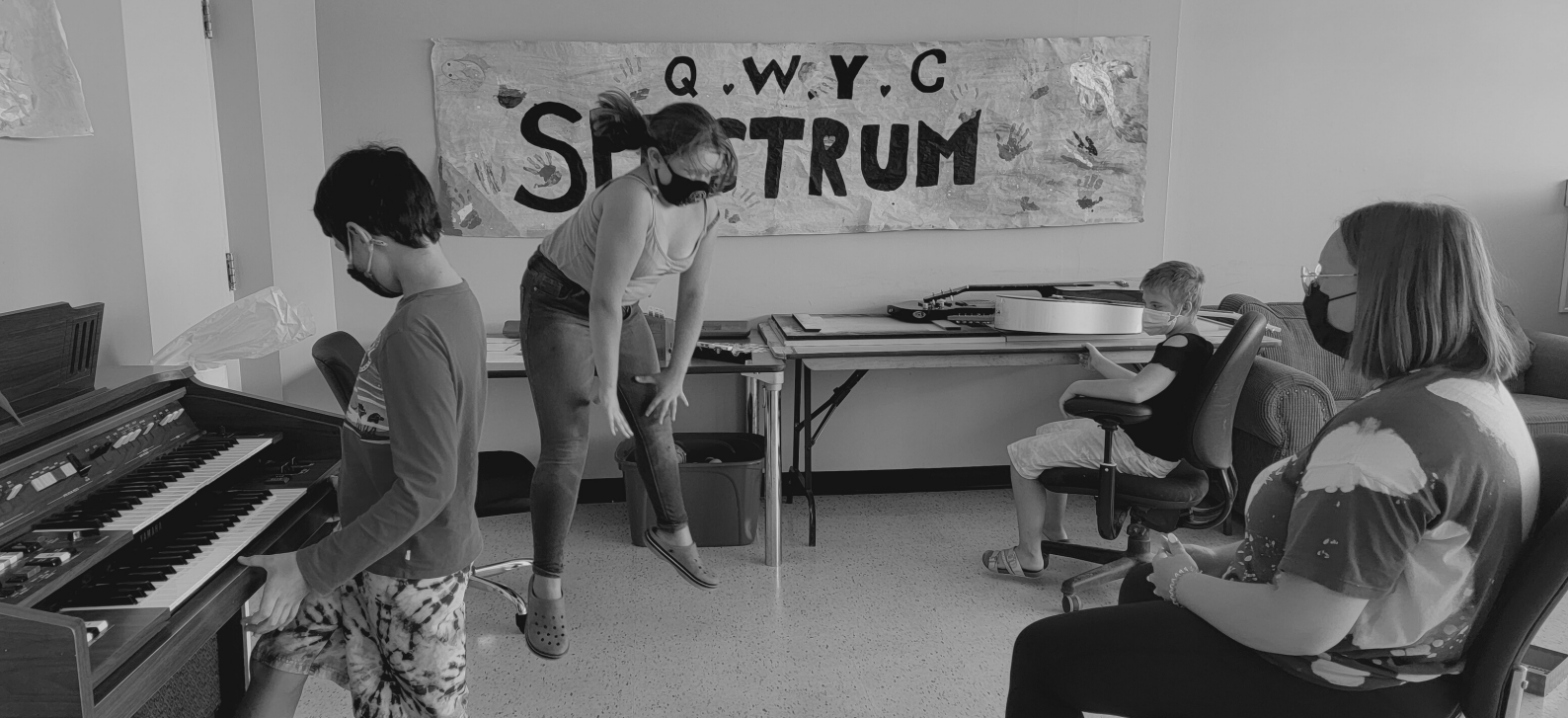
QWYC had 297 members dedicated to attending QWYC. We had:

- Welcomed 1,893 youth visits
- Opened for in-person programming for 66 days of the year.
- Served 982 meals and 1234 snacks
- Had 65 new youth members

Since 2011, we had:

- Welcomed 23,836 youth visits
- Provided 33,572 meals and snacks
- Supported 522 youth





## Projects of 2021

### Fundraising

- Route for Youth
  - In August, 2021, QWYC hosted the first annual Route for Youth Poker Run Fundraiser.
  - \$6,500 was raised
- Shhhop for a Claus
  - In December, 2021, QWYC hosted a virtual silent auction via bidbeacon.com
  - Raised \$1,400

### Counselling

- Partnering with Counselling Services of Belleville and District to provide free counselling to all youth
- 200 counselling sessions were completed



## FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2021

### Revenue

	2021	2020
Membership and Program Fees	\$120	\$40
Donations and Grants	\$232,307	\$121,303
Fundraising	\$2,725	\$563
Rental	\$1,769	-
Other	\$23,768	\$273
	\$260,689	\$122,179

### Expenses

	2021	2020
Advertising	\$948	\$263
Bank and Interest Charges	\$299	\$454
Equipment	\$13,222	\$1,485
Food	\$5,625	\$2,039
Fundraising	\$3,143	\$445
Insurance	\$2,564	\$2,687
Office Supplies	\$7,100	\$4,286
Professional Fees	\$3,160	\$4,286
Program Costs	\$22,245	\$11,644
Rent	-	\$3,000
Repairs and Maintenance	\$9,355	\$6,450
Utilities	\$10,142	\$10,661
Wages and Salaries	\$123,102	\$60,744
	\$200,905	\$108,444



## Contact

Say hello to our team of experts!

**Executive Director**

Jessica Coolen

**Program Coordinator**

Allie Dafoe

**Child & Youth Worker**

Trinity MacFarlane

[WWW.QWYC.CA](http://WWW.QWYC.CA)