

QWYC

JUNE 2023

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.

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



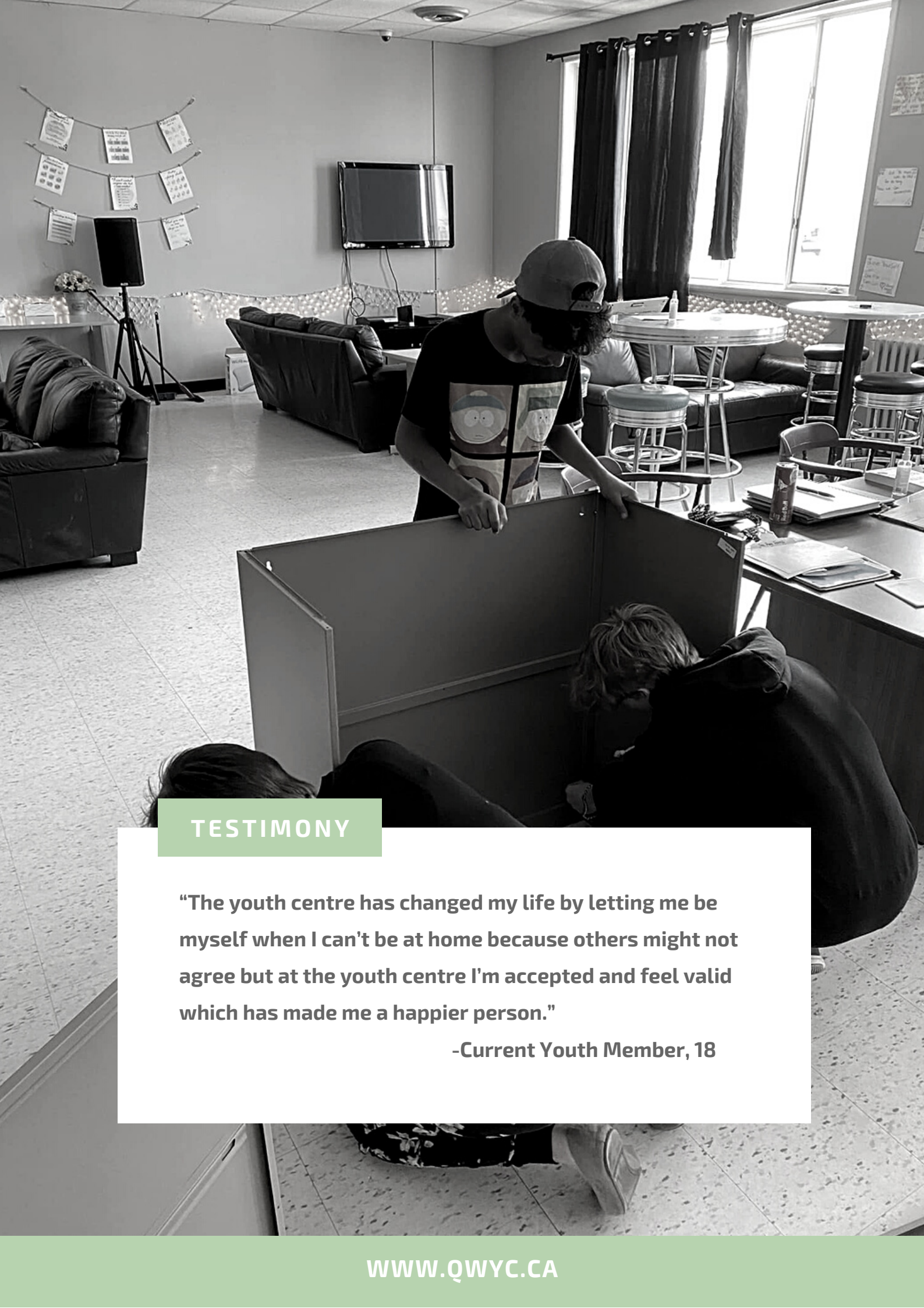
2022 Annual Report

This year we were so grateful to be able to go back to normal operations, meaning having our centre open to in-person programming for 4 days a week, with no COVID related health and safety regulations to follow. We did though still experience the affects from COVID-19, including seeing youth experiencing mental health disorders to difficulty in retaining staff.

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. In 2022, we were fortunate to receive funding from Government of Canada's Reaching Home Project to create a new program, called Bridge to Hope which is geared to supporting youth who are or at-risk of becoming homeless. This program provides free laundry services as well as access to food, clothing and any other basic necessity they need. This program was accessed 223 times since launching in July, 2022. We continue to offer our other core programs at the centre, including What's Cooking, Spectrum, Mental Wellness, and Sports & Recreation. 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, Trillium Mutual Insurance, Ted Roger's Community Grant and Walmart.

Without our community supports and our local funders, the QWYC would not be where we are today, supporting over 200 youth. We cannot thank them enough for their generosity in believing in 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. We cannot wait to see what the future holds for us.

"Our youth is the future and it is a bright one with your support"



TESTIMONY

“The youth centre has changed my life by letting me be myself when I can’t be at home because others might not agree but at the youth centre I’m accepted and feel valid which has made me a happier person.”

-Current Youth Member, 18



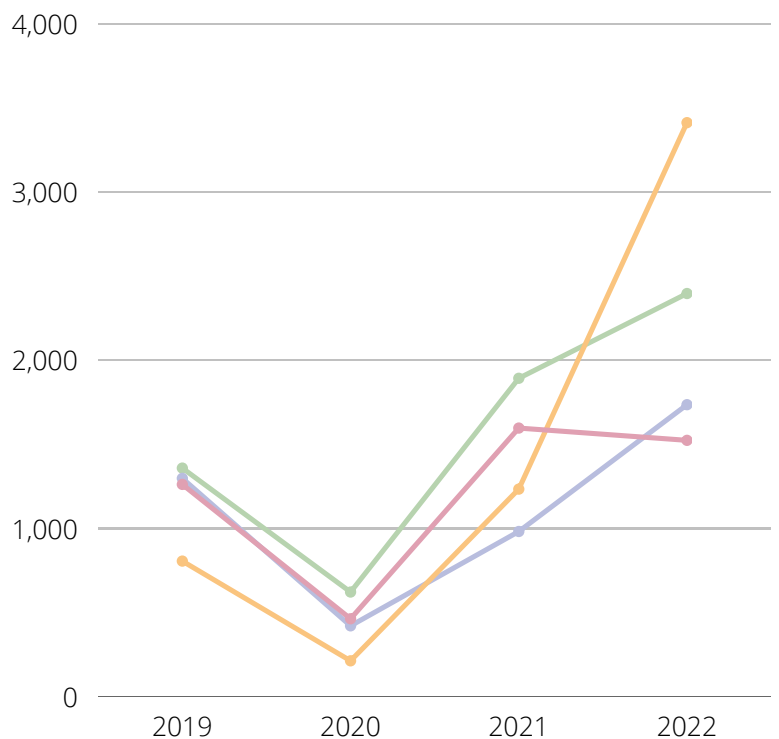
STATISTICS for 2022

QWYC had 175 members dedicated to attending QWYC. We had:

- Welcomed 2,397 youth visits
- Served 1,736 meals and 3,413 snacks
- Had 112 new youth members

Since 2011, we had:

- Welcomed 25,833 youth visits
- Provided 38,721 meals and snacks
- Supported 601 youth
- Currently have 240 registered youth with 341 youth who have 'graduated' from our program



GREEN= Number of Visits
 BLUE= Number of Meals Served
 YELLOW= Number of Snacks Served
 PINK= Number of One-on-One Mentorships



Projects of 2022

Fundraising

- Shhhop for a Claus Vendor Show
 - In December, 2022 QWYC hosted a vendor show and silent auction
 - Raised \$ \$13,638.75

Programming

- New program, **Bridge to Hope**, launched in July. Provides supports to youth and their families who are or at risk of homelessness
- **Fempowerment** ran twice this year, supporting 10 female youth
- **What's Cooking** was our most accessed program
- **Sports and Recreation** was our second most accessed program

**FINANCIAL
STATEMENT 2021**

Revenue

	2021	2022
Membership and Program Fees	\$120	\$1247
Donations and Grants	\$232,307	\$229,560
Fundraising	\$2,725	\$7297
Rental	\$1,769	\$1,406
Other	\$23,768	\$2,136
	\$260,689	\$241,646

Expenses

	2021	2022
Advertising	\$948	\$5,155
Bank and Interest Charges	\$299	\$218
Equipment	\$13,222	\$3,560
Food	\$5,625	\$6,279
Fundraising	\$3,143	\$6,625
Insurance	\$2,564	\$2,850
Office Supplies	\$7,100	\$12,263
Professional Fees	\$3,160	\$2,950
Program Costs	\$22,245	\$8,538
Rent	-	\$12,000
Repairs and Maintenance	\$9,355	\$2,199
Utilities	\$10,142	\$13,286
Wages and Salaries	\$123,102	\$151,523
	\$200,905	\$227,446



Contact

Say hello to our team of experts!

Executive Director	Jessica Coolen
Program Coordinator	Allie Dafoe
Child & Youth Worker	Tanisha Bishop
Fundraiser & Donor Relations Specialist	Hailey Borden

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