NWT Youth Ambassador Program Final Report



Prepared for:



Prepared by:



"Helping Clients make a difference ... since 1984"



February 2017

NWT Youth Ambassador Program Final Evaluation Report: Executive Summary

Prepared for:



Prepared by:



A. Background

The NWT Youth Ambassador Program (NWT YAP) has been in operation in Northwest Territories for 10 years, and offers a guided and structured volunteer experience for NWT youth at major territorial, national and international events. Participants have the opportunity to develop life and job skills as well as to build the confidence necessary to deal with complex life challenges. Key outcomes can be described as:



- Youth experience personal growth and development as a result of their participation;
- Youth experience changes that allow them to make healthier choices with respect to healthy sexuality, living tobacco free, healthy eating, physical activity, injury prevention, and mental wellness.

Past events have included the Canada Winter Games, the North American Indigenous Games, the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and, most recently, the Arctic Winter Games in Nuuk, Greenland. At the 10 year anniversary, it is appropriate to look back on the impact that involvement in the program has had on participants.

B. Evaluation

Proactive Information Services Inc.¹ undertook the evaluation of the NWT Youth Ambassador Program in consultation with NWT Youth Ambassador program staff. The evaluation was conducted over the period June 2016 to February 2017. Table 1 provides an overview of the methods used.

Based in Western Canada, Proactive Information Services Inc. was established in 1984 specifically to provide research and evaluation services to clients in the public and non-profit sectors. Proactive's clients include government departments, public sector agencies, health authorities, school districts, community organizations, foundations, and other NGOs in Canada and internationally. Proactive scored highest in response to the 2014 GNWT Standing Offer for Program Monitoring and Evaluation.

NWT YAP Evaluation Methods					
Method Number Date					
Program Staff In-Person Interviews	2	September 2016			
Most Significant Change Analysis	193 Individuals	September 2016			
Analysis of Program Statistics	n/a	January 2017			
Youth Participant In-Person Interviews	5	September 2016			
Youth Participant Telephone Interviews	13	November 2016			
Web Survey of Youth Participants	50 Responses	November – December 2016			

C. Summary of Key Findings

The NWT Youth Ambassador Program was not only highly valued by former participants, but was also life changing for many former NWT Youth Ambassadors. Key findings from the evaluation include:

 In total, there were 650 NWT Youth Ambassador Program participants, representing 32 different NWT communities.

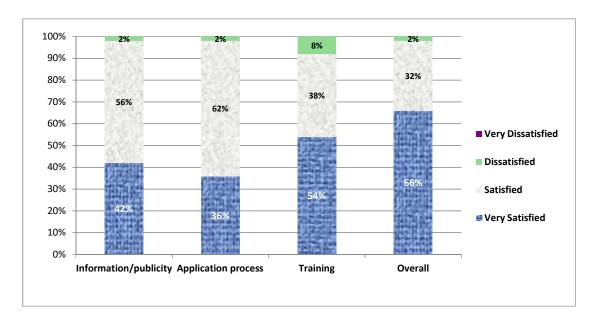


- From 2007 to 2016, a total of 30 opportunities were available to NWT Youth Ambassador Program participants, ranging from major sporting events, such as Canada Winter Games in 2007 and the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2010, to the Ministers Conference in 2012 and Ottawa Winterlude in 2015.
- In terms of the Most Significant Change which resulted from participation in NWT Youth Ambassador Program, the 642 reported changes related to the two key program outcomes; personal growth (59%) and healthier choices (41%). The three single most often cited dealt with the opportunity to have new experiences/expand one's horizons/ opened doors to new experiences (n=72), cultural learning/development (n=68), and meeting new people/creating new positive friendships (n=62).

Between the diverse travel opportunities, hundreds of people I have interacted with, dozens of stories I have exchanged, and colourful array of cultures I have immersed myself into, I am not able to think of another program that could offer such wholesome opportunities for personal growth and experience. The [NWT] Youth Ambassador Program is promoted primarily as a leadership program, but the skills, tools, and knowledge I have gained extend into culture, politics, management, self-empowerment, creativity, social responsibility and community building. However, the most valuable attribution I can give to the program is that it helped me find my place in society.

- The interviews with alumni confirmed that former NWT Youth Ambassadors had gained confidence, developed communication skills, acquired leadership skills, supported their personal growth, promoted healthy lifestyles, and enhanced their sense of identity and culture. They identified many ways that participation in the program had influenced their life choices. For example, "I am still working in the service sector in my community. I am using my skills and [NWT] Youth Ambassadors was a big contributor to where I am now. It gave me the confidence and the service skills. As a volunteer, I opened a youth centre and it turned into a job. Now, I run the department."
- Many of these sentiments were echoed in the survey responses. Former NWT Youth Ambassadors again reported how participating in the program had changed them in multiple ways. Interestingly, the most frequent (94%) was increased pride in being a Northerner suggesting that the NWT Youth Ambassador Program is a support to the NWT's population growth strategy.

• NWT Youth Ambassador Program participants who responded to the survey expressed extremely high satisfaction with the program (see graph below).



D. In Conclusion

Over the last 10 years the NWT Youth Ambassador Program has included hundreds of young people from 32 communities, large and small, across the NWT.

Not only has the NWT Youth Ambassador Program given young people opportunities to travel, volunteer, meet new people, and develop leadership skills, it has been life changing for many participants, giving them self-confidence and allowing them to set a positive direction for their own lives.



For more information on the NWT Youth Ambassador Program, please contact:

Dawn Moses

By phone at 867-767-9166 ext. 21109 or by email at dawn moses@gov.nt.ca

I was battling through a dark period of depression, feeling a sense of worthlessness and confusion. As the days rolled by I started to genuinely smile and laugh for the first time is a while. The first supper together... I felt joy hearing [speaker] being able to make different sounds for each Northern animal reminding me of my childhood on the land... If it wasn't for this opportunity I would still be in a dark place of uncertainty and angst. I thank every one of you for this opportunity.

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Contact Information:

Proactive Information Services Inc.

Linda E. Lee

linda@proactive.mb.ca

(204) 955-4489

580 Main Street

Winnipeg, MB R3B 1C7



Introduction

A. Background

The NWT Youth Ambassador Program (NWT YAP) has been in operation in Northwest Territories for 10 years, and offers a guided and structured volunteer experience for NWT youth at major territorial, national and international events. Participants have the opportunity to develop life and job skills as well as to build the confidence necessary to deal with complex life challenges. Key outcomes can be described as:

- Youth experience personal growth and development as a result of their participation;
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Past events have included the Canada Winter Games, the North American Indigenous Games, the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games and, most recently, the Arctic Winter Games in Nuuk, Greenland. At the 10-year anniversary, it is appropriate to look back on the impact that involvement in the program has had on participants.



B. Overview of Evaluation Methods

Working cooperatively with Government of Northwest Territories, the following methods were identified regarding the evaluation of the NWT Youth Ambassador Program (Table 1, following page).



Table 1 NWT YAP Evaluation Methods					
Method Number Date Co					
Program Staff In-Person Interviews	2	September 2016	$\sqrt{}$		
Most Significant Change Analysis	193 Individuals	September 2016			
Analysis of Program Statistics	n/a	January 2017			
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Web Survey of Youth Participants	50 Responses	November – December 2016	V		

Proactive Information Services Inc.¹ was designated as the top evaluation firm responding to the standing offer for program monitoring and evaluation consulting services for the NWT government in fall 2014 and undertook the evaluation of the NWT Youth Ambassador Program.

Reporting for this evaluation included an earlier information summary of the Most Significant Change analysis of the evaluation forms completed by program participants over the last five years. This report presents findings from all lines of inquiry, as well as a presentation of program statistics.

1. Program Staff Interviews

Staff reflection on the program and its success was documented through staff interviews. Two semi-structured in-person interviews were undertaken in September 2016 in order to provide deeper context in advance of the interviews with youth.

2. Most Significant Change

Over approximately the past five years, program participants have completed a brief questionnaire that includes questions related to Most Significant Change (MSC). These data were coded according to theme, and analyzed statistically. Quotes were also extracted to represent each theme. Program staff entered the responses into a Word file, while Proactive staff undertook the coding and statistical analysis.

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Specific codes were given to participant responses, allowing up to six specific answers in total for questions 1a, 2, and 3 as these questions all addressed changes the participant identified. These specific codes were then grouped under thematic headings which addressed the key outcomes identified for the program. A final question relating to what could be improved (anything negative) was also coded and analyzed.

3. Program Statistics

Program staff kept records of youth participation which include the event, number of participants, gender and home community of participants. While these data are reported in this evaluation report, they also provided the information required to draw the sample for the youth interviews.

4. Youth Participant Interviews

A sample of youth were selected for interviews. The sample was stratified by event, gender and region. In September 2016, the first interviews were conducted in-person in Yellowknife, and two of these interviews were with specifically selected participants who program staff believe had powerful stories to tell. These represent exemplars of program success.

The in-person interviews in Yellowknife also served as a pilot for the remainder of the interviews that will be undertaken by telephone. It was originally anticipated telephone interviews would be conducted in November 2016 and February 2017, although the accelerated project completion date meant that all telephone interviews were completed in November 2016.

Program staff were responsible for identifying and contacting youth to be interviewed in person and for scheduling the interviews in consultation with Proactive. They also identified and contacted youth selected for telephone interviews, alerting them to the fact Proactive will be contacting them. The selection of youth for telephone interviews included alternatives in the event some youth could not be contacted.

5. Web-Survey of Youth Participants

A brief survey was sent to 191 email addresses of former NWT Youth Ambassadors. Approximately 30 were undeliverable leaving approximately 160 possible respondents.² The web-survey consisted primarily of close-ended questions, although two opportunities for more extended write-in response were also provided.

² The number is approximate as there was more than one email address for some potential respondents.



Program staff sent out an introductory email to program alumni alerting them to the fact they will be receiving an invitation to complete a web-survey asking about their experiences in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program and the impact it has had on their lives. Program staff provided Proactive with an Excel file that had the participant names and email addresses. Proactive followed up by sending out the link to the survey in an email sent to all former participants in mid-November 2016 with a deadline for response by December 1st. However, on November 27th contact information was received for an additional nine former participants. Therefore, the deadline for response was extended to December 12th.

Proactive responded to any technical questions and sent reminders only to those who have not already completed the survey. A total of three reminders were sent resulting in 50 respondents for a response rate of 31%. While it would have been preferable to have a higher response rate, it should be noted that young people are often mobile and some email addresses were many years old. In the attempt to be as inclusive as possible, as many email addresses as were available were used.





Discussion of Findings

A. Program Statistics

From 2007 to 2016, the NWT Youth Ambassador Program provided a total of 30 opportunities, ranging from major sporting events such as the Canada Winter Games in 2007, Arctic Winter Games in 2008 and 2016, North American Indigenous Games in 2014, and Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in 2010 to a Ministers Conference in 2012 and Ottawa Winterlude in 2015. In total, there were 650 participants. Participation statistics provided by the NWT Youth Ambassador Program also indicate almost twice as many females (n=411) participated in the program than males (n=239). Representation information was available by community (Table 2). Total participation by community does not add up to 650 because these statistics are not available for some NWT YAP events.

Table 2 NWT YAP Participants by Community and Region			
Region	Community	# of Participants (n=553)	
	Aklavik	17	
	Fort McPherson	34	
	Inuvik	56	
Beaufort Delta	Paulatuk	16	
Total = 167	Sachs Harbour	13	
	Tsiigehtchic	7	
	Tuktoyaktuk	13	
	Ulukhaktok	11	
	Colville Lake	12	
	Deline	33	
Sahtu Total = 85	Fort Good Hope	19	
10tal = 85	Norman Wells	11	
	Tulita	10	
	Behchoko	23	
	Dettah	4	
	Gameti	6	
North Slave*	Lutselk'e	6	
Total = 153	N'Dilo	9	
	Whati	7	
	Yellowknife	98	



Dehcho	Fort Liard	15	
	Fort Simpson	22	
	Jean Marie River	4	
Total = 54	Nahanni Butte	7	
	Trout Lake	2	
	Wrigley	4	
	Enterprise	7	
	Fort Providence	12	
South Slave*	Fort Resolution	9	
Total = 94	Fort Smith	44	
	Hay River	19	
	K'atl'odeeche	3	
* The accuracy is a participant from Wolversti (North Clave) or (Volvice) Couth Clave			

^{*} There were no participants from Wekweeti (North Slave) or (Kakisa) South Slave.

B. Most Significant Change

Former NWT Youth Ambassadors completed a questionnaire that focussed on what they believed was the Most Significant Change (MSC) that resulted from their participation. Responses were received from a total of 193 individuals.

Respondents represented 28 communities across the Territory. The largest number were from Yellowknife (n=33 or 18%), followed by Inuvik (n=26 or 14%). The average age of participants was 19.3 years, although the mode (most frequent age) was 17.

1. MSC Outcomes

In total, the 193 respondents identified 642 specific changes related to the two key program outcomes. Table 3 shows the overall numbers for the two major outcomes, followed by a breakdown of the various aspects of healthier choices.

Aspects of personal growth were most often cited, with the top three specific areas being:

 Had a new experience/got to see things I hadn't seen/learn things I hadn't before/expand my horizons/opened doors to new experiences/tried something new (n=72);

Table 3 MSC Outcomes (648 cited)			
	N	%	
Personal Growth	383	59%	
Healthier Choices	265	41%	
Cultural learning/development	68		
Community impact	67		
Mental wellness	51		
Physical activity	34		
Other learning/skills	30		
Healthy eating	6		
• Addictions	5		
Living tobacco free	4		



- Made positive friendships/meeting new people/learning to network/know people from different places (n=62);
- Gained confidence/approach people with confidence/realized I am a capable person (n=49).

Learning more about the North has made me proud to be a Northerner.

Many stories of personal growth often focused around gaining confidence and voice through their experiences with the NWT Youth Ambassador Program:

This [experience with NWT YAP] enabled me to grow as a person. I was placed in situations that put me out of my comfort zone, i.e. working security. I am a very shy person. This helped me realize that in order to grow as a person I must continue to put myself in situations that expand my horizons. This change has also made me realize that I am capable of accomplishing anything I put my mind to. I am going to use my new-found courage and confidence to inspire other youth from my community. I am also going to encourage other youth to volunteer in their communities, because the greatest joy in life comes from helping others.

Other NWT Youth Ambassadors believed the program helped them make healthy choices:

The biggest change for me is being able to get away from drugs and alcohol. It's one of the biggest challenges because it's been around me all my life. You'd think it would be easy to get away from, but in my world, it's not that simple. It feels so nice to get away from those who abuse it. This is the only program (probably)

The biggest change was selfacceptance of being a positive role model and female leader for my community and nationhood. When [speaker] spoke about realities that First Nations communities face today, I took that very dear to my heart because everything that he spoke about is and was a reality in my own life. Even though my community has social issues, I am choosing to take responsibility to be a leader. I am beyond grateful to be a part of the NWT Youth Ambassador Program for many reasons such as finding the potential I didn't know I had, or overcoming shyness. It's great to meet other youth from other communities who are emerging leaders. It's been such a heartfelt experience from feeling so much pride in me as a Dene woman, as a young leader and in my own culture.

that gives me a break from all of that... It's very important to me to be able to get a break. It's not all the time I get to do positive activities like this. This program has changed my life. I've learned that there are not only negative activities, but also positive ones. Once I get home I plan on making better choices and volunteer more. For me volunteering helps me a lot with the entire negative in my life and release the positive.

There were also some Most Significant Change stories that were quite unique and spoke of particular to the individual's circumstances. Irrespective, these stories also spoke of the how participation in NWT YAP had fostered their growth:

The biggest change for me was having to be without my daughter for so long and getting the chance to put all my effort and focus on one task...I cried leaving my daughter...As I kept myself busy; it got easier...It was important because it allowed me to put my everything into the work I did and I pushed myself, focusing solely on my job of representing the NWT as a [NWT] Youth Ambassador. It also gave me a break, maybe a little longer than needed, but a lot of me time and



interacting with a lot more people than a 2-year-old. I think this experience has not only reinforced my leadership skills, travel and volunteer experience, and media knowledge but it increased the bond I will have with my daughter when I get home because of missing her so much.

2. My Experience as a Movie Title

NWT Youth Ambassadors were asked; "If your story [MSC story] became a movie, what would the title be?" The movie titles the participants created that represented their experience with the program were transferred into a separate Word file. There were many suggestions as to the name of a movie title representing their NWT Youth Ambassador experience. These represent a few:

- The Shy Has Spoken
- Walking Down an Alley of Opportunities
- Small Town Girl with Big Dreams
- Gonawako Dogrib: Our Way of Life
- Independence Day
- Life of the Weird Little Inuk!
- Growing Wings
- Revitalizing My Identity as a Dene Leader

3. Suggestions for Improvement

Most respondents did not have anything to suggest as improvements or anything negative. The few suggestions that were most often presented were:

- People should be reminded to behave more respectfully/no gossip/resolve issues as a group (n=13);
- Miscommunication/lack of communication (n=10);
- Some days/sessions/shifts were too long (n=8).

Although not the norm, a few NWT Youth Ambassadors indicated they would like to have been provided with more independence: "I believe the way our group was treated was entirely improper. We are over glorified volunteers being babysat. I know there are more and better skills you could be teaching us as well as much better ways in dealing with treating us."

4. In Summary

Former participants were very positive about their experiences and were able to identify many changes that had transpired as a result of their involvement. Aspects of personal growth were most often cited; however, many aspects of healthy choices were also identified:



With the finale of another amazing [NWT] Youth Ambassador trip, this particular experience has inspired me to make a special reflection on the past few years as a youth ambassador. When I first applied to the [NWT] Youth Ambassador Program, my intention was to fill in a blank space on my resume with something that was reputable and would allow me to cater to my passion for community service. Indeed, the program fulfilled these ambitions, but I gradually learned that it also offered something beyond what I had expected. Between the diverse travel opportunities, hundreds of people I have interacted with, dozens of stories I have exchanged, and colourful array of cultures I have immersed myself into, I am not able to think of another program that could offer such wholesome opportunities for personal growth and experience. The [NWT] Youth Ambassador Program is promoted primarily as a leadership program, but the skills, tools, and knowledge I have gained extend into culture, politics, management, selfempowerment, creativity, social responsibility and community building. However, the most valuable attribution I can give to the program is that it helped me find my place in society. Through volunteering and travelling, I have learned the importance of global citizenship and being open-minded. At the same time, I have learned that living in the North is a very special privilege, and that each time I roam, I better understands the meaning of home. The [NWT] Youth Ambassador Program has helped me find and appreciate the balance between being an active member in my own community and a contributor to the larger global community. Each individual's experience with this program is unique, thus my story is only one of many. It is a blessing and an inspiration to see the many [NWT] Youth Ambassadors throughout the years learn and grow together. I recommend this program to all youth who are looking for positive directionality with the future and those who are eager to explore their potential. Without a doubt, being a [NWT] Youth Ambassador is not as seasonal as the application. The program is creating [NWT] Youth Ambassadors that continue to be ambassadors for many years to come.





C. Youth Participant Interviews

In September 2016, a total of five interviews with NWT YAP alumni were conducted from Yellowknife; one in-person, two via video-conference to Inuvik, and two via Skype. Three were female and two were male. Two were attending university, two were working, and one was looking for work. While the interviews were part of the data collection, they also served as a pilot for the larger sample of telephone interviews. Interviews were approximately 20 to 30 minutes in duration. Following these interviews, the interview instrument was fine-tuned to make it more focused for the subsequent telephone interviews.

A total of 15 telephone interviews were undertaken between November 3 and December 1, 2016. Most of those interviewed were female (n=11). Alumni came from a variety of communities in NWT including Aklavik, Fort Good Hope, Fort Liard, Fort Providence, Nahanni Butte, N'Dilo, Norman Wells, Paulatuk Sachs Harbour, Tsiigehtchic, Ulukhaktok, and Yellowknife. Most were not living in their home communities (n=10), while three lived in Yellowknife, three in Edmonton, and one former NWT Youth Ambassador lived in Fort Nelson, Fort Simpson, Fort Smith, and Inuvik. Ten alumni were currently employed and three were in school, while others were volunteering and/or looking for work.

As a collective, the alumni who were interviewed had participated in many events over the years. Many had participated in multiple events³ (Table 4).

Table 4 NWT YAP Events by Number of Participants			
Event	# of Participants		
2016 Arctic Winter Games	6		
2016 Arctic Winter Games - Training	3		
2015 Para Pan American Games	4		
2015 Pan American Games	3		
2015 Pan/Para Pan American Games - Training	1		
2015 Winterlude	2		
2014 Circumpolar Northern Games	3		
2014 North American Indigenous Games	1		
2014 Arctic Winter Games	3		
2013-2014 Training Event	1		
2013 Canada Summer Games	2		

Respondents self-reported in which events they had participated. Some who remembered the event did not identify the corresponding training which whey would have had to attend. For example, the six who indicated participation in the 2016 Arctic Winter Games – Training, making the Training number six rather than three.



Event	# of Participants
2012 Ministers Conference	3
2012 Arctic Winter Games	4
NWT Tourism (Los Angeles or Japan)	1
2011-2012 Training Event	1
2011 Royal Visit	1
2010 Vancouver Paralympics	6
2010 Vancouver Olympics	6
2009-2010 Training Event	4
2009 Circumpolar Northern Games	2
2008 North American Indigenous Games	2
2008 North American Indigenous Games - Training	2
2008 Arctic Winter Games	3
2008 Arctic Winter Games - Training	2
2007 Canada Winter Games	6

1. Participating in NWT YAP

Participants were between 15 to 24 years when they first became involved in the program. When asked how they first found out about the NWT Youth Ambassador Program, alumni most frequently reported they had learned about the program through school/school staff or through a friend/family member. When asked the main reasons why they decided to participate, most frequently alumni indicated to travel/see new places, followed by to meet/get to know new people, because of an interest in sports, and to learn new things/skills. As stated by one former NWT Youth Ambassador: "Getting to travel was a huge part of it. [And] connecting with other like-minded people."





2. Lessons Learned from Participation

When asked about what they had learned or skills gained through their participation in the program, alumni frequently mentioned gaining communication skills: "I was raised in a small community and there is not a lot of communication. [NWT] Youth Ambassadors helped me with my communication skills. When I first started, I didn't talk much, but I saw the other youth and

It helped me to be confident. Making friends made me feel that there was no point to being shy. that helped. It's a skill you need for many jobs." This was echoed by a number of those interviewed, who mentioned that workshops on communication skills, voice projection, and body language helped them acquire skills needed to feel more comfortable communicating in a group.

Fostering leadership skills was also frequently mentioned as something that participants gained through their participation: "It [NWT YAP] made me want to make a difference in my community and be a positive role model." Even those who described themselves as leaders

previous to their participation in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program believed their involvement fostered their leadership and further motivated them to continue as role models in their communities.

If I hadn't done this, I wouldn't have known that I was a leader.

Participants also spoke of the personal growth that had resulted from their experiences as a NWT Youth Ambassador: "It [NWT YAP] tests your potential and you learn to challenge yourself. It helps open your mind to possibilities and makes you realize that you have potential you didn't think you had." Fostering a desire for travel and new experiences was also mentioned as resulting from program participation.

Others appreciated the rules set out by the program, feeling the communication of expectations was clear and that "They were strict but it taught me discipline." However, this was not shared by all those interviewed: "I get where they are coming from with having to be strict, but I would have like it to be more flexible with older [NWT] Youth Ambassadors. They could mentor the younger ones."

The whole trajectory of my life would be different [if I hadn't been part of NWT YAP]. It set me on a whole new path. It gave me a lot of direction of what I wanted to do and how to use my schooling. Before that, I was lost in university and home life and didn't have a lot of direction.

One individual spoke of how involvement in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program affected his/her lifestyle: "The program shows you that you can be sober or smoke-free." Another spoke of her/his continuing to eat healthy and exercise as a result of her/his participation: "I promote healthy eating in my community."

Finally, those involved in NWT Youth Ambassador Program mentioned the impact the program had on their sense of identity and culture: "I was blown away by the positivity of the youth. Seeing young people excited about their culture and wanting to

share it... [NWT] Youth Ambassadors helped me to better communicate where I am from." Another NWT Youth Ambassador, who was from a small community, mentioned that the



program also helped him/her by providing a city life experience: "It opened my eyes to how big the world is and that there is always something different to explore. [If I had not participated] I probably would not have been prepared to life down South and so far away from home."

3. Program Strengths and Suggestions for Improvement

A suggestion would be to make it an Ambassador program and not a Youth Ambassador program. It could bring together one youth and one elder in the community to help mentor. They could volunteer and work together. It would bridge the generation gap between youth and elders and would have a greater impact on the North and foster more being done in communities. I realize that it would need an increased budget, but I think this could be a good thing.

Generally, those interviews were very positive about the NWT Youth Ambassador Program and the experiences they had. Most indicated that it had been important to them and that they had learned and grown as a result. A number of those interviewed mentioned the importance of NWT YAP staff. They were described as great or terrific: "The supervisors want to bring out the best in you."

Participants appreciated the opportunity to travel outside of their communities and outside the Territory, as well as making connections with other youth. One individual mentioned that the program did well in building on participants particular interests and incorporating these into the program whenever possible.

Although NWT YAP alumni were very positive about the program, eight offered suggestions for possible program improvement. These included:

- More outreach and recruitment in smaller communities in order to have more participation from smaller communities;
- More advertising and promotion of the program;
- More events in circumpolar regions such as Greenland where participants can connect with other Northern youth; "meeting with other youth makes it a more powerful experience;"
- Better communication between training sessions and events: "After training events, we were so excited. Then there was a lull for a few months and that excitement dwindled. Maybe we could have talked monthly;"
- More flexibility in dealing with older and younger youth;
- Having older NWT Youth Ambassadors take on a stronger mentoring role for younger participants; and,
- More choice for NWT Youth Ambassadors regarding the events in which they can participate.



4. Alumni Today

NWT YAP participants indicated that experiences from the program had influenced their lives today in a variety of ways, from career choices, to assuming leadership roles, to becoming a more confident person. One participant who was working in sport/recreation in NWT mentioned that she/he believed that experiencing major event 'behind the scenes' influenced his/her career choice. A second NWT YAP alumnus echoed this by saying; "I am

I probably wouldn't be in the North [if I hadn't been part of NWT YAP]. I want to be part of future Arctic Winter Games, and I need to be here to do this. I would probably be in the South.

still working in the service sector in my community. I am using my skills and [NWT] Youth Ambassadors was a big contributor to where I am now. It gave me the confidence and the service skills. As a volunteer, I opened a youth centre and it turned into a job. Now, I run the department." Becoming less shy and more confident was mentioned by a number of alumni.

Others spoke of the connections and networking that resulted from their participation and how this was still a part of their lives today: "All the people I met still encourage me and are supporting me. I know people that I can relate to." They spoke of knowing individuals across the Territory as a result of NWT YAP and have continued to foster this networking: "After I was in [NWT] Youth Ambassadors, I was invited to municipal meetings in Yellowknife. I had learned that I needed to put myself out there. Youth these days are in a bubble and they don't reach out. We need to get youth involved in these things because it is what they need."

Many alumni mentioned they were involved in various leadership activities and attributed this to their participation in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Becoming part of the 2018 Arctic Winter Games, either as a competitor or on the organizing committee, was mentioned by a couple of alumni. Another mentioned being part of an international exchange program which was "a direct result of the [NWT] Youth Ambassador Program." Others spoke of working in sport and recreation and being involved in Dene games in various capacities: "I think I am an alumnus that has come full circle. I work in sport and know so much about Dene games, my culture, and where I come from." Being community leaders was mentioned by a number of those interviewed. One individual gave an example of community leadership: "I have done a lot of research on sugar and the big problems it has created in our communities. The youth now buy water rather than pop or Gatorade."

A number of the alumni concluded their interview with comments about the opportunities that the program had provided, how they would recommend the program to others, and how they wish the NWT Youth Ambassador Program will continue in the NWT.

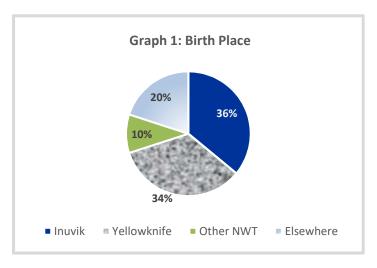
[NWT] Youth Ambassador Program is a great program and I hope it continues and that it was as successful for others as it was for me. I appreciate all the opportunities I had through Youth Ambassadors.



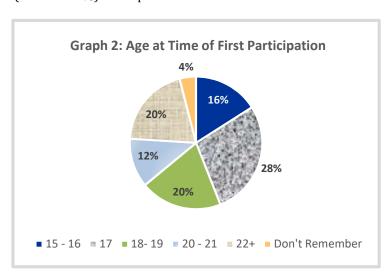
D. Youth Participant Survey⁴

1. Respondent Characteristics

Of the 50 respondents, 82% (n=41) were currently living in the NWT. The largest number were currently living in Yellowknife (n=12 or 24%), followed by a community in South Slave (n=8 or 16%). When asked where they were born, the largest proportion were from Inuvik (n=18 or 36%), followed by Yellowknife (n=17 or 34%) (Graph 1).



Respondents were most likely to have been 17 years old when they first participated in the program (n=14 or 28%). Four percent did not remember.



When asked in which events they had participated, the most often cited were the 2014 Arctic Winter Games (n=12), the 2016 Arctic Winter Games (n=10), and the 2015 Pan American Games (n=8) as well as the 2015 Pan Am/Para Pan Am Games – Training (n=8). As 125 events were cited; many respondents participated in more than one event.



⁴ Detailed survey results are found in the Appendix.

2. Reasons for Participation

The top reason for participation in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program which was given by over half the respondents was to "travel/see new places" (n=31 or 62%) (Table 5).

Table 5 Top Five Reasons for Participation (n=50)				
Reasons # %				
Travel/see new places	31	62%		
Meet/get to know new people	22	44%		
Volunteer/continue volunteering	21	42%		
Represent my community/the NWT	19	38%		
Learn about other people/cultures	14	28%		

When asked, what was the most memorable things about participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program, the most frequent response was also "seeing/experiencing new places" (n=35).

Table 6 Top Five Most Memorable Things (n=50)			
Reasons	#	%	
Seeing/experiencing new places	35	70%	
Meeting/getting to know other NWT Youth Ambassador participants	27	54%	
Learning about other peoples/cultures	23	46%	
Telling others about the Northwest Territories	19	38%	
Meeting/getting to know people from places outside the NWT	16	32%	





3. Impact of Participation

A series of questions were asked regarding what changed for youth as a result of their participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. While many changes were identified by respondents, the most frequent was that participation increased their pride being a Northerner (n=47 or 94%) (Table 7).

Table 7 Change to a 'Great/Moderate Extent' (n=50)			
Changes	#	%	
Increased my pride in being a Northerner	47	94%	
Made me want to be a role model for young people	44	88%	
Made me more open to new experiences (e.g., travel)	44	88%	
Gained/enhanced my leadership skills	42	84%	
Improved speaking/communication skills	41	82%	
Helped me know how to present myself (e.g., in a job interview)	41	82%	
Gained understanding of other cultures and peoples (e.g., persons with disabilities)	40	80%	
Gained knowledge about the North (e.g., culture, games)	40	80%	
Made me less shy.	40	80%	
Increased my confidence.	39	78%	
Increased my interest in volunteering.	39	78%	
Increased my skills (e.g., being on time).	37	74%	
Made me more independent.	36	72%	
Gave me a sense of hope for the future.	34	68%	
Helped me make healthy lifestyle choices (e.g., smoke free, alcohol free)	32	64%	
Helped me with mental wellness (e.g., less depressed, less anxious)	30	60%	

Five respondents indicated that something else had changed for them, two reporting that the experience had made them "stronger." One respondent talked about how it had built her/his courage.

It helped build my courage. I've traveled my whole life; living in many different provinces since I was seven, but I've never had the opportunity to travel and experience with peers. Since the [NWT] Youth Ambassador Program, I've traveled to China with friends, worked in the Bahamas for a month, road tripped to the United States with friends and I continue to want to see and experience new places and things. The [NWT] Youth Ambassador program has been the foundation to this new dream I made.



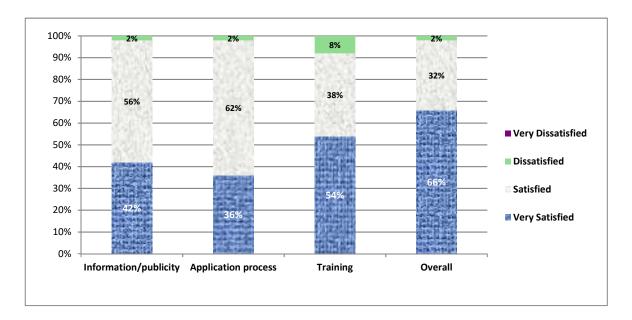
4. Suggestions for Improvement

Twelve respondents had suggestions for improvement. (All suggestions are found in the Appendix.) Two suggestions involved being consistent in enforcing the rules and two involved ensuring the chaperones were fully invested in the program. Another suggestion concerned rules regarding attendance at trainings for students who were in post-secondary program outside the NWT and found it difficult to participate in training as a result. If they had previously experienced training, it was felt there should be some flexibility. Another specific suggestion was:

Establish a program that involves both youth and elders in a cultural camp on reviving the Dene cultural practices and language development. Eventually include other youth who suffer from family violence and alcohol abuse, and possible attempted suicide.

5. Satisfaction with the NWT Youth Ambassador Program

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction in a number of areas. In all areas, satisfaction was high (Graph 3). Two-thirds were 'very satisfied' overall. No one was very dissatisfied with any aspect of the program.





6. Final Comments

Many respondents provided final comments or thoughts about the program, the vast majority of which were positive, calling the program "amazing," "valuable," "outstanding," "a great experience," and the "awesome-est program out there for youth." (All comments are found in the Appendix.) Some respondents took the time reflect deeply on the power of the experience.

I've also developed knowledge and wisdom beyond my years, like a wise man would sit you down, explaining how the world works and what to be proud of.... All it takes is a single individual to realize, drinking and following the footsteps of generations older than us kids, that, the ones who have been affected by the Residential School era, were the ones who have faced many abuses. Therefore, [they] have resorted to alcohol consumption to numb and forget their "pain." But that doesn't mean we, younger generations have to follow our friends, parents, relatives, and grandparents, in the path of causing mental and emotional pain to ourselves, with indulging alcohol, just because they have gone through that era of horrific and forever haunting abuse. Our parents and other children's parents, who have been forced into Residential School have suffered and dealt that amount of terrifying abuse, so that we kids, a new generation, can live to see a better tomorrow, and a better future. So, I encourage to have this message be read and reviewed, over and over, for as long as my message can reach. That men, women, youths, of all ages, of skin color, both Dene and Inuit, as well as other Indigenous cultural ethnicity. YOU! Are not alone. You only suffer of your past, because we allow it to control how feel, how we think. I hope this message will help those who are desperately trying to eliminate alcohol from their life. I [name], a young native boy, does not drink. A young native boy who accepts the fact, I carry my stories of abuse too, but I do not resort to alcohol to numb my pain. Thank you, [NWT Youth] Ambassador officials, for allowing me to be a part of a well-established and rising program. With your encouragement to have me be a part of your team.





In Summary

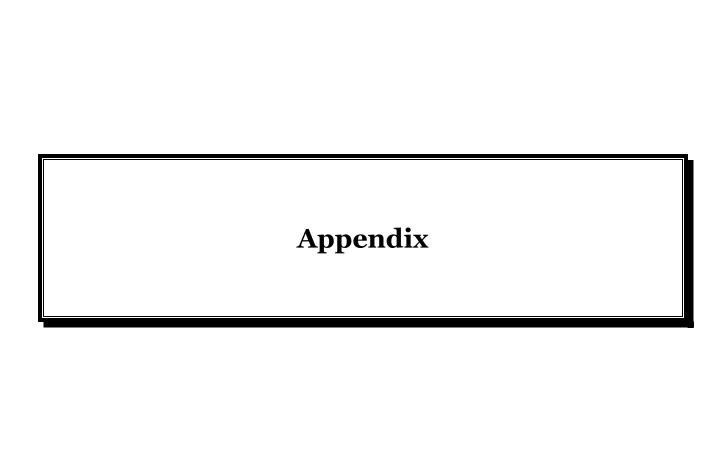
In summary, the NWT Youth Ambassador Program was not only highly valued by former participants, but was also life changing for many former NWT Youth Ambassadors. Key findings from the evaluation include:

- In terms of the Most Significant Change, the 642 reported changes related to the two key program outcomes; personal growth (59%) and healthier choices (41%). The three single most often cited dealt with the opportunity to have new experiences/expand one's horizons/ opened doors to new experiences (n=72), cultural learning/development (n=68), and meeting new people/creating new positive friendships (n=62).
- The interviews with alumni confirmed that former NWT Youth Ambassadors had gained confidence, developed communication skills, acquired leadership skills, supported their personal growth, promoted healthy lifestyles, and enhanced their sense of identity and culture. They identified many ways that participation in the program had influenced their life choices.
- Many of these sentiments were echoed in the survey responses. Former NWT Youth Ambassadors again reported how participating in the program had changed them in multiple ways. Interestingly, the most frequent (94%) was increased pride in being a Northerner suggesting that the NWT Youth Ambassador Program is a support to the NWT's population growth strategy. Respondents also expressed extremely high satisfaction with the program.

I was battling through a dark period of depression, feeling a sense of worthlessness and confusion. As the days rolled by I started to genuinely smile and laugh for the first time is a while. The first supper together... I felt joy hearing [speaker] being able to make different sounds for each Northern animal reminding me of my childhood on the land... If it wasn't for this opportunity I would still be in a dark place of uncertainty and angst. I thank every one of you for this opportunity.







GUIDE FOR READING FREQUENCIES EXAMPLE

Q4 In which type of program do you currently teach/ work the majority of the time?

		1	2	Valid 3	Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent ²	Percent ³	Percent ⁴
Valid	English	5274	84.4	85.0	85.0
	French	247	4.0	4.0	89.0
	French Immersion - Single				
	Track	300	4.8	4.8	93.8
	French Immersion - Dual				
	Track	215	3.4	3.5	97.3
	Other Program	167	2.7	2.7	100.0
	Total ^{* 5}	6203	99.3	100.0	
Missing	System	46	0.7		
Total**		6249	100.0		

¹ **FREQUENCY** refers to the number of people answering the question. In the above question, for example, the majority of respondents (5274) indicated that they teach/ work in an English program.

² **PERCENT** refers to the percentage of people answering the question INCLUDING missing responses.

³ VALID PERCENT does *not* consider missing responses. Data analysis uses VALID PERCENT more frequently than PERCENT.

⁴ **CUMULATIVE PERCENT** is the combined percentages of the valid percent column. To calculate a **CUMULATIVE PERCENT**, you use the following formula: the Cumulative percent for the current row equals the valid percent for the current row, plus the cumulative percent for the previous row.

⁵ **Total*** refers to the total number of valid responses to this question (not including the number of responses that are missing). In contrast, the **Total**** **on the bottom line** refers to the total number of respondents who filled out the questionnaire.

Using the above example, a Total* of **6203** (**99.3%**) respondents answered this question, while a Total** of **6249** (**100%**) respondents answered this questionnaire. This indicates that, for whatever reason, **46** respondents chose NOT to answer the above question.



This is the 10th anniversary of the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. We are asking for your help so we can understand the impact of the NWT Youth Ambassador Program on youth who have been involved in the program over the past 10 years.

We want to know if you were satisfied with your experiences in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program and what effect, if any, participation had on you. It is hoped the information will help the Government of the Northwest Territories understand the impact of this program.

The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete.

Please be sure to complete all questions. Then click/touch the **'Submit'** button to proceed to the next page. The survey will not allow you to continue without ALL questions completed. A **red error statement** will appear at the top of the page with the question number you have missed.

Please use the 'Back' button at the bottom of the page only. Do not hit the 'Enter' or 'Return' key on your keyboard - please use 'Tab' or move your cursor to the next available box or question.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

If you have any technical questions about the survey, please contact Andrew Lyons at evaluate@proactive.mb.ca. If you have any questions about this study, feel to contact Mellissa (Mellissa Wood@gov.nt.ca) or Dawn (Dawn Moses@gov.nt.ca) at the Youth Ambassador Program.

Submit



1.	Where	do	you	currently	live?
----	-------	----	-----	-----------	-------

C Yellowknife	C A community in Deh Cho
C Another community in North Slave	C A community in South Slave
C Inuvik	C Elsewhere in Canada
C Another community in Beaufort Delta	Somewhere C else > Where?
C A community in Sahtu	
2. Where were you born?	
○ Yellowknife	○ A community in Deh Cho
 Another community in North Slave 	C A community in South Slave
Another community in North SlaveInuvik	A community in South SlaveElsewhere in Canada
·	·
○ Inuvik	C Elsewhere in Canada Somewhere C else >
InuvikAnother community in Beaufort Delta	C Elsewhere in Canada Somewhere C else >

Back



			Nord-Ouest
what Youth Ar	mbassador even	t(s) did you parti	cipate? Click all that apply.
2016 Associations of Communities AGM	2014 NA Indigenous Games	NWT Tourism □ (Los Angeles or Japan)	☐ 2008 NA Indigenous Games
2016 Arctic Winter Games	2014 Arctic Winter Games	2011-2012 Training Event	☐ 2008 NA Indigenous Games - Trainin
2016 Arctic Winter Games - Training	2013-2014 □ Training Event	□ 2011 Royal Visit	☐ 2008 Arctic Winter Games
2015 Parapan American Games	2013 Canada Summer Games	2010 ☐ Vancouver Paralympics	☐ 2008 Arctic Winter Games - Training
2015 Pan American Games	□ 2013 Winterlude	2010 □ Vancouver Olympics	☐ 2007 Canada Winter Games
2015 Pan/Para Pan Am - Training	2012-2013 Training Event	2009-2010 Training Event	☐ 2007 Canada Winter Games - Trainin
2015 Winterlude	2012 Ministers Conference	2009 Circumpolar Games	Something else?
2014 Circumpolar Northern Games	2012 Arctic Winter Games	2009 Volunteer Summit	☐ Don't remember/don't know
t do you remer	mber most?		
•			*·

Submit



4. How old were you at the time you <u>firs</u> Program?	st participated in the NWT Youth Ambassador
C 15 years old C 16 years old C 16 years old C 17 years old C 18 years old C 21 years old C 22 years old C 22 years old S. What were the most important reaso Youth Ambassador Program? Click up Travel/see new places Learn new things/new skills	 23 years old 24 years old 25 years old Don't Remember ns you first decided to participate in the NWT to THREE reasons. Learn about other peoples/cultures Someone encouraged me to participate
 Meet/get to know new people □ Volunteer/continue volunteering □ Interested in sports □ Represent my community/the NWT 	Build my self-confidence/become less shy Something else: Don't know/don't remember hgs about participating in the NWT Youth
☐ Seeing/experiencing new places ☐ Learning about other peoples/cultures ☐ Meeting/getting to know people from places outside the NWT ☐ Meeting/getting to know the other Youth Ambassador participants ☐ Watching the sporting events	Demonstrating Dene and Inuit games Telling others about the Northwest Territories Something else: Don't know/don't remember
	Submit



7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to what extent each changed for you.

extent each changed for you.				
	To a Great Extent	To a Moderate Extent	To a Limited Extent	Not At All
a. Made me less shy.	0	0	0	\circ
b. Made me more open to new experiences (e.g., travel).	0	0	0	C
c. Improved speaking/communication skills.	0	\circ	\circ	\circ
d. Increased my confidence.	0	0	0	0
e. Gained/enhanced my leadership skills.	0	0	0	\circ
f. Gained knowledge about the North (e.g. culture, games).	0	0	0	0
g. Gained understanding of other cultures and peoples (e.g. persons with disabilities).	0	0	0	C
h. Helped me know how to present myself (e.g. in job interviews).	0	0	0	C
i. Helped me make healthy lifestyle choices (e.g. smoke free, alcohol free).	0	0	0	C
j. Helped me with my mental wellness (e.g., less depressed, less anxious).	0	0	0	0
k. Increased my interest in volunteering.	0	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ
l. Made me want to be a role model for other young people.	0	0	0	0
m. Increased my pride in being a Northerner.	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc	\circ
n. Made me more independent.	0	0	0	0
o. Gave me a sense of hope for the future.	0	0	0	\circ
p. Increased my life skills (e.g. being on time).	0	0	0	0
q. Something else: What?		^		

Submit	
Back	



8.	Is there anything the NWT	Youth Ambassador Program	could do to improve the
ex	perience?	_	

Yes > What would have improved your experience? No Not Sure				*
9. How satisfied were you with:	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
a. Information/publicity about the progran	n C	0	\circ	C
b. The application process	\circ	\circ	0	C
c. The training	\circ	\circ	0	C
d. Your overall experience	0	0	\circ	0
f you were dissatisfied, please explain	n.			A
	Submit			



10. Please use the s Ambassador Progr	space provided for any final comments you am.	u have about the NWT Youth
		^
		Ψ'
	Submit	
	Back	

Youth Ambassador - Web Survey - Overall Results

1. Where do you currently live?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yellowknife	12	24.0	24.0	24.0
	Inuvik	5	10.0	10.0	34.0
	Another community in Beaufort Delta	7	14.0	14.0	48.0
	A community in Sahtu	4	8.0	8.0	56.0
	A community in Deh Cho	5	10.0	10.0	66.0
	A community in South Slave	8	16.0	16.0	82.0
	Elsewhere in Canada	8	16.0	16.0	98.0
	Somewhere else > Where?	1	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

2. Where were you born?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yellowknife	17	34.0	34.0	34.0
	Another community in North Slave	1	2.0	2.0	36.0
	Inuvik	18	36.0	36.0	72.0
	A community in Deh Cho	1	2.0	2.0	74.0
	A community in South Slave	3	6.0	6.0	80.0
	Elsewhere in Canada	6	12.0	12.0	92.0
	Somewhere else > Where?	4	8.0	8.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

2. Where were you born?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid		46	92.0	92.0	92.0
	Amherst, Nova Scotia	1	2.0	2.0	94.0
	Asia	1	2.0	2.0	96.0
	Iqaluit	1	2.0	2.0	98.0
	Zimbabwe	1	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

3. In what Youth Ambassador event(s) did you participate? Click all that apply.

		Re	sponses	
		N	Percent	Percent of Cases
Event	2016 Associations of Communities AGM	1	.8%	2.0%
	2016 Arctic Winter Games	10	8.0%	20.0%
	2016 Arctic Winter Games - Training	6	4.8%	12.0%
	2015 Parapan American Games	5	4.0%	10.0%
	2015 Pan American Games	8	6.4%	16.0%
	2015 Pan/Para Pan Am - Training	8	6.4%	16.0%
	2015 Winterlude	4	3.2%	8.0%
	2014 Circumpolar Northern Games	2	1.6%	4.0%
	2014 NA Indigenous Games	7	5.6%	14.0%
	2014 Arctic Winter Games	12	9.6%	24.0%
	2013-2014 Training Event	8	6.4%	16.0%
	2013 Canada Summer Games	3	2.4%	6.0%
	2013 Winterlude	6	4.8%	12.0%
	2012-2013 Training Event	3	2.4%	6.0%
	2012 Ministers Conference	2	1.6%	4.0%
	2012 Arctic Winter Games	3	2.4%	6.0%
	NWT Tourism Los Angeles or Japan	1	.8%	2.0%
	2011-2012 Training Event	2	1.6%	4.0%
	2011 Royal Visit	2	1.6%	4.0%
	2010 Vancouver Paralympics	3	2.4%	6.0%
	2010 Vancouver Olympics	4	3.2%	8.0%
	2009-2010 Training Event	4	3.2%	8.0%
	2009 Circumpolar Games	1	.8%	2.0%
	2008 NA Indigenous Games	4	3.2%	8.0%
	2008 NA Indigenous Games - Training	2	1.6%	4.0%

3. In what Youth Ambassador event(s) did you participate? Click all that apply.

		Responses		
		N	Percent	Percent of Cases
Event	2008 Arctic Winter Games	2	1.6%	4.0%
	2008 Arctic Winter Games - Training	2	1.6%	4.0%
	2007 Canada Winter Games	5	4.0%	10.0%
	2007 Canada Winter Games – Training	4	3.2%	8.0%
	Something else?	1	.8%	2.0%
Total		125	100.0%	250.0%

a. Group

4. How old were you at the time you first participated in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent		
Valid	15 years old	3	6.0	6.0	6.0		
	16 years old	5	10.0	10.0	16.0		
	17 years old	14	28.0	28.0	44.0		
	18 years old	7	14.0	14.0	58.0		
	19 years old	3	6.0	6.0	64.0		
	20 years old	3	6.0	6.0	70.0		
	21 years old	3	6.0	6.0	76.0		
	22 years old	4	8.0	8.0	84.0		
	23 years old	4	8.0	8.0	92.0		
	24 years old	2	4.0	4.0	96.0		
	Dont Remember	2	4.0	4.0	100.0		
	Total	50	100.0	100.0			

5. What were the most important reasons you first decided to participate in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program? Click up to THREE reasons.

		Responses		
		N	Percent	Percent of Cases
Reasons	Travel/see new places	31	21.7%	62.0%
	Learn new things/new skills	8	5.6%	16.0%
	Meet/get to know new people	22	15.4%	44.0%
	Volunteer/continue volunteering		14.7%	42.0%
	Interested in sports	8	5.6%	16.0%
	Represent my community/the NWT	19	13.3%	38.0%
	Learn about other peoples/cultures	14	9.8%	28.0%
	Someone encouraged me to participate	7	4.9%	14.0%
	Build my self-confidence/become less shy	12	8.4%	24.0%
	Something else:	1	.7%	2.0%
Total		143	100.0%	286.0%

a. Group

6. Which were the most memorable things about participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program? Click up to THREE reasons.

		Responses		
		N	Percent	Percent of Cases
Things	Seeing/experiencing new places	35	24.5%	70.0%
	Learning about other peoples/cultures	23	16.1%	46.0%
	Meeting/getting to know people from places outside the NWT	16	11.2%	32.0%
	Meeting/getting to know the other Youth Ambassador particip	27	18.9%	54.0%
	Watching the sporting events	8	5.6%	16.0%
	Demonstrating Dene and Inuit games	15	10.5%	30.0%
	Telling others about the Northwest Territories	19	13.3%	38.0%
Total		143	100.0%	286.0%

a. Group

a. Made me less shy.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	11	22.0	22.0	22.0
	To a Moderate Extent	29	58.0	58.0	80.0
	To a Limited Extent	8	16.0	16.0	96.0
	Not At All	2	4.0	4.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

b. Made me more open to new experiences (e.g., travel). $\begin{tabular}{lll} I & & | & | \\ & & | & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ & | \\ &$

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	19	38.0	38.0	38.0
	To a Moderate Extent	25	50.0	50.0	88.0
	To a Limited Extent	4	8.0	8.0	96.0
	Not At All	2	4.0	4.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

${\it c.\ lmproved\ speaking/communication\ skills.}$

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	17	34.0	34.0	34.0
	To a Moderate Extent	24	48.0	48.0	82.0
	To a Limited Extent	7	14.0	14.0	96.0
	Not At All	2	4.0	4.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

d. Increased my confidence.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	17	34.0	34.0	34.0
	To a Moderate Extent	22	44.0	44.0	78.0
	To a Limited Extent	9	18.0	18.0	96.0
	Not At All	2	4.0	4.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

e. Gained/enhanced my leadership skills.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	16	32.0	32.0	32.0
	To a Moderate Extent	26	52.0	52.0	84.0
	To a Limited Extent	7	14.0	14.0	98.0
	Not At All	1	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

f. Gained knowledge about the North (e.g. culture, games).

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	21	42.0	42.0	42.0
	To a Moderate Extent	19	38.0	38.0	80.0
	To a Limited Extent	9	18.0	18.0	98.0
	Not At All	1	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

g. Gained understanding of other cultures and peoples (e.g. persons with disabilities).

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	16	32.0	32.0	32.0
	To a Moderate Extent	24	48.0	48.0	80.0
	To a Limited Extent	8	16.0	16.0	96.0
	Not At All	2	4.0	4.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

h. Helped me know how to present myself (e.g. in job interviews).

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	13	26.0	26.0	26.0
	To a Moderate Extent	28	56.0	56.0	82.0
	To a Limited Extent	6	12.0	12.0	94.0
	Not At All	3	6.0	6.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

i. Helped me make healthy lifestyle choices (e.g. smoke free, alcohol free).

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	14	28.0	28.0	28.0
	To a Moderate Extent	18	36.0	36.0	64.0
	To a Limited Extent	12	24.0	24.0	88.0
	Not At All	6	12.0	12.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

j. Helped me with my mental wellness (e.g., less depressed, less anxious).

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	13	26.0	26.0	26.0
	To a Moderate Extent	17	34.0	34.0	60.0
	To a Limited Extent	10	20.0	20.0	80.0
	Not At All	10	20.0	20.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

k. Increased my interest in volunteering.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	25	50.0	50.0	50.0
	To a Moderate Extent	14	28.0	28.0	78.0
	To a Limited Extent	8	16.0	16.0	94.0
	Not At All	3	6.0	6.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

I. Made me want to be a role model for other young people.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	25	50.0	50.0	50.0
	To a Moderate Extent	19	38.0	38.0	88.0
	To a Limited Extent	4	8.0	8.0	96.0
	Not At All	2	4.0	4.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

m. Increased my pride in being a Northerner.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	33	66.0	66.0	66.0
	To a Moderate Extent	14	28.0	28.0	94.0
	To a Limited Extent	2	4.0	4.0	98.0
	Not At All	1	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

n. Made me more independent.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	22	44.0	44.0	44.0
	To a Moderate Extent	14	28.0	28.0	72.0
	To a Limited Extent	8	16.0	16.0	88.0
	Not At All	6	12.0	12.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

o. Gave me a sense of hope for the future.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	21	42.0	42.0	42.0
	To a Moderate Extent	13	26.0	26.0	68.0
	To a Limited Extent	12	24.0	24.0	92.0
	Not At All	4	8.0	8.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

p. Increased my life skills (e.g. being on time).

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	To a Great Extent	18	36.0	36.0	36.0
	To a Moderate Extent	19	38.0	38.0	74.0
	To a Limited Extent	9	18.0	18.0	92.0
	Not At All	4	8.0	8.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

8. Is there anything the NWT Youth Ambassador Program could do to improve the experience?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes > What would have improved your experience?	12	24.0	24.0	24.0
	No	15	30.0	30.0	54.0
	Not Sure	23	46.0	46.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

a. Information/publicity about the program

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Satisfied	21	42.0	42.0	42.0
	Satisfied	28	56.0	56.0	98.0
	Dissatisfied	1	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

b. The application process

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Satisfied	18	36.0	36.0	36.0
	Satisfied	31	62.0	62.0	98.0
	Dissatisfied	1	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

c. The training

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Satisfied	27	54.0	54.0	54.0
	Satisfied	19	38.0	38.0	92.0
	Dissatisfied	4	8.0	8.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

d. Your overall experience

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very Satisfied	33	66.0	66.0	66.0
	Satisfied	16	32.0	32.0	98.0
	Dissatisfied	1	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	50	100.0	100.0	

7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to what extent each changed for you.

			Total Responses
a. Made me less shy.	To a Great Extent	Count	11
, .		Column N %	22%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	29
		Column N %	58%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	40
		Column N %	80%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	8
		Column N %	16%
	Not At All	Count	2
		Column N %	4%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
b. Made me more open to	To a Great Extent	Count	19
new experiences (e.		Column N %	38%
g., travel).	To a Moderate Extent	Count	25
		Column N %	50%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	44
		Column N %	88%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	4
		Column N %	8%
	Not At All	Count	2
		Column N %	4%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to what extent each changed for you.

			Total Responses
c. Improved speaking/comm	To a Great Extent	Count	17
unication skills.		Column N %	34%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	24
		Column N %	48%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	41
		Column N %	82%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	7
		Column N %	14%
	Not At All	Count	2
		Column N %	4%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
d. Increased my confidence.	To a Great Extent	Count	17
		Column N %	34%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	22
	LAGIR	Column N %	44%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	39
		Column N %	78%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	9
		Column N %	18%
	Not At All	Count	2
		Column N %	4%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to what extent each changed for you.

			Total Responses
e. Gained/enhance	To a Great Extent	Count	16
d my leadership skills.		Column N %	32%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	26
		Column N %	52%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	42
		Column N %	84%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	7
		Column N %	14%
	Not At All	Count	1
		Column N %	2%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
f. Gained knowledge	To a Great Extent	Count	21
about the North (e.g. culture,		Column N %	42%
games).	To a Moderate Extent	Count	19
		Column N %	38%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	40
		Column N %	80%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	9
		Column N %	18%
	Not At All	Count	1
		Column N %	2%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to what extent each changed for you.

			Total Responses
g. Gained understanding of other cultures and	To a Great Extent	Count	16
		Column N %	32%
peoples (e.g. persons with	To a Moderate Extent	Count	24
disabilities).		Column N %	48%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	40
		Column N %	80%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	8
	Not At All	Column N %	16%
	Not At All	Count	2
		Column N %	4%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
h. Helped me know how to	To a Great Extent	Count	13
present myself (e.g. in job		Column N %	26%
interviews).	To a Moderate Extent	Count	28
		Column N %	56%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	41
		Column N %	82%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	6
		Column N %	12%
	Not At All	Count	3
		Column N %	6%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to what extent each changed for you.

			Total Responses
i. Helped me make healthy	To a Great Extent	Count	14
lifestyle choices (e.g.		Column N %	28%
smoke free, alcohol free).	To a Moderate Extent	Count	18
		Column N %	36%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	32
		Column N %	64%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	12
		Column N %	24%
	Not At All	Count	6
		Column N %	12%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
j. Helped me with my mental	To a Great Extent	Count	13
wellness (e.g., less depressed,		Column N %	26%
less anxious).	To a Moderate Extent	Count	17
		Column N %	34%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	30
		Column N %	60%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	10
		Column N %	20%
	Not At All	Count	10
		Column N %	20%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to what extent each changed for you.

			Total Responses
k. Increased my interest in	To a Great Extent	Count	25
volunteering.		Column N %	50%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	14
		Column N %	28%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	39
	LATERI	Column N %	78%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	8
		Column N %	16%
	Not At All	Count	3
		Column N %	6%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
I. Made me want to be a role	To a Great Extent	Count	25
model for other young people.		Column N %	50%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	19
		Column N %	38%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	44
		Column N %	88%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	4
		Column N %	8%
	Not At All	Count	2
		Column N %	4%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to what extent each changed for you.

			Total Responses
m. Increased my pride in	To a Great Extent	Count	33
being a Northerner.		Column N %	66%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	14
		Column N %	28%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	47
		Column N %	94%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	2
		Column N %	4%
	Not At All	Count	1
		Column N %	2%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
n. Made me more	To a Great Extent	Count	22
independent.		Column N %	44%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	14
		Column N %	28%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	36
		Column N %	72%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	8
		Column N %	16%
	Not At All	Count	6
		Column N %	12%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to what extent each changed for you.

			Total Responses
o. Gave me a sense of hope	To a Great Extent	Count	21
for the future.		Column N %	42%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	13
		Column N %	26%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	34
		Column N %	68%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	12
		Column N %	24%
	Not At All	Count	4
		Column N %	8%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
p. Increased my life skills (e.g.	To a Great Extent	Count	18
being on time).		Column N %	36%
	To a Moderate Extent	Count	19
		Column N %	38%
	GREAT/MODERATE EXTENT	Count	37
		Column N %	74%
	To a Limited Extent	Count	9
		Column N %	18%
	Not At All	Count	4
		Column N %	8%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

9. How satisfied were you with:

			Total Responses
a. Information/pub licity about the program	Very Satisfied	Count	21
		Column N %	42%
	Satisfied	Count	28
		Column N %	56%
	SATISFACTION	Count	49
		Column N %	98%
	Dissatisfied	Count	1
		Column N %	2%
	DISSATISFACTION	Count	1
		Column N %	2%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
b. The application process	Very Satisfied	Count	18
		Column N %	36%
	Satisfied	Count	31
		Column N %	62%
	SATISFACTION	Count	49
		Column N %	98%
	Dissatisfied	Count	1
		Column N %	2%
	DISSATISFACTION	Count	1
		Column N %	2%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

9. How satisfied were you with:

			Total Responses
c. The training	Very Satisfied	Count	27
		Column N %	54%
	Satisfied	Count	19
		Column N %	38%
	SATISFACTION	Count	46
		Column N %	92%
	Dissatisfied	Count	4
		Column N %	8%
	DISSATISFACTION	Count	4
		Column N %	8%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%
d. Your overall experience	Very Satisfied	Count	33
		Column N %	66%
	Satisfied	Count	16
		Column N %	32%
	SATISFACTION	Count	49
		Column N %	98%
	Dissatisfied	Count	1
		Column N %	2%
	DISSATISFACTION	Count	1
		Column N %	2%
	Total	Count	50
		Column N %	100%

<u>Youth Ambassador Web Survey – Open Ends</u>

7. The following are a list of things that may have changed for you as a result of participating in the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Please indicate to which extent each changed for you.

q. Something else: What?

- To keep my options open for a wide variety of new skills and development in personal insecurities (shyness, trustworthiness, self challenging, etc...).
- Helped me with public speaking
- To be given the amount of autonomy that we were was very cool. I enjoyed it very much.
- The experience made me a lot stronger, meeting and talking to many people about the future and where I would see myself or what I would be doing. It made me not afraid of looking into the future and be excited of who I can be if I work hard towards it.
- It helped build my courage. I've traveled my whole life; living in many different provinces since I was seven, but I've never had the opportunity to travel and experience with peers. Since the Youth Ambassador Program I've traveled to China with friends, working in the Bahamas for a month, road tripped to the United States with friends and I continue to want to see and experience new places and things. The Youth Ambassador program had been the foundation to this new dream I made.
- 8. Is there anything the NWT Youth Ambassador Program could do to improve the experience?

Yes > What would have improved your experience?

- Perhaps find a way of working with students from the NWT that are in post-secondary outside of the territories. I know this is a group that could really benefit from the program but it is often difficult for these students to participate because YAP is inflexible about certain things. For example, everyone has to attend the training that happens during the semester, even if the student had already done the training previous years.
- The chaperones were not at all happy about sharing a living space with us rather than having their own rooms and it definitely showed. Some of them were quite rude and unreasonable to my friends and I, and they are the main reason I do not wish to participate in the program again.
- Have a better system for choosing the chaperones. There were some that were evidently more invested in the program than others.
- Hold the problem at different events. Or have a mentorship program for new youth.

- Be more open minded about certain things, and if you're not allowed on your phone, it should work both ways not only for the ambassadors, it should go for the staff too. You guys taught us that we are a "team" and if you want to enforce something like this, it shouldn't only be the ambassadors. It should go for everyone, doesn't matter if it's for work.
- Just being treated more like adults and less like children, given a little more freedom so we don't feel like 5 year olds on a field trip. Given credit for the things we do right, instead of trouble for someone else's wrong doing
- Establish a program that involves both youth and elders in a cultural camp on reviving the Dene cultural practices and language development. Eventually include other youths that suffer from family violence and alcohol abuse, and possible attempted suicide.
- The Youth Ambassador Program could try to be more consistent with enforcing the rules. Some participants were allowed a lot more freedom and were late multiple times before any action was taken.
- Continue to reach out to smaller communities, Yellowknife offers endless opportunities for their youth while other communities suffer. I was also a big kid; no one built my self confidence or encouraged me while I was younger. I was insecure going into the program. If there was someway to let me know it was okay, or to help me be active so I didn't feel like a whale compared to others that would've been great too
- A bit more diverse males to even out the diverse women.
- I am 25 now and too old to apply again :(
- Put more trust into YAP to get the job done and to stay out of trouble.

9. If you were dissatisfied, please explain.

- I only put dissatisfied because there was no neutral. The first training program I attended was well put together, but after they appeared to be 'winged.'
- Most of the Youth are young adults with professional jobs; though feel like children when supervised, especially by those younger then themselves
- Some of the chaperones were MIA or more focused on their own experience than the youth's experience. The more invested chaperones always knew what was going on and those who slacked never knew what was going on.
- This was an amazing opportunity. I highly recommend this to all youth. This is such an important program for those youth who are at risk and who need support in order to become more confident and to gain very valuable life experiences from the mentors, other youth and the chaperones.

- I was sick during training in Yellowknife so I wasn't able to audition for being apart of the dance to demonstration I missed my chance and another wasn't given
- A lot of paper work to be done.
- Treated unfairly compared to other participants.
- I think there has to be some sort of leeway with the young adults and returning YAP alumni in regards to the strict rules that are put in place. to put it in perspective (and to speak from experience), often you have young adults taking time off of college to attend, ambassadors that have been living on their own for sometime, to go to a YAP event to have such a strict curfew and if you break any of the rules then your grounded. If that is the case, maybe the age limit should be lowered. Can you imagine how one would feel to be ground at 21 years old for something very minor? I mean no disrespect, I just hope that changes and that everyone (staff included) is treated with respect and is given fair rules.

10. Please use the space provided for any final comments you have about the NWT Youth Ambassador Program.

- I feel like the NWT Youth Ambassador Program is a vital program to help engage, inspire, and provided opportunities for our youth. I hope to one day still be apart of this program.
- It is a great program to participate. My experience has been fun and exciting; getting to know other cultures and traditions was a cherry on top.
- Thank you for giving NWT citizens a part of something that will stay with us for the long run.
- Colin was by far the best chaperone. He always knew the logistics of everything and made sure everyone was taken care of. He was excited about everything and made sure all the youth were taken care of.
- This was a great experience. It gives youth from all over the Northwest Territories an opportunity to connect with each other, while experiencing and learning about a new part of the world. I'm privileged to have been a part of the program- thank you!
- Had an awesome experience volunteering at any given chance and had fun doing it, the leadership skills I gained used in my life to find something that suits me and would let everyone know what an awesome the program is for anyone who wants to learn new things outside there community.
- I would like to thank everyone who has been working behind the scenes to get our youth out there, learning more about them selves. Culture, communities and country. I will always remember my first time as an ambassador, and the people I have met. Who are still my friends today. Thanks, haii and mussi Cho.

- Great program, only thing that keeps ex ambassadors from reapplying, is the fact that you keep on treating us like kids sometimes, and that really bugs people. And some of the workers got to stop with there Attitude where there like, "if you don't do as I say, I will take your phone or I will let dawn know."
- The NWT Youth Ambassadors Program was an amazing experience and I wish it was open to youth up to 30 years old.
- The supervisors were always awesome to work with, participants were willing to learn and gave me more confidence to go up to people for interviews or just to ask questions.
- Final comments would be, it's an outstanding program, a lot of connections are made, life long friendships begin, great experiences are gained, and the trips are amazingly fun.
- Again, such an amazing and valuable program. This is an extremely important program and the GNWT needs to continue to increase and maintain it's funding to the program. Personally, I have lots of experience with traveling, meeting new people, public speaking and being confident, however seeing what this experience did to the other youth is so invaluable. I met a few youth who had never been outside of the territory, let alone the country and this alone opens minds and helps these youth see so much more. The importance of this program cannot be understated. I highly recommend this program to all youth, and I wish more youth in the NWT had the opportunity to participate in this program. The only thing I can say that could be improved is to advertise more about this fantastic opportunity.
- It was a great experience, and it's good for our young youth to continue to volunteer and represent the NWT
- I believe that the workshop on public service during the 2013-2014 training event was the most useful workshop. I often think back to it and use some of the methods discussed.
- Although, I have not been in the program for youth ambassadors for awhile. It's helped me, in a sense, to prepare for the real world. Accept and be proud of where I come from. Be proud for representing not only my community, but the entire Northwest Territories. It not only helped with my communications. I've also developed knowledge and wisdom beyond my years, like a wise man would sit you down, explaining how the world works and what to be proud of. I believe I've made an affect on youth's younger than me. All it takes is a single individual to realize, drinking and following the foot steps of generations older than us kids, that the ones, who have been affected by the Residential School era, were the ones who have faced many abuse. Therefore have resorted to alcohol consumption to numb and forget their "pain." But that doesn't mean we, younger generations have to follow our friends, parents, relatives, and grandparents, in the path of causing mental and emotional pain to ourselves, with indulging alcohol, just because they have went through that era of horrific and forever haunting abuse. Our parents and other children's parents, who have been forced into residential school have suffered and dealt that amount of terrifying abuse, so that we kids, new generation can live to see a better tomorrow, and a better future. So I encourage having this message be read and reviewed, over and over, for as long as my message can reach. That men, women, youths, of all ages, of skin color, both Dene and Inuit, as well as other indigenous cultural ethnicity. YOU! Are not alone. You only suffer of

your past, because we allow it to control how feel, how we think. I hope this message will help those who are desperately trying to eliminate alcohol from their life. I, Calvin Lomen. A young native boy does not drink. A young native boy who accepts the fact, I carry my stories of abuse too, but does not resort to alcohol to numb my pain. Thank you Ambassador Officials for allowing me, Calvin Lomen, to be apart of a well established and rising program. With your encouragement to have me be apart of your team, I would have lead my life to a style of which is common around indigenous cultures. Alcohol consumption.

- I had a great experience with the program as volunteering and seeing new things and knowing that the north has opportunities for youth to do so. Just wished I didn't refuse my volunteering to the Vancouver Olympics, and then realized there will never be another chance.
- Awesome-est. opportunity out there for our youth.
- It was a fun thing to do at the time.
- Great program for Youth interested in volunteering and gaining life experiences
- I really enjoyed my time with the NWT Youth Ambassador Program. Unfortunately I was only able to participate the one year that I took a break from post-secondary studies. Due to the mandatory training and/or the event being held during the academic year I was unable to participate while I was in post-secondary studies.
- Great overall experience! For the better life-changing experience! Would do it again. (:
- Thank you again, I hope that I will be able to participate in the future events. I know many friends that applied so I hope all the best for the New Year.
- I enjoyed it and have great memories about it
- I love this program and encourage youth to experience this opportunity offered to youth across the NWT. Great volunteering experience and an excellent way to meet more people far and wide, also to experience different cultures and cities where events occur.
- I had a great time and hope that a lot more people are becoming involved in the yap program.
- The youth ambassador program is a great experience I've had fun participating in this program its fun you get to meet other participants, learn about different cultures, experience new foods, meet people from different parts of the world it really is a great program to participate in
- The YAP has given me a lot of amazing opportunities that I'm very grateful for. Thank you to the MACA staff who worked very hard to get many of us out of our communities to see parts of the world I would never otherwise have gotten to see.
- Lets all get together sometime.

- I believe that the Youth Ambassador Program is a wonderful and unique opportunity for the youth of the NWT. I have met many participants who had a lot of "first" experiences through the program (e.g., first time flying on a plane, first time traveling outside the NWT, first time coming to Yellowknife, etc.). I have been most impacted by learning about my own great northern home and sharing this pride with everyone that I have met on my travels. Even on my personal travels, I still carry this pride with me and constantly draw from my Youth Ambassador experiences in situations where I am meeting new people or exchanging stories with others. The program has already developed and improved tremendously in the last few years that I have participated and I am excited to see what is in store for the future of the program.
- It was a good experience.
- The youth ambassador program was great, the only thing is once I was done the program I was never contacted again to volunteer or help out which is something id love to do again
- As I've been saying through the survey, this program had opened me up to a vast amount of different directions in life while teaching me how important culture and sport is. The Youth Ambassador program had a great influence of everything that I'm doing now, and everything I aspire to do. Thank you.