

Project Respect: SHIFT



Preventing Youth Dating Violence by SHIFTing Culture

What is SHIFT?

The SHIFTing Culture Project (SHIFT) is a gender-based violence and teen dating violence prevention program focused on creating responsive, school-based, youth-led education and social action toward ending violence and creating positive relationships in young people's lives and communities.

SHIFT was initially co-developed through collaboration between Project Respect's adult staff and youth leaders in our Rhizome Youth Social Action Team 5 years ago. We continue to develop and adapt the program alongside youth leaders in order to remain responsive to the needs and contexts of youth and school communities.

Developed & delivered by:



In collaboration with:



**University
of Victoria**

Financial contribution from



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
publique du Canada

Project Details

Project Components

This project will test the delivery of three main program components in seven partner schools in years 2-5 of the project. In addition to programming delivered in 6 schools across our 3 public school districts, we will deliver culturally relevant programming with Indigenous students at the WSÁNEĆ Leadership Secondary School through Project Reclaim, our project partnership with Tsartlip Nation youth leaders.

The SHIFTing Culture Project is designed to support cultural shift within schools through the delivery of three program components for years 2-5 of the project:

- 1 2-part consent workshops to the student population.
- 2 An intensive 10 week youth leadership and social action training program in schools.
- 3 Training and support for teachers and school staff.

Youth Participatory Action Research

A smaller group of youth from various communities will become researchers with the project and collaborate with Project Respect staff using Youth Participatory Action Research methodologies that integrate Indigenous and decolonizing research approaches.

- 1 Youth will design and implement the evaluation of SHIFT to measure culture shift within and across schools in years 2-5 of the project
- 2 Each Spring, a group of youth from Project Respect's annual youth social action camp will analyze data that has been gathered so far and develop actions from the results.

Research Components



Research goal: To test the delivery of three main program components in seven partner schools in years 2-5 of the project. To evaluate the effectiveness of a whole school approach on culture shift within and across school communities.



Youth Participatory Action Research methodologies will be used that mirror our youth leadership program framework



Youth researchers, Project Respect program staff, and graduate students from the School of Child and Youth Care will work together to co-create the research design and tools, shape our ethics application, pilot and refine our measures and develop our data collection plan.

Emphasis on Youth Involvement



We are currently outreaching to all partner schools to invite interested youth to join the research team.



We are also outreaching to our many partner organizations serving youth disproportionately affected by dating violence who may have a vested interest in this research.



We are inviting youth leaders from current and past Project Respect projects to join the research team.



Ongoing research training is embedded throughout the process to enable new youth leader/researchers to join the project throughout the 5-year span.



Youth researchers will be actively engaged in every stage of the intervention research including design, data collection, analysis and knowledge mobilization.

Want more information?

Contact:

Elicia Loiselle

*Prevention Director, Project Respect
& Victoria Sexual Assault Centre*
(205) 383-5445 ext. 152
elicia@yesmeansyes.com

Visit our websites and social media:

