



#CriticalMentorship
#MentoringMonth

CRITICAL YOUTH MENTORSHIP

A Celebration of National Mentoring Month



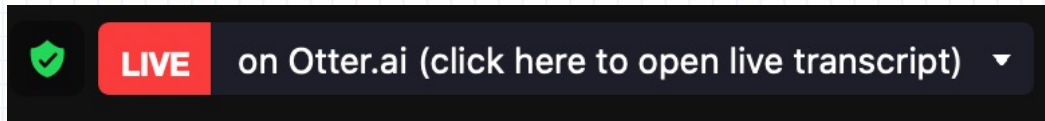
YOUTHREX
Research &
Evaluation eXchange



MENTOR
C A N A D A

Welcome

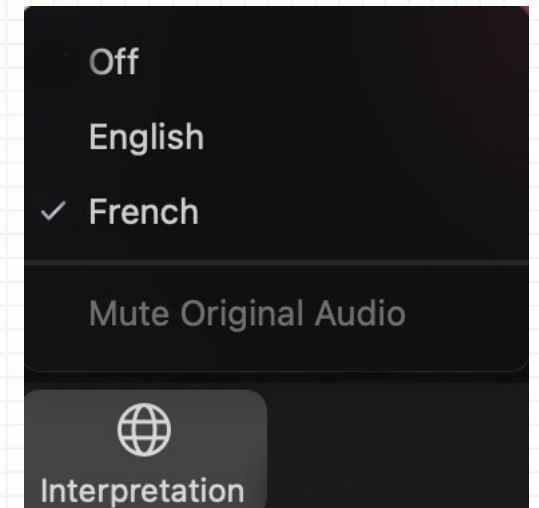
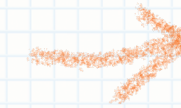
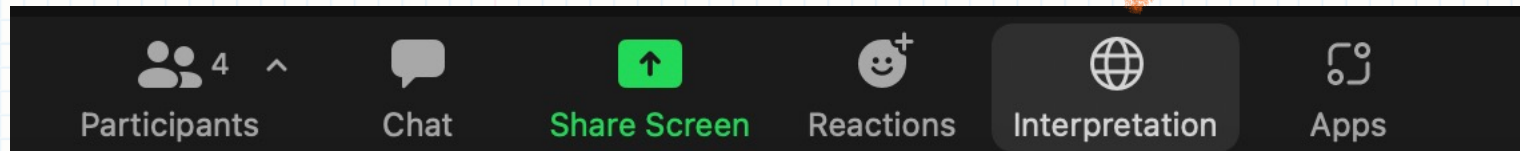
- YouthREX Team Members have YR – in front of their names. Introduce yourselves to one another in the Chat box!
- We are offering a live transcription service on Otter. Click on the button (top left) or use the link provided in the Chat box.



- Please remain muted and share questions in the Chat box.
- We will be recording this event, but we won't share recordings of questions or comments made by participants.

Traduction française en direct

- Nous vous proposons une traduction française en direct des keynotes!
- Pour y accéder, cliquez sur « **Interpretation** » dans le menu du bas, puis sur « **French** »



Land Acknowledgement

YouthREX's Provincial office is located at York University. Both YouthREX and York University acknowledge their presence on the traditional territory of many Indigenous Nations. The area known as Tkaronto has been care taken by the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Wendat, and the Métis. It is now home to many Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge the current treaty holders and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. This territory is subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to peaceably share and care for the Great Lakes region.

Source: <http://aboriginal.info.yorku.ca/>

Agenda

- 11:00am: Welcome by YouthREX
- 11:10am – 12:30pm: Part One
 - Keynote Presentation and Facilitated Q&A with Dr. Jean Rhodes:
Reflections and New Paths in Youth Mentoring
 - Spoken Word Performance by Jayda Marley (The Poet MJ)
 - Youth Program Panel on Critical Mentorship Practices
- 12:30pm – 1pm: Tools for Care with Renelyn Quinicot
- 1pm – 2pm: WELLNESS BREAK
- 2pm – 3:30pm: Part Two
 - Keynote Presentation and Facilitated Q&A with Larissa Crawford: *Decolonizing our Relationships to Mentorship and the Value of Lived Experience*
 - Spoken Word Performance by Eddie Lartey
 - Youth Program Panel on Critical Mentorship Practices
- Closing Performance
- Closing Remarks by MENTOR Canada

About YouthREX

OUR VISION

An Ontario where shared knowledge is transformed into positive impact for all youth.

OUR MISSION

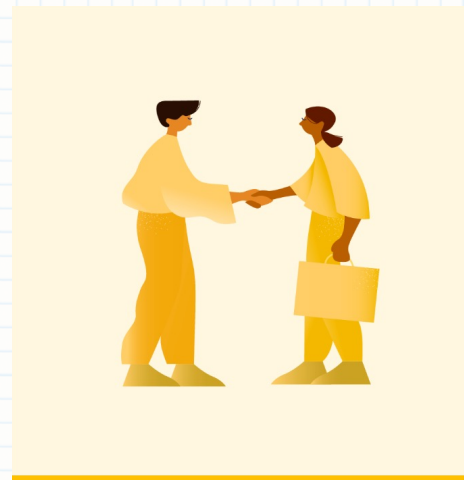
To make research evidence and evaluation accessible and relevant to Ontario's youth sector through knowledge exchange, capacity building, and evaluation leadership.



Knowledge Exchange



YouthREX ED



Youth Program Supports

Book a call to ask about our
range of FREE youth program
supports!

About MENTOR Canada



MENTOR
C A N A D A

[Mentor Canada](#) is a coalition of organizations that provide youth mentoring.

Our goal is to build sector capacity to expand access to mentoring across Canada. Our work is focused on four areas: research, technology, public education, and the development of regional networks. Mentor Canada was launched in 2019 by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada, the Alberta Mentoring Partnership, and the Ontario Mentoring Coalition. Working together, we will build sector capacity to empower every young person to fulfil their potential.

Part One

11:00am – 12:30pm



INTRO TO PART ONE



Cyril Cromwell

Learning & Development Director
YouthREX

KEYNOTE



Dr. Jean Rhodes

Frank L. Boyden Professor of Psychology
Director of the Center for Evidence-Based
Mentoring
University of Massachusetts Boston

Twitter: @RhodesLab

SPOKEN WORD



The Poet MJ (Jayda Marley)

Spoken Word Performer

IG: @thepoetmj

L.I.G.H.T. [Lead, Inspire, Grow, Hope, Transform] (GTA): About Us

- Youth-led grassroots organization that **empowers young changemakers** through leadership capacity building, advocacy, and event planning
- Three teams
 - **Solar**, whose members coordinate initiatives to address gaps in their communities
 - **Steer**, a policy advocacy committee
 - **Level Up**, a 10-month fellowship program



L.I.G.H.T. (GTA): Critical Mentorship Practices

1. Provide **safe opportunities to engage in meaningful dialogue** around race, identity, oppression, and discrimination
2. Help youth **identify strengths & opportunities for change** in their community
3. Engage adults to support youth **in taking charge of their own conditions and challenging power systems**
4. Set **clear expectations** about each person's contributions and gains
5. Engage in **adaptive communication, share values, and establish boundaries**



Thunder Bay Multicultural Association (Thunder Bay): About Us

- TBMA Youth & Mentorship Program serves **newcomer youth aged 7-29**
- Focus areas
 - Culture & Identity
 - Employment & Entrepreneurship
 - Academics
 - Recreation
 - Leadership



Thunder Bay Multicultural Association (Thunder Bay): Critical Mentorship Practices

1. Build trust with youth
2. Consider mentee goals and mentor interests for a successful match
3. Create safe spaces for youth (example: Multicultural Club)
4. Group youth with similar interests
5. Meet youth where they are at



New Beginnings (Windsor): About Us

- Youth Job Connection supports youth aged 15-29 who experience **multiple and/or complex barriers to employment**
- Provides **more intensive supports** beyond traditional job search and placement opportunities



New Beginnings (Windsor): Critical Mentorship Practices

1. Offer transportation to/from appointments
2. Advocate for youth, especially when it comes to employment
3. Provide support with mental health
4. Help youth to obtain proper identification
5. Connect and collaborate with community partners



SWAG [Success With Age and Guidance] (Peel Region): About Us

- Culturally anchored mentorship for **racialized young men** that creates safe spaces focused on strengthening identity in self and masculinity
- Allows youth to access and expand their support & social networks through:
 - Civic engagement
 - Program facilitation
 - Mentorship
 - Education
 - Community events & workshops



SWAG [Success With Age and Guidance] (Peel Region): Critical Mentorship Practices

1. Take a strength-based and culturally-anchored approach
2. Take account of lived experience in youth-led mentorship selection
3. Use a collaborative peer model



TOOLS FOR CARE



Renelyn Quinicot

Movement and Meditation Teacher

IG: @renelynquin



Wellness Break

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Part Two

2:00pm – 3:30pm



INTRO TO PART TWO



Cyril Cromwell

Learning & Development Director
YouthREX

KEYNOTE



Larissa Crawford

Founder of Future Ancestor Services

Twitter: @ancestorsfuture, @larissa_speaks

IG: @ancestorsfuture, @larissa_speaks

SPOKEN WORD



Eddie Lartey

Spoken Word Performer

Twitter: @2pacshakespeare

IG: @tupacshakespeare

Pinecrest-Queensway Community Health Centre (Ottawa): About Us

- Values of accessibility, equity, inclusion, and client-centred care
- Principles of Motivational Interviewing
- Our programs
 - Pathways to Education
 - Pathways Innovation
 - Somali Youth Support Project
 - United Sisters
 - Together We Can



PINECREST-QUEENSWAY
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Pinecrest-Queensway Community Health Centre (Ottawa): Critical Mentorship Practices

Search Institute's Developmental Relationship Principles

1. Express care
2. Challenge growth
3. Provide support
4. Share power
5. Expand possibilities



PINECREST-QUEENSWAY
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Connex Youth Mentorship (York Region): About Us

- Connex Newcomer Youth Mentorship Program was a 3-year pilot project that aimed to better address and support the needs of **newcomer high school youth**
- **School-based program** in the York Region District School Board
- Program goals
 - To better connect newcomer youth with their school and home community
 - To decrease feelings of isolation and disengagement
 - To increase feelings of wellbeing



Connex Youth Mentorship (York Region): Critical Mentorship Practices

1. Assume nothing
2. Engage the youth in all parts of the programming
3. Ensure “buy in” from school staff and administration
4. Be flexible – be ready to pivot



Finding Our Power Together (Canada-wide): About Us

- Indigenous-led non-profit **supporting Indigenous youth across Canada** to access resources to support their self-determined wellness goals through:
 - Cultural connection
 - Psychoeducation
 - Relationship-building
- **Braided (integrated) approach** combines mainstream mental health modalities, child and youth care relational practice, and Indigenous cultural practices



Finding Our Power Together (Canada-wide): Critical Mentorship Practices

1. Meet youth where they are at
2. Utilize therapeutic relationships as an intervention strategy
3. Share gifts through an interdisciplinary team
4. Mentor in various places
5. Have a clear approach



Closing





Hamilton YOU Poets

Twitter: @HYP_SLAM

IG: @hamiltonyoupoets

THANK YOU!



MENTOR
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Véronique Church-Duplessis

Director of Research and Evaluation

MENTOR Canada

Thank you!



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www.youthrex.com



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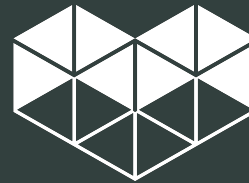
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<https://www.mentoringcanada.ca/>