

Youth Advisory Committee at Good Neighbors Canada **Application Overview & Instructions**

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Overview of the Youth Advisory Committee at Good Neighbors Canada

The Youth Advisory Committee (YAC), also known as GNCA-YAC, is a volunteer-based leadership program for Canadian youth **aged 18 to 30**.

Our aim is to foster essential leadership, governance, and community engagement skills crucial for success in the nonprofit sustainable development sector, all while supporting the mission of Good Neighbors Canada (GNCA).

We're seeking approximately **11 enthusiastic Members** for our 2023/2024 virtual program. Onboarding will kick off in September 2023, with Members dedicating around **5 hours per week** until the program concludes in April 2024.

YAC Members will work together to ensure the program's success. This involves **hosting virtual events, workshops, and initiatives** to promote, fundraise for, and raise awareness about GNCA's projects and campaigns. The YAC will also bridge local and global issues to engage the public effectively.

The YAC will virtually meet a *minimum* of **once per month** (more virtual meetings will likely be necessary closer to event dates). YAC Members are required to maintain regular communication among themselves and their respective sub-committees, fostering a culture of collaboration and transparency. Members will adhere to a *Constitution* and *Code of Ethics* that they will sign before starting the program.

Over the course of the program, the YAC will organize a *minimum* of **8 virtual public events**, all designed to support GNCA's mission.

To apply to the YAC (2023-2024) Cohort program, please visit:

<https://forms.gle/sjnppF4yK5zCUwcz6>

As a Member, you have access to:

- Training:
 - Exclusive monthly virtual workshops on topics including volunteer management, good governance and effective fundraising strategies led by Good Neighbors Canada
- Personal & Professional Development:
 - Including a Virtual Coffee Chat Program with experienced Good Neighbors Canada professionals
 - Possibility to participate in in-person events hosted in collaboration with Good Neighbors Canada where opportunities arise
- Experiential learning projects supporting Good Neighbors Canada:
 - Good Neighbors Canada will assign a project for the YAC to complete within a four week cycle

Upon completion of the YAC program in April 2024, members will receive or have access to the following:

- **E-certificate & LinkedIn badge** to acknowledge successful completion of the program and the skills they have gained through the program
- Opportunity to be selected for a **\$1,000 scholarship** towards their professional development *or* a **voluntary overseas placement** at a partner Good Neighbors office
 - The selection will be conducted by Good Neighbors Canada's management team
 - Only 1 YAC member per cohort will be awarded the scholarship *or* voluntary overseas placement
- Opportunity to be selected for the Good Neighbors Canada: **Youth Leader Award**
- **Letter of Recommendation** from Good Neighbors Canada's management team
- **Opportunities for hiring** for YAC members, who meet GNCA's skillset & requirements, to interview for *paid* positions
- Network and Alumni access via a private Whatsapp Community

About Good Neighbors Canada

Good Neighbors Canada (GNCA) is a charitable nonprofit and national affiliate of Good Neighbors International, specializing in community projects to achieve sustainable development around the world.

Our ongoing programs include the [Wishing Well Project](#), providing clean drinking water for rural communities in Zambia, the [Better Life for Girls](#) campaign, advancing gender equity in Africa and Latin America, poverty alleviation in Cameroon and the Dominican Republic through [child sponsorship](#), emergency relief in response to humanitarian crises including the [Ukraine war](#) and the [Turkish/Syrian earthquake](#), and the [Goods4Causes](#) initiative, supporting income generation for marginalized groups here in Canada and worldwide.

To learn more about Good Neighbors Canada, please visit our website at <https://goodneighborscanada.ca>

Selection Criteria

- You are between the ages of **18 – 30 at the start of the term date**. If you don't fit this criteria but feel strongly about joining the program, please send an email to yac@gncanada.ca to discuss eligibility with the team.
- You can be living **anywhere in Canada** for the duration of September 2023 to April 2024 inclusive
- You can be studying, working, or pursuing any initiatives - there is **no education** (university or college) requirement needed to apply
- Professional proficiency in English, French optional.

Requirements

- Expected to **commit** to the all aspect of the program throughout its duration, including but not limited to: attending meetings, organizing events and workshops, and raising awareness for GNCA

- A weekly commitment of 5 hours
- High level of initiative, organization, self-motivation, collaboration & problem-solving skills
- Strong intercultural competency, awareness, and appreciation for people with diverse backgrounds and experiences
- Strong self-awareness, empathy, and emotional intelligence
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Professional proficiency in English. French language proficiency is an **asset**
- Experience working with Canadian nonprofits or in the social impact sector is an **asset**

Applications are judged based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated interest in community development, nonprofit work, and contributing to Good Neighbors Canada's mission
- Demonstrated interest in building their own leadership and community engagement skills with a strong passion for driving positive change in their communities and globally
- Diversity in terms of candidates who identify as members of Indigenous, Black, racialized, 2SLGBTQ+ communities, persons with disabilities, and other equity deserving groups are encouraged to apply, and their lived experience shall be taken into consideration

Commitment to Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

The Youth Advisory Committee at Good Neighbors Canada is an equal opportunity organization committed to building and fostering a fair and inclusive community that values diversity and encourages respect for all. We welcome applicants across any race, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, (dis)ability, protected veteran status, Indigenous status, or any other legally-protected factors. We recognize the value of identifying and removing barriers for any applicants interested in participating in our programs. Please contact us at yac@gncanada.ca to start a conversation about different accommodations available.

Recruitment Timeline

Please pay close attention to the following dates:

Application opens	September 5, 2023 at 8:00am (Eastern)
Online application deadline	September 17, 2023 at 11:59pm (Eastern)
Application screening	Week of September 18
Offer letters sent	September 24
Program starts	September 25
Program ends	April 30, 2024

Program Dates and Titles

As highlighted, YAC Members will work together to ensure the program's success. This involves hosting virtual events, workshops, and initiatives to promote, fundraise for, and raise awareness about GNCA's projects and campaigns.

Over the course of the program, the YAC will organize a *minimum* of **8 virtual public events**, all designed to support GNCA's mission.

As a small charity subject to separate restricted funding agreements, Good Neighbors Canada may provide funding towards GNCA YAC initiatives where it is deemed that the YAC's activities will directly benefit the charity's programs. The YAC will be able to submit funding requests to GNCA for review and, upon approval, GNCA will coordinate directly with the relevant Members to coordinate spending and post-event reporting of return on investment.

Outlined below are the projected dates and titles of the forthcoming YAC-hosted events. Please note that these are tentative and subject to potential changes.

September 2023: International Day of Charity Event

Event: GNCA-YAC Applications Open

Date: Tuesday, September 5th

Description: In recognition of International Day of Charity, the YAC will open its online application for their 2023-2024 YAC cohort!

October 2023: World Mental Health Day Event

Event: Mental Health Matters Panel

Date: TBA

Description: In recognition of World Mental Health Day, the YAC will host an engaging online/virtual seminar, where we'll explore the importance of prioritizing one's mental health in the nonprofit sector, and learn about how Good Neighbors supports mental health in communities around the world.

November 2023: World Children's Day Event

December 2023: Human Rights Day Event

January 2024: International Day of Education Event

February 2024: World Day of Social Justice Event

March 2024: International Women's Day Event

April 2024: World Health Day Event

Stay tuned for updates, event details, and registration information for each of these exciting virtual events. Let's come together to learn, inspire, and create a positive impact in our communities and beyond!

Youth Advisory Committee Program Application Form

The Application form can be found [here](#).

Questions which will be asked in the application form are as follows:

Personal Information:

- What is your first and last name? (Ex: Taylor Quinn)
- What is your date of birth? (DD/MM/YYYY)
- What is your gender identity?
- Which pronouns do you use?
- What is your preferred contact email address?
- What is your preferred contact phone number?
- What City and/or Town and/or reserve, and Province do you live in? (Ex: Toronto, Ontario)

Background and Experience:

- Tell us about your experience in education, volunteering, nonprofit work, community development, and anything else that you feel is relevant. (Maximum: 250 words)

Motivation and Interest:

- What motivates you to join the YAC program at Good Neighbors Canada, and how do you believe your skills and experiences align with the objectives of the YAC program? (Maximum: 250 words)
- What do you hope to gain from being a member of the YAC? (Maximum: 150 words)
- What ongoing program at Good Neighbors Canada are you most passionate about? (Maximum: 150 words)

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion:

- How do you believe your unique background and perspectives will contribute to a diverse and inclusive YAC community? (Maximum: 250 words)
- What does Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) mean to you? (Maximum: 150 words)

Commitment and Availability:

- Are you able to commit to creating & attending virtual meetings, workshops, and events as part of the YAC program? (Maximum: 50 words)
- Do you have any commitments or obligations that might impact your availability during the program term? (Maximum: 50 words)

Additional Information:

- Is there anything else you would like us to know about you or your interests that is not covered in the application? (Maximum: 100 words)

Declaration:

By signing, I confirm the accuracy and completeness of the information provided in this application to the best of my knowledge. I understand that submitting this application does not guarantee my selection into the YAC program. If chosen, I am committed to actively participating in the program's activities, positively contributing to the committee's initiatives, and adhering to the Constitution, Code of Ethics, meeting commitments, and other obligations associated with my participation in the YAC.

By signing, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agree to these terms.

Signature: [Your Full Name]

Date: [Date of Application Submission]

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact us at yac@gncanada.ca

Thank you for your interest in joining the Youth Advisory Committee at Good Neighbors Canada! We look forward to reviewing your application and getting to know you better.