Youth Survey Findings

Attitudes and feelings of Youth in Edmonton in 2014.

This survey was a voluntarily completed survey by approximately 650 youth aged 15 to 24 in a wide cross section of demographics. While not compiled by a research company, great care was taken to collect information from all areas of the city, at all income levels, and through both electronic and paper means.
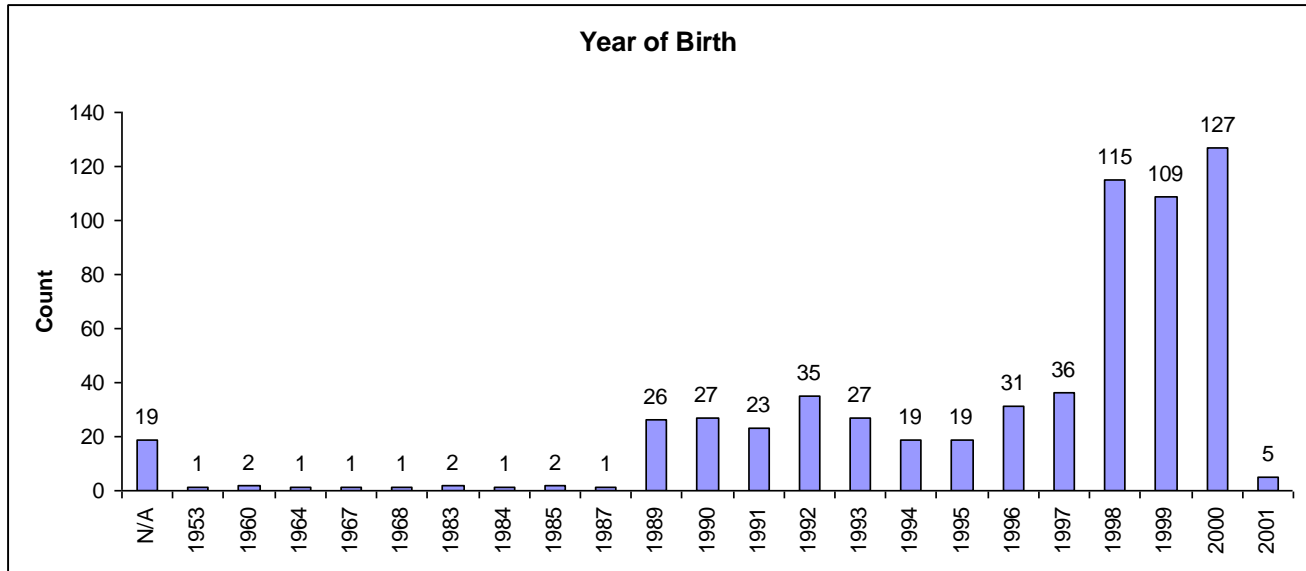
The purpose of this survey is to understand how youth feel and what their attitudes are towards our city and their communities.

25th ANNIVERSARY
Edmonton Community Foundation

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2014 Youth Survey

Q1 What year were you born?

Answered: 630 Skipped: 0

Year of Birth

Year	Count
N/A	19
1953	1
1960	2
1964	1
1967	1
1968	1
1983	2
1984	1
1985	2
1987	1
1989	26
1990	27
1991	23
1992	35
1993	27
1994	19
1995	19
1996	31
1997	36
1998	115
1999	109
2000	127
2001	5

Q2 What is your gender?

Answered: 630   Skipped: 0

Gender

Other , 2.9%

Male, 38.4%

Female, 58.7%
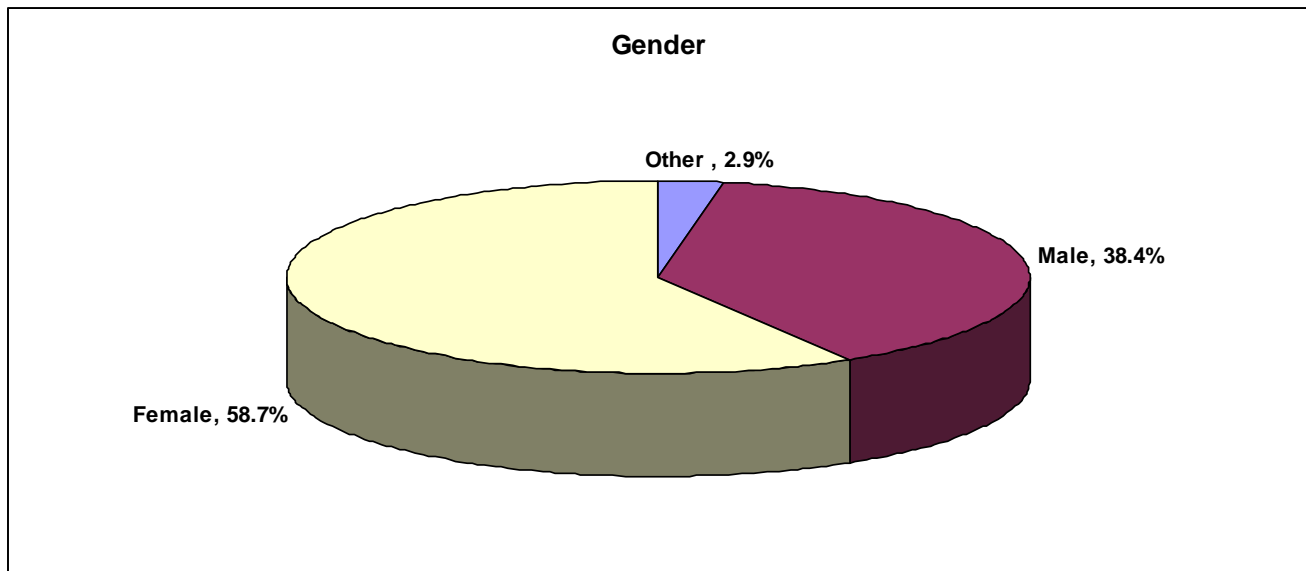
Q3 It is important for me to be involved in my community.

Answered: 604   Skipped: 26
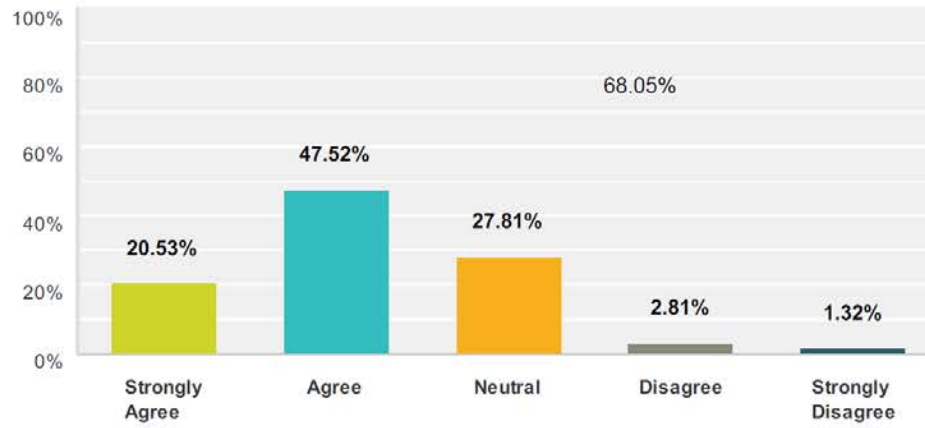
Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	20.53%	124
Agree	47.52%	287
Neutral	27.81%	168
Disagree	2.81%	17
Strongly Disagree	1.32%	8
Total		604

Q4 I am confident that I am on track to achieve my goals.
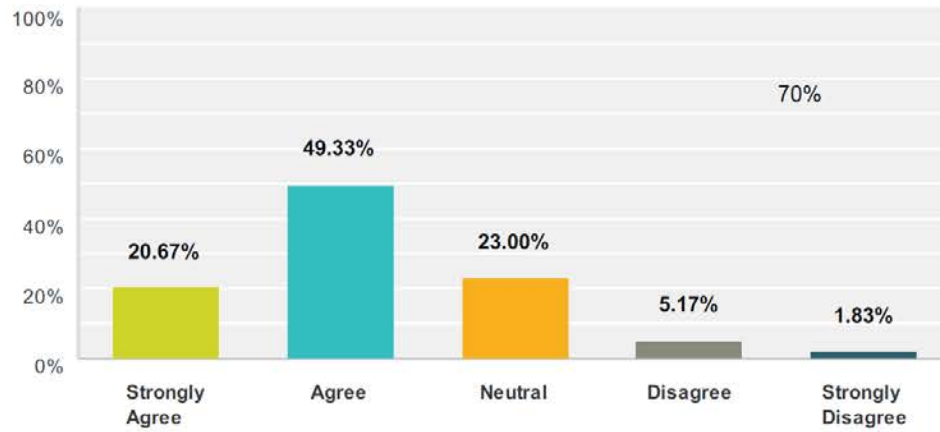
Answered: 607   Skipped: 23
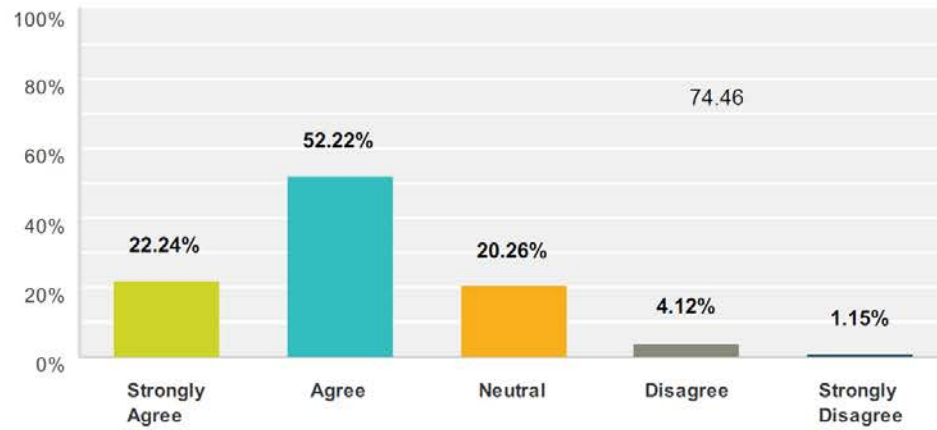
Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	22.24%	135
Agree	52.22%	317
Neutral	20.26%	123
Disagree	4.12%	25
Strongly Disagree	1.15%	7
Total		607

Q5 I feel in control of the decisions and circumstances that impact my life.
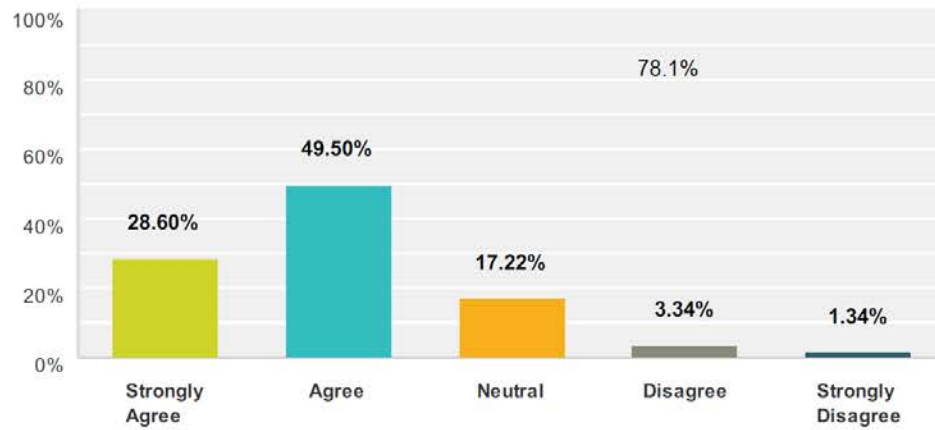
Answered: 600   Skipped: 30

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	20.67%	124
Agree	49.33%	296
Neutral	23.00%	138
Disagree	5.17%	31
Strongly Disagree	1.83%	11
Total		600

Q6 I engage in activities that contribute to my health and well-being.
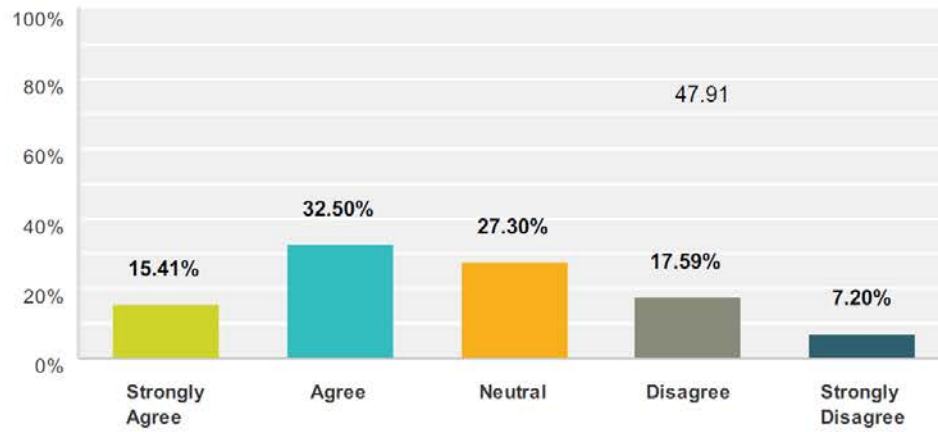
Answered: 598   Skipped: 32

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	28.60%	171
Agree	49.50%	296
Neutral	17.22%	103
Disagree	3.34%	20
Strongly Disagree	1.34%	8
Total		598

Q7 I feel financially secure at this stage in my life.
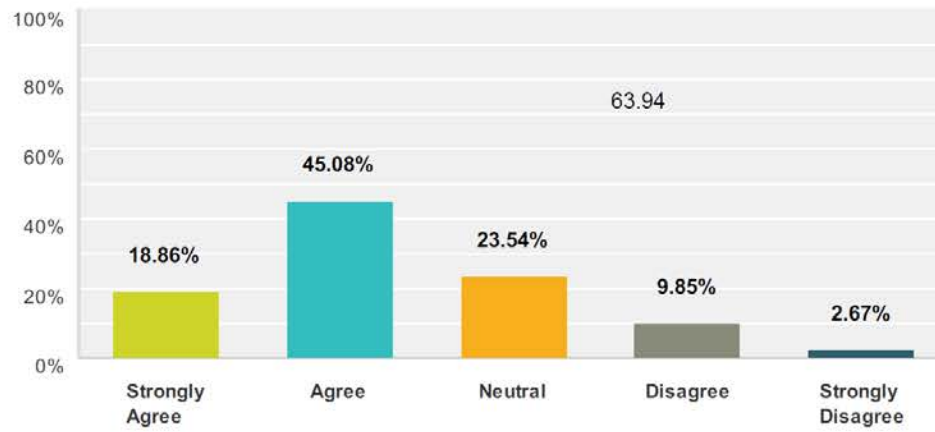
Answered: 597   Skipped: 33

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	15.41%	92
Agree	32.50%	194
Neutral	27.30%	163
Disagree	17.59%	105
Strongly Disagree	7.20%	43
Total		597

Q8 I feel a sense of belonging.

Answered: 599   Skipped: 31

Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	18.86%	113
Agree	45.08%	270
Neutral	23.54%	141
Disagree	9.85%	59
Strongly Disagree	2.67%	16
Total		599

Q9 I feel that I have a cultural identity.

Answered: 596   Skipped: 34
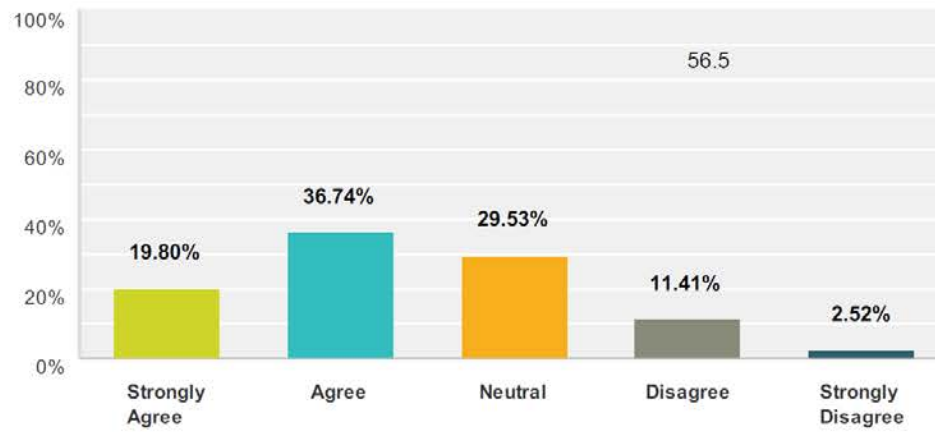
Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	19.80%	118
Agree	36.74%	219
Neutral	29.53%	176
Disagree	11.41%	68
Strongly Disagree	2.52%	15
Total		596

Q10 I think people in the greater Edmonton area accept different cultures and beliefs.

Answered: 594   Skipped: 36
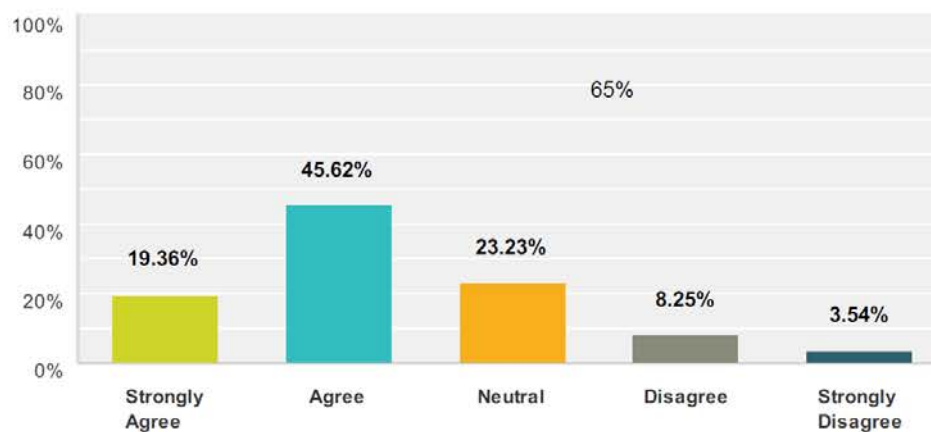
Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	19.36%	115
Agree	45.62%	271
Neutral	23.23%	138
Disagree	8.25%	49
Strongly Disagree	3.54%	21
Total		594

Q11 Who is the greatest influence in your life?

Answered: 542   Skipped: 88
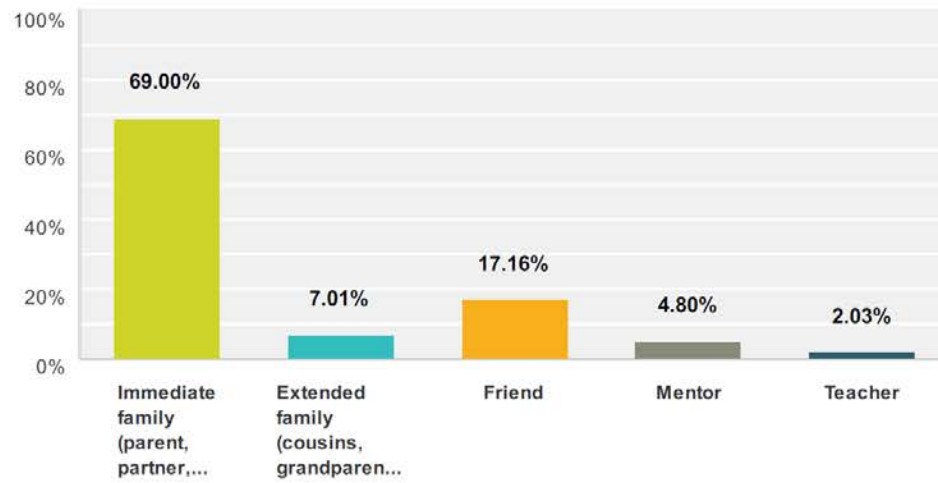
Answer Choices	Responses	
Immediate family (parent, partner, sibling)	69.00%	374
Extended family (cousins, grandparents, aunts/uncles, etc.)	7.01%	38
Friend	17.16%	93
Mentor	4.80%	26
Teacher	2.03%	11
Total		542

Q12 I believe technology and social media contribute to improved social connections.

Answered: 593   Skipped: 37
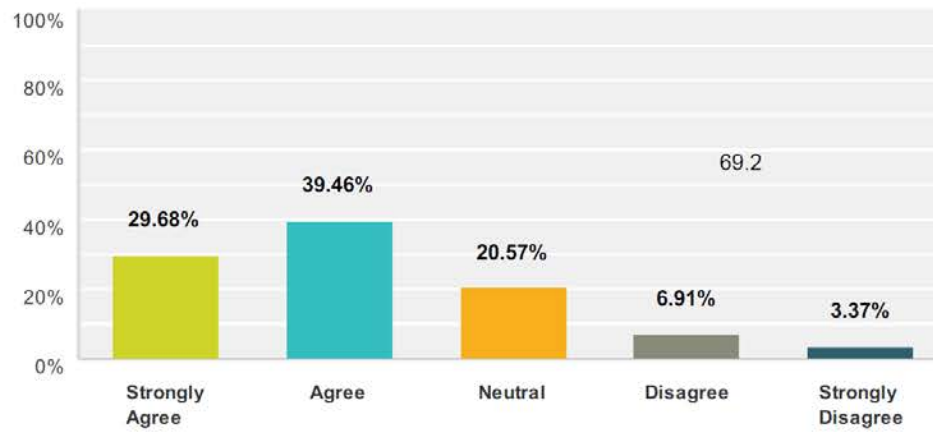
Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	29.68%	176
Agree	39.46%	234
Neutral	20.57%	122
Disagree	6.91%	41
Strongly Disagree	3.37%	20
Total		593

Q13 Where do you feel the most engaged and part of your community?

Answered: 499   Skipped: 131

School

	37.27% 186

Community

	12.63% 63

Volunteering

	6.61% 33

Friends

	6.41% 32

Sports

	5.41% 27

Church

	4.21% 21

Events

	4.01% 20

Family

	3.81% 19

Park

	2.61% 13

Neighbourhood

	2.00% 10

House

	1.60% 8

University

	1.60% 8

Dance

	1.40% 7

Youth

	1.40% 7

[Festivals](#)

	1.40%	
	7	

[Outside](#)

	1.20%	
	6	

[Hockey](#)

	1.00%	
	5	

[Soccer](#)

	1.00%	
	5	

[Theatre](#)

	1.00%	
	5	

[Able](#)

	1.00%	
	5	

[Arts](#)

	1.00%	
	5	

[Live](#)

	0.80%	
	4	

[Pride Centre](#)

	0.60%	
	3	

[Helping People](#)

	0.40%	
	2	

Q14 In one or two words, what do you think is the biggest issue facing youth today?

Answered: 515   Skipped: 115

Bullying

16.31%
84

Drugs

8.35%
43

Technology

4.27%
22

Social Media

3.88%
20

Peer Pressure

3.30%
17

Stress

2.33%
12

Depression

2.33%
12

School

2.14%
11

Expectations

1.94%
10

Education

1.75%
9

Money

1.75%
9

Self

1.55%
8

Financial	
	1.36% **7**
Mental Health	
	1.17% **6**
Society	
	1.17% **6**
Belonging	
	1.17% **6**
Homework	
	1.17% **6**
Racism	
	1.17% **6**
Influence	
	0.97% **5**
Employment	
	0.97% **5**
Youth	
	0.97% **5**
Obesity	
	0.78% **4**
Career	
	0.78% **4**
Internet	
	0.78% **4**
Life	
	0.78% **4**
Discrimination	
	0.78% **4**
Image	
	0.78% **4**
Social Pressure	
	0.39% **2**

Q15 Comments

Answered: 43   Skipped: 587

#	Responses	Date
1	N/A	6/18/2014 8:53 AM
2	I dance so I stay out of trouble	6/13/2014 3:52 PM
3	There hasn't been a lot of effort to engage visible minority youth in communities and leadership initiatives. These youth are facing a lot of challenges that are not being addressed, most approaches just focus on getting them to work, but other dimensions of their lives are being dismissed. These youth are also facing racism and discrimination at many levels, which prevents them from achieving their goals and find a sense of belonging.	6/13/2014 10:37 AM
4	I think that if i had people i could have related too i would have done better in school had more friends and perhaps my life would be different than it is. Its also very difficult to focus on school and other such things when you worry about if you will have a bed to sleep in and food to eat especially when everyone around you has no such worries. Us kids see our parents worry even when they try to hide it, we are far less ignorant than we appear. kids are not a object on an assembly line, we can not be made to bend to the norm nor can we molded into what society thinks we should be. Until community's governments and organizations stop believing that if 90% of kids being molded into the form you desire while punishing the 10% of us who stress over things we should never have to and struggle to focus because we worry about living. You will continue to have kids in the gutter who turn to other ways to survive. strive for 100%, attempt to be perfect, because even if you fail chances are you will still do better. and i think the most important thing you can do is care, really care. because a lot of us do not have many that care, and even simple things like that can me a lot. TLDR? If you want to help youth you got to use people that have lived thru there pain and stresses especially those who are in poor violent neighborhoods. And treat us with respect not items on an assembly line.	6/10/2014 7:21 PM
5	I think that the city needs to invest in youth that, upon first glance, may not appear as a target demographic for social awareness campaigns. For example, while inner city youth require more resources, suburban youth often feel that they are overlooked by the municipality in social affairs, like providing adequate public transportation, reducing class sizes (esp. in primary school), and planning for present and future financial stability. Personally, I feel that CALM should be a more extensive curriculum, worth more, and that a greater emphasis should be placed on it. CALM is the single, solitary school course that works to provide ongoing education and support for youth that is ACTUALLY RELEVANT to their lives. Shakespearian sonnets are nice, Pythagorean's Theorem is mildly diverting, and occasionally our conservative-biased sexual education programs don't completely flop...but CALM is consistently a course that teaches students/youth the little things about being a competent adult.	6/10/2014 9:17 AM
6	survey is straight to the point, I like it	6/9/2014 3:41 PM
7	survey isn't too long	6/9/2014 3:29 PM
8	Yes	6/9/2014 1:53 PM
9	There is a lot of discrimination against young men. The existing society expects you to "man up" and deal with it. There is a substantial lack of public support for boys and men.	6/9/2014 11:36 AM
10	Thanks	6/8/2014 1:37 PM
11	Thanks for caring	6/6/2014 1:58 PM
12	Thank you!	6/6/2014 12:12 PM
13	I really don't care about the survey	6/5/2014 3:44 PM
14	this is a short survey	6/5/2014 2:37 PM
15	short survey	6/5/2014 2:29 PM
16	school is the key to life :)	6/5/2014 1:11 PM
17	this survey is pointless	6/5/2014 1:06 PM

18	qewrdasdas	6/5/2014 9:44 AM
19	I understand that technology and social media have allowed us to get in contact with loved ones easier but it may also impact the quality of the relationship. Human to human contact is much more beneficial to fostering ones confidence and ability to thrive in social situations.	6/4/2014 10:03 PM
20	naw	6/4/2014 2:57 PM
21	Take it easy on students	6/4/2014 2:48 PM
22	no	6/4/2014 2:47 PM
23	When I say social media as being the issue of the youth generation, I mean the negative aspects of it. Some people take it too seriously and do things to themselves or when they see their celebrity role model do something bad, (i.e Miley Cyrus) then they immediately feel the urge to follow their actions regardless of social indecencies or sense of morality.	6/4/2014 2:02 PM
24	For human image the meaning behind it is what other think of you and what you believe you should look like.	6/4/2014 2:01 PM
25	comment	6/4/2014 1:51 PM
26	In the next survey, could take into account socio-economic status. I am a student at the University of Alberta, and would have different experiences that way.	6/4/2014 11:58 AM
27	Thanks, great idea, I hope many youth and nextgenners fill this out, I will pass it on. Thank you :)	6/4/2014 9:15 AM
28	I think that the media and the stereotypes they create are having great impact on youth. So I don't always agree with technology having a positive impact in people's lives.	6/4/2014 8:49 AM
29	There should be teams like soccer teams at lunch and like a church	6/3/2014 10:19 AM
30	I think the place is good	6/3/2014 9:57 AM
31	There is lots of people making racist remarks in my community and homophobic comments	6/3/2014 9:31 AM
32	I enjoyed doing this survey!	6/2/2014 1:50 PM
33	Thank you	6/2/2014 1:39 PM
34	i dont know why i had to take this	5/28/2014 1:05 PM
35	I Want to be votunteer.	5/13/2014 3:35 PM
36	Family is extremely important. Helping families with whatever situations they face is always a blessing.	5/13/2014 10:00 AM
37	Some of the questions were a little difficult to answer, as they did not provide a specific example or explanation on which I could base my answer, and I strongly recommend that whoever reviews the data of this survey keep that in mind. That said, thank you for paying even a little attention to the youth in this city; we are facing a number of issues that are all too often disregarded by the public at large.	5/2/2014 10:31 PM
38	I feel a lot of youth, including myself, feel a huge disconnect from their community due to ageism	5/2/2014 12:09 AM
39	I personally believe that common cultural beliefs of gender and sexuality affect youth in the most negative way, contributing largely to mental health issues throughout their lives.	5/1/2014 9:47 PM
40	I think that youth aren't complacent becasue they don't care- so many care, but they feel overwhelmed and don't believe that their personal actions actually make a difference in the world around them. If it is true that we are connected to every single person in the world by seven connecting people, than every single action can have a huge impact- people don't realize that.	5/1/2014 7:07 PM
41	We have lost our Canadian Heritage More hands up than hand outs ...we can't pay for everyone's poor choices.	5/1/2014 2:57 PM
42	Thank you.	5/1/2014 10:38 AM
43	Youth need to feel empowered by the community.	5/1/2014 10:04 AM