



CHANGING DIRECTIONS



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2005-06

ANNUAL REPORT

Provincial Youth Advisory Committee ANNUAL REPORT 2005-06



Honourable Harvey Hodder, M.H.A.
Speaker
House of Assembly

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am pleased to submit the Annual Report for the provincial Youth Advisory Committee which details the Committee's activities from April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006. This report reflects the discussions the YAC has had over the past year.

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee has been an invaluable asset in helping government develop programs and policies which address the issues facing the youth of our province.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Paul Shelley'.

Paul Shelley
Minister
Human Resources, Labour and Employment

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee would sincerely like to thank the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment for the opportunity to represent youth on such a unique and worthwhile committee. Because of the department's support, we have a voice in much of the positive changes for youth in our province. It is truly an honour to work with other youth who have such a passion and a sense of duty to fellow youth in our province.

2005-06 provincial Youth Advisory Committee

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This document was produced solely by the provincial Youth Advisory Committee with support from the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment

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Highlights

- ✓ The provincial Youth Advisory Committee identified three priority headings for 2005-2006:

- Education
- Societal Issues
- Rural Innovations

- ✓ The provincial Youth Advisory Committee discussed youth issues with the following government officials:



Meeting with the Bishop's Falls Youth Advisory Committee

- Ms. Jennifer Jeans (Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment)
 - Mr. Gerald Crane (Rural Secretariat)
 - Ms. Mona Wall (Women's Policy Office)
 - Ms. Nellie Burke (Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment)
- ✓ The provincial Youth Advisory Committee received peer presentations on the following issues:
 - Competing for Tomorrow: Post-secondary Education and Skills Training Conference (Ms. Jacenta Smith)
 - Newfoundland and Labrador Sexual Health Centre Workshop (Ms. Susan Taylor)
 - ✓ The provincial Youth Advisory Committee met with many agencies and organizations, some of which included: the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association – Newfoundland and Labrador; Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgendered Association – A Youth's Perspective, and the Bishop's Falls Youth Advisory Committee
 - ✓ The provincial Youth Advisory Committee held meetings within Newfoundland and Labrador, including Grand Falls-Windsor and eastern Newfoundland and Labrador.

Introduction

As members of the provincial Youth Advisory Committee, we are both pleased and proud to present our fourth Annual Report to the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment.

This has been another busy and exciting year for the Committee. We:

- ✓ welcomed six new members: Brook Biggin (Port Saunders), Erika Breen (St. John's), Chandra Kavanagh (Gander), Jill Williams (North West River), Adam Vickers (Corner Brook), and Karen Bungay (Harbour Breton);
- ✓ continued to work within our collective organizational structure, in which all members are equal participants who treat each other with respect;
- ✓ used a strategic approach to identify and alter the issues facing the youth of our province;
- ✓ completed research and requested consultations on issues;
- ✓ held regional meetings in Grand Falls-Windsor and eastern Newfoundland and Labrador; and
- ✓ maintained ongoing communications with the Minister, departmental officials and government's liaison committee.



Jacenta giving certificates of appreciation to Bill Wilson & Carol Ruby,
friends and mentors of the Youth Advisory Committee

Achieving Our Mandate

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee was established by the Provincial Government in June 2001 to provide a forum for the open discussion of key issues affecting the young people of Newfoundland and Labrador as well as advising the departments responsible for youth services, education, programs and policies. The names of the first members of the provincial Youth Advisory Committee were announced on September 7, 2001. In 2003 and 2005, new members were added to the committee to replace those whose terms were completed.

Throughout this past year, we were able to continue to discuss youth-related issues and to advise the Minister on possible changes in the provincial programs and policies. The previous Annual Reports have made many suggestions and have seen the fruit of our labour. Through this Annual Report, we hope to continue seeing positive changes in the provincial programs and policies affecting young people in Newfoundland and Labrador.

In order to address issues we feel are important, we focus on three main categories of issues per year. Last year, we focused on three categories – *Rural Options*, *Healthy Choices*, and *Social Decisions*. This year, our three strategic categories are:

Education

Under this category, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee discusses various options to assist youth with accessing innovative and competitive education opportunities. Particularly, the committee discusses the importance of equal access to educational opportunities and supports, innovative approaches to career development, the benefits of partnerships between schools and community organizations, access to financial information and supports for the purpose of preparing for post-secondary, and opportunities to combat existing high amounts of student debt.



Bev leading a brainstorming session on Rural Options

Societal Issues

Under this category, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee continues to explore opportunities for youth to make informed social decisions. The Committee feels that preventing the evolution of chemical dependency, promoting the importance of voting,

targeting the recent trends of bullying in schools, continuing with the proactive approach to assisting youth transition to the workforce, encouraging safe sexual practices, coordinating sexual health services, providing accessible supports to teenagers, and offering support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-gendered (LGBT) persons will allow youth to become better prepared in our province.

Rural Innovations

Under this category, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee focuses on issues relating to the sustainability and growth of rural Newfoundland and Labrador. Specifically, the committee discusses out-migration and potential loss of services, the viability and importance of entrepreneurship, alternatives to closing schools, youth participation in the process of regionalization of communities, the importance of encouraging a sense of unity and innovative opportunities to share information.

The committee has also discussed additional recommendations, such as funding available for youth programs, insurance and workplace safety coverage, and the processing of natural resources. The information we collected is based on consultations with various persons and agencies, and we have suggested realistic options for consideration by the Provincial Government.



Jacenta, Erika & Brook listening to youth issues from youth in Bishop's Falls

Recommendations

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee has developed the following series of recommendations based on our deliberations and activities over the past year:

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee feels the following recommendations will provide youth with innovative and competitive **Education** opportunities in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador:

1. It is necessary for Government to recognize and make appropriate changes in testing for students in order to provide an equal opportunity to achieve. For example, the listening component of the mandatory English 3201 Public Exam puts individuals with a hearing loss at a disadvantage and therefore limits their ability to equally achieve, as they are placed on Pathway 2.
2. In addition to existing Guidance Counsellor positions, Government should introduce Career Specialist positions in each school board district in Newfoundland and Labrador. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee feels it is important to promote the proper education and relevant experience in order to give youth opportunities for meaningful education in our province. Innovative examples of Career Specialists positions exist in areas such as Economic Zone 17 and Economic Zone 10.
3. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee encourages partnerships between secondary schools and community organizations, such as Youth Protocol Committees or Youth Employment Strategy Committees, to promote career development in an effort to provide equal access to career information in Newfoundland and Labrador.
4. Given the realities of rural communities with regards to the closure of schools and equal access to services, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee encourages that dormant school facilities be utilized and maintained within communities for programs and services (e.g., public health nurse, career counselling, social workers, etc.).
5. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee recommends Government implement a mandatory program for students in high schools as well as for parents/guardians to learn about student loans before applying. This could be done in concert with the mandatory career development course offered in high schools.
6. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee recommends that information on available scholarships be more accessible and visible to youth, utilizing existing resources within high schools as well as community organizations (e.g., Guidance Counsellors, Career Specialists, Youth Protocol Committees, and private enterprise).

7. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee is concerned with former post-secondary students having high amounts of student debt and feels it is necessary for Government to provide assistance to students who graduated from post-secondary institutions prior to the commencement of current debt reduction programming.

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee feels the following recommendations will provide the opportunity for the discussion of **Societal Issues** in order to prepare the youth of our province with making good social decisions:

1. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee is concerned with the accessibility and evolution of dangerous drugs and solvents in Newfoundland and Labrador. Government should continue to introduce and implement supports to prevent the culture of chemical dependency among youth.
2. It is important for youth to be involved in the voting process and, furthermore, to understand the importance of being involved in a democratic society. Government should encourage youth to be involved in voting by utilizing a youth-oriented campaign as well as both providing and promoting alternatives to vote for youth who are temporarily living outside their district.
3. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee congratulates Government in its Violence Prevention Initiative. However, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee is concerned about the recent trends of bullying and recommends that Government integrate the Violence Prevention Initiative within secondary schools.
4. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee is concerned with the number of Income Support entrants who are youth between the ages of 18-29 years. Through its Poverty Reduction Strategy, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee anticipates a proactive approach to reducing the number of younger entrants through utilization of incentives to encourage the transition to the workforce.
5. The prevalence of unprotected sexual activity among youth is resulting in teenage pregnancy, HIV, and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs). In partnership with youth groups, Government should provide increased education and promotion of safe sexual practices to properly inform youth as to the causes and effects of being sexually active.
6. As in the 2003-2004 provincial Youth Advisory Committee Annual Report, sexual health services need to be coordinated through the development of a sexual health framework or strategy resulting in the establishment of more front line operations, such as the Newfoundland and Labrador Sexual Health Centre, in rural parts of the province.

7. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee feels it is necessary to provide accessible supports to teenage parents, such as Infant Care Centres in schools.
8. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee recommends that Government promote the Mental Health Crisis Centre as a resource and support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-gendered (LGBT) persons.

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee feels the following recommendations are realistic **Rural Innovations**:

1. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee applauds Government in the proactive measures taken to combat out-migration. In order to further encourage retention of residents of Newfoundland and Labrador, especially youth, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee feels Government should implement an Out-migration Reduction Strategy as an extension of current plans and policies.
2. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee commends government on the creation of the Immigration Unit and particularly its approach to the Immigration Strategy. We further support the initiatives to attract international students to our facilities, as we see this as a positive step forward in enhancing both our economic and cultural diversity.
3. In an effort to create meaningful employment, Government should promote and encourage the viability of entrepreneurship through existing programs and resources (e.g., Getting The Message Out).
4. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee congratulates the efforts of the Rural Secretariat for taking initiative in sustaining rural communities through its long-term vision. In saying that, Government needs to ensure that steps are taken today in order to address out-migration and loss of services in communities.
5. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee recommends Government explore alternatives to closing schools through opportunities such as combining grades, utilizing existing community facilities, and distance education. In this manner, schools could be redefined as centres of life-long learning.
6. Government should encourage participation of youth within the process of regionalization of communities. This could be achieved through utilizing zonal youth councils, Community Youth Networks, Futures in Newfoundland and Labrador's Youth! (FINALLY!), and the provincial Youth Advisory Committee. The sustainability of rural Newfoundland Labrador depends on cooperation and sharing of resources.
7. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee feels it is important for Government to implement a promotional campaign to profile positive images of the province for the purpose of encouraging a sense of unity.

8. In an effort to better connect with youth in the province, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee recommends that Government explore innovative opportunities to disperse information and materials. For example, distributing a CD is more attractive to youth than an information book.

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee also offers some additional recommendations:

1. As in the 2003-2004 provincial Youth Advisory Committee Annual Report, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee feels that a complete evaluation of grants awarded to youth programs and services across all government departments is needed. It is recommended that additional funding be directed to youth programs in a more equitable fashion and that all funding be reflective of the real needs of young people in all parts of the province (e.g., increased support for Community Youth Networks).
2. The provincial Youth Advisory Committee recommends Government provide blanket insurance and workplace safety coverage for student employment, such as the Student Work and Service Program (SWASP), Career Exploration and Experience (CEE), and Income Support Career Exploration and Experience (IS-CEE) so that placements with potential employers are not jeopardized due to inadequate insurance coverage by the employer.
3. In order to provide maximum returns on our resources, the provincial Youth Advisory Committee recommends that Government ensure the processing of natural resources remain in Newfoundland and Labrador; for example, ensuring the local secondary processing of fish as opposed to exporting raw product to other countries.

Conclusion

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee has worked diligently with the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment as well as other government agencies involved in youth programs and policies in the preparation of our last three reports. Through this cooperation, we strive to develop recommendations that will create positive opportunities for the youth of our province. The contribution of the provincial Youth Advisory Committee would not be possible without the help and support of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment as well as the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. The completion of our fourth annual report represents hard work, dedication, and commitment. We are both pleased and proud to present the document to the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment.



Adam listening to a speaker talk about youth challenges in rural areas of our province

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee would like to thank the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador for acknowledging, contributing to, and implementing our recommendations as well as supporting our endeavours. The members of the committee look forward to discussing the recommendations in the report as well as tackling new challenges facing youth of this province.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador reported that it has reviewed the recommendations contained in the provincial Youth Advisory Committee's 2004/05 report entitled *The Path Ahead* and has worked diligently to ensure these recommendations were strongly considered when developing its programs and policies, specifically as they relate to youth.

Some examples as to where this is reflective in new programs and policies of government this past year include an intergovernmental working group dealing with the use of schools as community resources. Government, as part of its White Paper on Post-Secondary Education, has implemented many initiatives to reduce student debt. It is also reviewing the process and criteria related to funding to youth organizations as it relates to the Grants to Youth Organizations programs. To address the committee's concerns related to issues around the potential abuse of new forms of drugs, Government has established a provincial interagency committee to develop a strategy around the potential problems of crystal methamphetamine use.

These are some examples of how Government is addressing the issues identified by the provincial Youth Advisory Committee.

Appendix A: Terms of Reference

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SPONSORING DEPARTMENT:

Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment

STRUCTURE:

- fifteen youth members and four adult mentors
- youth members are between the ages of 15-29 years
- adult mentors are 29 years and above
- no less than two-third youth members and at least one adult mentor will constitute a quorum for a committee meeting

DURATION OF APPOINTMENT:

The term of youth members will consist of two- or three-year terms. Ten members of the committee will serve for three years and five members will serve for two years.

The term of adult mentors will consist of two mentors serving for three years and two mentors serving for two years.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS:

All youth members and adult mentors are appointed by the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment in consultation with staff responsible for the operations of the committee.

The selection of replacement members will be cognizant of many issues, including gender, regional location, ethnic representation and other.

REQUIREMENT OF MEMBERS:

All youth members and adult mentors must make an effort to attend all provincial Youth Advisory Committee meetings and do the necessary preparation for each meeting.

REMOVAL OF MEMBERS:

If a member misses three consecutive meetings without notifying the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment staff representative regarding their inability to attend, the member may be replaced.

RESPONSIBILITY OF YOUTH MEMBERS:

1. attend all meetings (where possible)
2. prepare for issues to be discussed
3. serve as a member of a sub-committee
4. participate as an equal member
5. a member leaving the province for more than six months per year must resign their position

6. a one-time leave of absence may be granted for up to six months by the Minister of Human Resources, Labour and Employment

RESPONSIBILITY OF MENTORS:

1. attend all meetings (where possible)
2. prepare for issues to be discussed
3. serve as a member of a sub-committee
4. advise and direct the discussions and recommendations of the committee as a member

MEETING RESPONSIBILITIES:

The provincial Youth Advisory Committee's philosophy is that participation should be a learning experience whereby every member is given an equal opportunity in:

Chairing of all meetings will be the responsibility of members, both youth and adults, in the host region for the meeting. The chair structure should be decided during the previous meeting.

Recording of discussions is the responsibility of the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment staff representative at the meeting.

Preparation of the agenda is the responsibility of the member(s) from the next host region with the support from the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment staff representative.

Summary of each meeting will be compiled and distributed by the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment no longer than one month after a meeting.

Information pertaining to the next meeting will be distributed through the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment two weeks prior to the next meeting date.

Travel arrangements and accommodations will be coordinated through the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment.

PROVINCIAL YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT:

- The annual report will follow the standard structure for an annual report.
- The completion of the report will be a reflection of the minutes from the provincial Youth Advisory Committee, along with direct recommendations and general discussions.
- The format for the presentation of the annual report and the exact content of the report will be designed by a sub-committee of the committee in conjunction with the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment staff.

Appendix B: Member/Mentor Biographies

Sarah Arnott, St. John's

Sarah graduated from Memorial University of Newfoundland in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. A former player with the Memorial University of Newfoundland women's soccer team, she is currently a member of the coaching staff. Sarah is employed with Memorial University of Newfoundland as a Programmer Analyst.

Brook Biggin, Port Saunders

Brook Biggin is 18 years old and is now living in Edmonton, Alberta. He hails from Port Saunders, Newfoundland and Labrador. Brook spent the past two years working with youth councils, organizations, and committees across the province. Right now, he is attending Vanguard College in Edmonton, taking a degree program in theology with intercultural studies. He hopes to one day travel the world, dedicating his life to God and the work to which He has called him.

Erika Breen, St. John's

Erika is a second year Bachelor of Commerce student at Memorial University of Newfoundland. She is a board member for the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter as well as Co-Chair of the youth group and a youth member on the national level. Erika is the Youth Synod Representative and Vestry Member at St. Mark's Anglican Church. In addition, Erika is a volunteer with the Royal Canadian Legion and has previously volunteered with the St. John's Therapeutic Riding Association, and various fundraisers. Past achievements include: Bronze, Silver and Gold levels of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association Young Adult Award of Excellence, and the Academic Award of Student Transition to Educational Programs at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Jamie Clements, Grand Bank

Jamie is originally from Grand Bank on the Burin Peninsula and now makes his home in St. John's. Jamie graduated from Memorial University of Newfoundland with a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in Geography. Jamie was a member of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Students' Union for several years and held the position of Vice President Academic.

Robyn Frampton, Carbonear

Robyn graduated from the University of Ottawa with a Bachelor of Arts, Communications (Honours) in April 2002 and has since been employed with the Regional Economic Development Board (REDB), Mariner Resource Opportunities

Network Inc. (M-RON Inc.) as a Youth Career Coach. Robyn is an active volunteer and is involved with such organizations as The SPLASH Centre (Community Youth Network, Harbour Grace).

Chris Hatcher, Grand Bank

Chris has been involved with many youth organizations and programs over the past number of years. He volunteers on boards and committees, participates in open discussions and forums, and actively debates youth related issues. Chris has completed a Community Development Program and a three-year Programmer Analyst Diploma at College of the North Atlantic. When Chris is not participating in youth related events, he is very busy working in the oil and gas sector where he is successfully putting his skills to work in our province.

Dan Hill, Sheshatshiu

Dan Hill is a former director of the Sheshatshiu Innu First Nation. Dan is currently attending Academy Canada in St. John's to continue his education where he is completing his final year of the Network Administration Program. Once finished his program, Dan hopes to return to his community to continue his volunteering and involvement with similar worthwhile organizations. He also hopes to bring the skills that he has acquired back to help the Innu people.

Chandra Kavanagh, Gander

18 year old Chandra Kavanagh has just graduated high school and is spending a year participating in the Katimavik program before pursuing higher education. Although unsure as to her future occupation she hopes to be involved with youth and politics. Chandra is a St. John's native but has lived in Gander for five years which has provided her with insight on youth issues on both the east coast and central Newfoundland and Labrador. Her interests include music (playing and listening) as well as writing and working at Giovanni's Cafe.

Joe McGrath, Bishop's Falls

Joe attended Acadia University studying Physical Education and majoring in Sport Management. He currently works for the Town of Bishop's Falls as the Recreation/Youth Coordinator and has been involved with the Provincial Youth Advisory Committee since June 2003.

Bronwyn Rideout, Kippens

Bronwyn Rideout, of Stephenville, recently completed her BA (Hons.) in Greek and Roman Studies at MUN. While on campus she was an active member of Burke House and Vice-President of the MUN Classics Society and off campus she took the healthy

lifestyles approach to heart and competed in many road races, including the 2005 Tely 10 Road Race.

Jacenta Smith, Raleigh

Jacenta is completing her final year of the Bachelor of Nursing Program at the Centre for Nursing Studies. Leading an active volunteer life in a rural community, she has been involved in many organizations including the RCMP Youth Advisory Committee and the 774 St. Anthony Air Cadet Squadron. Once finished her degree, Jacenta hopes to continue her volunteering and spend time in similar worthwhile organizations.

Susan Taylor, St. John's

Susan is a graduate of the Labour College of Canada making her the first woman from the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Union in Newfoundland and Labrador to graduate. She is presently employed at the Delta Hotel and Conference Centre and holds a Unit Chair position in her Local with the UFCW. An active member with her union, she is also a member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour's Youth Committee. In the past couple of years, Susan has participated in various internships as a union representative and is well educated in areas dealing with labour standards and human rights. She has worked extensively with the Workers Compensation Board and has been involved advising on the recent legislation for return to work programs. Susan believes that youth need a voice and is a very enthusiastic member of this Committee.

Adam Vickers, Corner Brook

Adam is a first year student at Grenfell College. He is involved with the Western Youth Progressive Conservative's, the Newfoundland and Labrador Youth Parliament, and was an active volunteer in high school with the Herdman Humanities. Adam plans to pursue a career in law, accounting, or engineering. Adam is an avid outdoors man and hopes to make a meaningful contribution to the youth of the province.

Jill Williams, North West River

Jill Williams is a 26 year old from North West River. She is a graduate from Memorial University of Newfoundland's Bachelor of Social Work program and recently completed a Master in Social Work from Carleton University. Jill is currently employed as a social worker in the Child, Youth and Family Services office in Sheshatshiu. As an active volunteer, Jill is a member of the North West River Beach Festival Committee and is developing a community aerobics class.

Karen Bungay, Harbour Breton

Karen, who is presently a first year student at the Grand Falls/Windsor Campus of the College of the North Atlantic, has been very active with a number of groups in Harbour

Breton, particularly with the high school student council and the local Community Youth Network. Karen is very aware of the issues facing young people in rural communities and the access to services. She has been active with the Harbour Breton Development Corporation to ensure the views of the youth of the Bay d'Espoir region are heard.

Beverley Kirby, Stephenville (Mentor)

Beverley is the Director of the Community Education Network, a community-based partnership of agencies which provides an umbrella framework for learning projects and programs in Southwestern Newfoundland. Youth Initiatives have been a primary focus for the Network. Beverley has a background in education and community development and holds Masters Degrees in Linguistics and Adult Education.

Appendix C: List of Persons/Agencies Consulted

Person/Agency Consulted	Topic(s) Covered
Minister Paul Shelley (Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment)	Presentation of the 2004-05 Annual Report
Ms. Jennifer Jeans (Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment)	Poverty Reduction Strategy
Mr. Gerald Crane (Rural Secretariat)	Rural Secretariat research funding
Ms. Mona Wall (Women's Policy Office)	Violence Prevention Initiative
Ms. Nellie Burke (Immigration Strategy)	Immigration issues related to youth
Canadian Hard of Hearing Association	Issues facing client youth
Newfoundland and Labrador Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgender Association	Issues facing client youth
Bishop Falls Youth Council	Provincial youth issues
Jacenta Smith (YAC Member)	Competing for Tomorrow Conference
Susan Taylor (YAC Member)	Sexual Health Centre Conference – sexual health issues facing the Province's youth

Appendix D: Newfoundland & Labrador Fact Sheet

The outlined statistics for 2005 have been compiled from federal and provincial government agencies.

Provincial Youth Population (15-29 years)	101,405
% of Total Population	19.7%
Net Migration:	
15 - 19 years	-746
20 - 24 years	-1,383
25 - 29 years	-157
Paid Labour Force (15 years and above)	252,500
Youth Labour Force (15-24 years)	37,300 (14.8%)
Provincial Employment %	49.8%
Youth Employment %	42.4%
Provincial Unemployment %	15.2%
Youth Unemployment %	21.4%
% of Provincial Income Support Clients (15-29 years)	21.9%
% of Youth in School (15-19 years)	62.3%
High School Drop-out Rate (15-19 years)	10.5%
Average Tuition (per year)	\$2,606.00
Average Student Debt	\$20,400.00
Post Secondary Completion:	
Memorial University of Newfoundland	80%
College of the North Atlantic	
1-2 Year Programs	65%
3 Year Programs	50%
Youth Without a High School Diploma Not Currently Enrolled in an Educational Program	12,497
% of Total Youth Population	12.4%
Youth Crime per 1000 youth (15-24 years)	36.4
Teen Pregnancy per 1000 women (15-19 years)	32.7
Induced Abortions per 1000 women (15-19 years):	
Total	7.5
Hospital	2.9
Clinic	4.6
Attempted Youth Suicides per 1000 youth (15-19 years)	31
% of Youth Dealing with a Mental Health issue (12-24 years)	20%

