

# Youth at Conference Leadership Application

Alberta and Northwest Conference  
The United Church of Canada

Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015  
Multi-Rec Centre, Slave Lake, Alberta

## Youth at Conference Purpose Statement:

The Youth at Conference program is intended to support the involvement of youth at the meeting of Alberta and Northwest Conference such that they are able to participate during the Conference in a meaningful way.

At the same time, the program creates a space where youth can gather and grow in both spirit and community.

The two parts of this purpose are not separate from each other, and both are equal in their value. Each part is necessary for the other to be achieved. In order for the spiritual work of the church to be done, we need to make choices as a church body. In order to make these choices wisely, we need to be spiritually engaged and empowered.

## Some of the ways we achieve this purpose are:

- Logistically enable youth to be present as delegates at Conference
- Prepare Junior Youth to be corresponding members and Senior Youth to be voting members of the court
- Encourage development of leadership of youth
- Help youth to move into the meeting in a prepared, supported and empowered way, such that the youth's voices are heard in the meeting
- Create an opportunity for youth to connect with the wider church community
- Provide an opportunity for youth to gather in a spiritual context

## Description of Groups (SHAC and JHAC):

In order to facilitate a meaningful experience for all participants, the Youth at Conference program has been separated into JHAC (Junior High at Conference, for youth in Grades 7-9) and SHAC (Senior High at Conference, for youth in Grades 10-12). Both of these programs include a pre-Conference learning event that runs from the Wednesday night until the beginning of the Conference Meeting, which is intended to fulfill the purpose of Youth at Conference as written above. While encouraged to spend time together during meals, vespers, swimming and free time, SHAC and JHAC are separate programs that are designed to support youth in the different ways that they are involved in the Conference meeting: specifically, the Senior High delegates are full voting delegates, whereas the Junior High delegates are corresponding members without voting privileges.

## Leadership Team:

Both programs consist of 4 adult leaders: 2 female and 2 male. Leaders will be chosen after the application deadline.

Leaders are responsible for the following:

- Meet with Leadership Coordinators and Leadership Team for a Team Building/Planning day on Wednesday afternoon (May 27<sup>th</sup>).
- Obtain and provide YAYAM with a criminal record check dated within the previous three years, at the applicant's expense.
- Attend and be present at the Youth at Conference program from late afternoon on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> until after a leadership debrief on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. (about 2 pm)
- Plan and lead the training, community building, and spiritual programming for the youth, and be available throughout the Conference Meeting and Youth at Conference program as a resource and pastoral support.
- Enforce, along with Leadership Coordinators, and adhere to the SAD Contract, as signed by all leaders and participants.
- Commit to attending Conference solely as a part of the Youth at Conference Leadership Team - this means that leaders will not be delegates, regardless of their pastoral charge affiliation.
- Help Youth at Conference participants leave the meeting space as clean as or cleaner than when they arrived.
- Evaluate the program and provide feedback to YAYAM for future events.
- Abide by any standards set out at the Leadership Training event, or by the Youth at Conference program on Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Support from Conference:

- All expenses, including travel (mileage), meals (*except Saturday dinner*) and accommodation, are covered by the Youth at Conference budget. (Please bring cash for Saturday dinner. Youth and leaders will order in a meal and eat together.)
- Once you have applied and been accepted Denise will send you the conference registration form to ensure you receive your meals.
- Leadership Coordinators are available throughout preparation for and the entirety of the Conference Meeting in order to provide both logistical support and guidance to the Leadership Team.
- A small honorarium is provided for each person on the Leadership Team.

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Name	_____	How do you identify ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> other _____
Address	_____	Birthdate	_____
City/Town	_____	Province	_____
Postal Code	_____	Fax	_____
Phone (Home)	_____	(Work/Cell)	_____
Email	_____		
Home Congregation	_____		
Presbytery	_____		

Are you a member/adherent of The United Church of Canada? Yes ☐ No ☐

Which group would you prefer to lead?

Sr. High at Conference: ☐ Jr. High at Conference: ☐ Either: ☐

1. What is it that draws you to be a part of the Leadership Team for the Youth at Conference program?
2. Alberta Northwest Conference is a general meeting of the United Church, and as such, it is important for leaders to have some interest in the wider church and its decision-making purposes. Therefore, we wonder what is the significance of The United Church of Canada to you?
3. What are your initial reactions to this years' Conference meeting theme, entitled, **The Treasure Within and Among Us**? In what ways do you think this theme could be related to youth and their life and church experiences? (optional)
4. What gifts and skills do you bring to this role of Youth Conference Leadership?

5. Do you have any first aid training? (Please note: this is not required, but it would be fantastic if you did.)  
If yes, then at what level?
6. What is your experience in leading youth ? List where and when (roughly) such leadership occurred and in what position & program. Please note any experiences you have had of leading with a team of people.
7. Jesus welcomed everyone, whether they were poor, rich, or just getting by; ill or healthy; self-made or educated; popular or a loner; secure or full of doubts. The United Church of Canada (works hard to) welcome and respectfully relate to everyone the way Jesus did, regardless of age, race, class, gender, orientation, or physical ability. (From the United Church of Canada website)  
Are you in support of the United Church's stance on inclusivity, as found above?
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## **Youth at Conference Leadership Reference**

Please give us the contact information for two references. Please note that at least one of your references must be someone who has experienced your leadership. The second reference may be a personal one.

### **Reference 1**

Name:  
Relationship to you:  
Phone Number:  
Email address:

### **Reference 2**

Name:  
Relationship to you:  
Phone Number:  
Email address:

**The application deadline is April 1, 2015.**

Please send completed applications and direct any questions to:

Denise Davis Taylor  
c/o St Paul's United Church  
11526 76 Ave Edmonton, AB T6G 0K7  
phone 780 906 8870  
email: [denise@stpaulsunity.org](mailto:denise@stpaulsunity.org)

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