

Global Culture, Local Meanings and Contested Community: Youth Engagement in Hillsborough Park (Phase 2) – Hillsborough Promoters

The research summarized herein is the second phase of a three-phase research project whose aim is to contextualize the lived experiences of young people in the community of Hillsborough Park, Prince Edward Island. Therefore, it builds on work that was undertaken in Phase One, entitled “Youth and Community Mobilization in Hillsborough Park, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island”. A major need that was identified by the young people of the community during this phase was positive activities for them to participate in (within their own community). A second major need identified in phase one was the development of positive relationships between young people with older members of their community as well as municipal authorities. The major aims of this Phase 2 project are to address these two major needs and also, to continue to examine the way youth were and are conceptualized (by themselves and the older generations) both within the community and beyond.

The significance of this project is that it will allow researchers a venue to directly target young people between 14-18 years of age and also, will provide an opportunity for researchers and community members alike to help organize activities that support educational, physical, expressive and emotional development at the individual and collective levels. It is hoped that these activities will build a social support network that will offset some of the significant issues youth face as a result of poverty, family stress and lack of support and services. A further intention is specifically, to organize an effective and inclusive program for youth in the community and to provide community leadership training.