

Youth Leadership Program



Are you in High School?

High school can be a challenge. Students want to do well, be accepted by their peers, be popular with the opposite sex, and feel confident about their lives and their future. Yet many are afraid of being rejected, messing up, not living up to expectations, being 'different' or sounding 'stupid'. If you would like to succeed but have any of these feelings our Youth Leadership Program is for you! Teenagers need the Youth Leadership program so they can grow to meet the challenges in their lives and become the leaders they can be. Sponsored and conducted by the In-Pace Toastmasters Club of Etobicoke, the Youth Leadership Program helps young people build their communication and leadership skills so they may become tomorrow's leaders in business, industry and the community.

Purpose of the Program

Every young person has the potential to become a good communicator and leader, but this potential needs to be developed. The program's unique eight-session, workshop-style design enables participants to develop this potential through practical experience.

The program is not in competition with school programs or courses, or other established youth projects. Instead, it's a supplement to these programs, providing emphasis on specialized speaking and leadership skills, and individual needs. Participants learn to:

- ▶ Conduct meetings and be leaders
- ▶ Organize and present ideas logically and convincingly.
- ▶ Listen carefully to others' ideas.
- ▶ Offer advice to help others improve their speaking and leadership skills.
- ▶ Participants increase their self-confidence as they learn.
- ▶ Make new friends and have fun. Toastmasters is an enjoyable learning experience!

The Participants

Each Youth Leadership program group is limited to 15 to 20 people, with a maximum of 25. That way, each person receives individual attention and has the opportunity to get practical experience.

Participants for the program are selected by the sponsoring Toastmasters club. Participants are selected for what they can become, not for what they already have done. Often teenagers want the course as a supplement to their high school education, or to prepare for college.

The Sponsor

Toastmasters International has 270,000 members in 13,000 clubs across 116 countries and is the largest non-profit organization in the world dedicated to speaking and leadership skills. The sponsor of this workshop is the In-Pace Toastmasters club located at Pace Law Firm in Etobicoke. The coordinator of the workshop will be Andy J. Semotiuk. Apart from his participation in Toastmasters for over 20 years, he has also taught public speaking at the University of British Columbia and at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, Ukraine. He is a columnist for Forbes, a U.S. and Canadian Immigration lawyer, a former United Nations correspondent and a published author. In addition to Mr. Semotiuk, there will be other senior Toastmasters of similar caliber who would be involved.

How it Works

The program is presented in eight sessions at St. James Church on Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4 pm. Each session usually lasts one to two hours. Activities taking place in the sessions include the following:

- ▶ Discussion of leadership principles
- ▶ Discussion and practice in listening
- ▶ Presentation of speeches
- ▶ Exercise in chairmanship
- ▶ Discussion of gestures in speaking
- ▶ Impromptu talks
- ▶ Discussion of speech organization
- ▶ Discussion of voice and vocabulary
- ▶ Group evaluation

There is no cost to participants for tuition or materials. The materials used in the program are produced by Toastmasters International and are provided by the sponsoring Toastmasters club, which orders them from Toastmasters World Headquarters.

Generally, meetings follow a format similar to that of a Toastmasters club meeting. There is an announced agenda and participants learn and practice parliamentary procedure during each meeting. Lecturing is minimal, but discussion is held during each session. Participants, working from a handbook, select officers who preside over the meetings. The remaining class members are assigned other duties on a rotating basis, so everyone is actively involved. Participants also deliver short impromptu and prepared speeches. In every meeting, participants learn to apply the principles of leading, listening, thinking and speaking.

**The course is free and starts Saturday, October 4th, 2014 at 2 PM at
St James United Church, 400 Burnhamthorpe Rd, Etobicoke.
(Across from the library at Burnhamthorpe and Higheay 427).
Registration is now open. You must register to attend.**

To register contact Andy J. Semotiuk at (416) 342-5537 or Andy@myworkvisa.com or contact Karen Kwan Anderson at (416) 236-3060 or email: anderson@pacelawfirm.com