



# Guide for Prospective Schools

ypi™

YOUTH AND  
PHILANTHROPY  
INITIATIVE  
CANADA

# The **y**pi story

YPI is an idea. YPI is a program. YPI is a platform. With every grant awarded through our school-based competition, YPI channels financial resources, public awareness, and volunteers to local charities, while sparking the social conscience of secondary school students, building their character, and developing their life and workplace skills.

YPI was created in 2002 by the Toskan Casale Foundation to inspire empathy for local social issues and provide immediate help to people in need. With values rooted in the founders' experience with MAC and the MAC AIDS Fund, YPI provides grants to social service charities by asking youth to identify issues and to stand up for the most vulnerable people in their communities.

Every year, tens of thousands of high school students complete YPI's multi-award-winning curriculum across Canada. Together they stand up for hundreds of local charities and speak to 200,000 Canadians about social causes and vital community services. They are challenging stigma, changing behaviours, and directing grants and critical public support for millions of people in need across the country.



# How **ypi** achieves its results

We maximize **local public awareness and support** for charities.

We create the conditions for **authentic youth civic engagement**.

We contribute to systemic change by **developing compassionate systems thinkers**.



## Strong partnerships with schools

YPI's in-demand, fully-resourced educational project enriches school culture and satisfies a wide range of mandated curriculum objectives across the country. YPI staff and resources support schools and educators to embed YPI as a core experience for their students.



## Transformative site visits

YPI's charity site visits provide youth with an inimitable experience of empathy and personal development. Often cited as a pivotal moment in their lives, youth build relationships with professionals, volunteers and clients, and connect to the issues impacting their communities.



## Responsibility and decision-making

YPI prepares youth to make informed choices about their communities, and then respects their decisions. They decide which issues and charities are meaningful to them, then deliver thousands of presentations, teaching their family and school community about important social issues. Youth-majority judging panels select grant recipients.



## Value for local charities

YPI strengthens the social sector with significant grants, and by building bridges between people and charities. Charities engage with youth who become advocates for their cause, each student teaches 8-9 people on average. 90% will recommend charities to people in need of help.



## Critical skills development for students

YPI combines classroom learning and real community experience to develop core competencies in students, such as confidence, teamwork, leadership, presentation, communication, research and problem-solving skills.



## Monitoring, evaluation, and innovation

YPI's robust evaluation system monitors program quality, and tracks our progress across key outcomes. We invest in staff, ideas, and collaborations to accelerate and extend our impact at the local, national and international scales.

# How **ypi** works



## YPI Launch

Students are introduced to YPI through a classroom-based or grade-level assembly.



## Form Teams

In teams, students identify and research social issues affecting their community.



## Research

Teams research and analyze local charities working to address the social issues they've identified.



## Choose a Charity

Teams select and further research the charity they believe best addresses their chosen issue.



## Contact and Visit

Teams contact and visit one charity, gaining a more detailed understanding of what they do and how they operate.



## Presentations

Teams prepare and deliver a presentation on their chosen charity and issue, and the impact \$5000 would have.



## YPI Final Presentation Assembly

Finalists go on to present again before their school, guests, and a panel of judges. The team with the most compelling presentation is awarded a \$5000 grant to direct to their charity



# How to register **your** school

Applications are accepted from schools on an ongoing basis.  
Here is a step-by-step guide to getting your school involved

## **Step #1** Check that your school would be able to meet our eligibility criteria:



- Ensure YPI can be taught in a mandatory grade 9 or 10 course, so all students in the grade will participate
- Each school will designate a Lead Teacher to be the point of contact throughout the year
- Charities are to be identified and selected by students, and must be registered charities providing social services directly to people in your local community
- The school will permit/support students to make off-campus visits to charities
- The school will host a final assembly for finalist teams from each class to deliver their presentations to a majority-youth panel of judges and an audience



### **Step #2**

Get the approval of your school administration



### **Step #3**

Visit [goypi.org](http://goypi.org) to preview the application questions



### **Step #4**

Submit your school application online

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Once your application has been submitted, our program staff will review your school's eligibility.

If there are no spaces available, you will be added to our waitlist.  
As spaces become available, schools will be enrolled and assisted in starting the program.



“Thank you for providing such a brilliant project that is at the forefront of education.

I have been teaching for 30 years and I have never seen a project work so effectively across an entire grade that empowers youth to gain skills for their future and at the same time promotes empathy and caring. It is truly a recipe for success!”

~ Marilyn Nunn, YPI Teacher from British Columbia

YPI is an inclusive, multi-award-winning approach to grant-making that grows compassionate communities by connecting high school students to social issues, local charities, and philanthropy at a pivotal stage in their adolescence.

YPI was created in 2002 by the Toskan Casale Foundation, and has been recognized as a best practice in the emergent field of youth philanthropy worldwide.

**2008 Outstanding Foundation Award**

*Association of Fundraising Professionals, Toronto Chapter*

**2010 Canadian Best Practice in Civic Education**

*The Institute for Canadian Citizenship*

**2011 Premier's Award for Philanthropy in Education**

*Government of Ontario*

**2014 June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award**

*Government of Ontario*

**2014 Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship (OMGC)**

*for YPI Founder and President, Julie Toskan-Casale*

**2015 Honorary Doctorate in Civil Law, Saint Mary's University, Halifax for Julie Toskan-Casale**

**2015 Youth Giving Advisory Member, Foundation Center**

**2016 Meritorious Service Medal (Civilian), Governor General of Canada for Julie Toskan-Casale**

**2016 "Small Foundations, Outsized Impact" YPI a case study in a research paper on systems-level change**

**2017 "Genius: 100 Visions of the Future", Albert Einstein Foundation Julie Toskan-Casale selected for 3D book**

With many thanks to our Founding Partner

**TOSKAN  
CASALE  
FOUNDATION**

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**Canada**



and a community of local and regional supporters  
who make YPI possible

**ypi**<sup>TM</sup>

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