



Introducing the...

YAY FUSION! TEEN GROUP

**ACTION
PACKED**

Fall/Winter schedule!

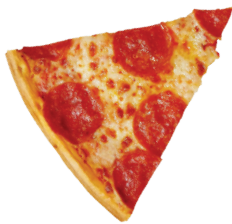
Dog sledding, swimming, dance, pizza parties and more...

by YKACL Staff

YOUTH AGED 13 TO 18, with or without a disability, are encouraged to join the Yay Fusion! Teen Group!

The Fall/Winter schedule is filled with fun and challenging social activities – two each month.

“We have come up with a super-fun schedule for the teens this season,” said Michael Ramirez, youth group coordinator. “We have some favourite activities making a return, such as the bouldering wall



and a Halloween costume party, along with lots of new adventures.”

This month, the group is meeting for the first time after a two-month hiatus. The youth will get to know one another and catch up on the summer’s news as they participate in a Cooking Workshop.

The group meets at 6pm on Thursday, Sept. 19, at the Abe Miller Building (4912 53rd Street).

If you know a teen who may be keen, shoot us a text at: 445-7833 or fire off an email to: inclusion2@ykacl.ca.

See you soon!



LEAVE THE LEAVES TO US!

CALL THE ODD JOB SQUAD

445-6967

BUSINESS SERVICES TEAM UPDATE

by YKACL staff

THE BUSINESS SERVICES TEAM distributed approximately 575 posters in August for customers that included the Yellowknife Youth Choir, the Yellowknife Speed skating Association, the NWT Wellness Society and the Ahmadiya Community.

The team also completed 90 courier assignments and more than 60 recycling and shredding pick-ups.

The Business Services Team operates through the YKACL Skills Training and Community Inclusion Service for adults with intellectual disabilities (ST&CI)

The Business Services Team offers:

- Recycling pick-up
- Courier delivery
- Mail preparation
- Poster distribution
- Document shredding
- Special projects

Team revenue is paid in wages to the clients providing the service.

ODD JOB SQUAD UPDATE

by YKACL staff

FORTY-EIGHT CUSTOMERS hired The Odd Job Squad in August, providing temporary work for 15 clients.

Employers included:

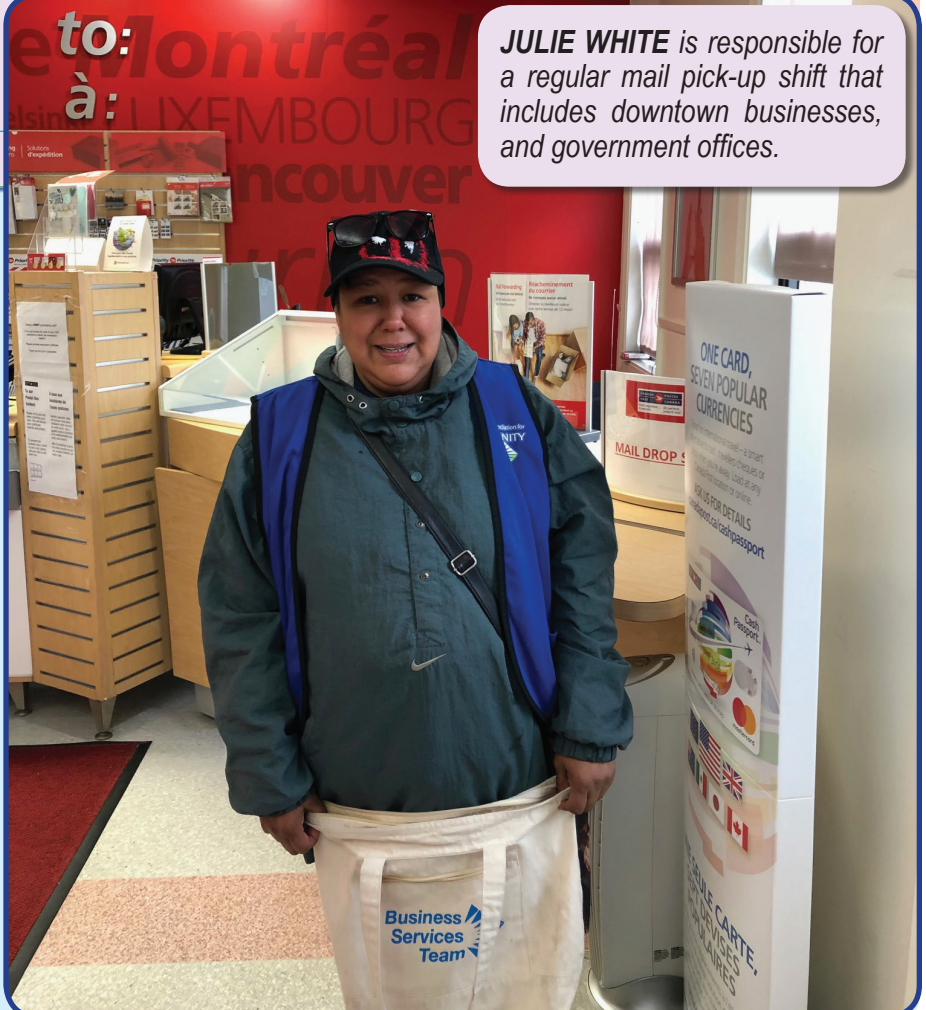
- Lakeside Heights Apartments
- Landscaping committee, Borealis Housing Co-op
- YWCA
- CDETNO
- Old Town Ramble & Ride
- NWT Montessori Society

The variety of jobs included yard work, construction assistance, pet waste removal, light furniture moving and dump runs.

The Odd Job Squad is designed to assist under-employed individuals who self-identify with a disability to derive a small income from one-time or short-term work while they search for permanent employment.

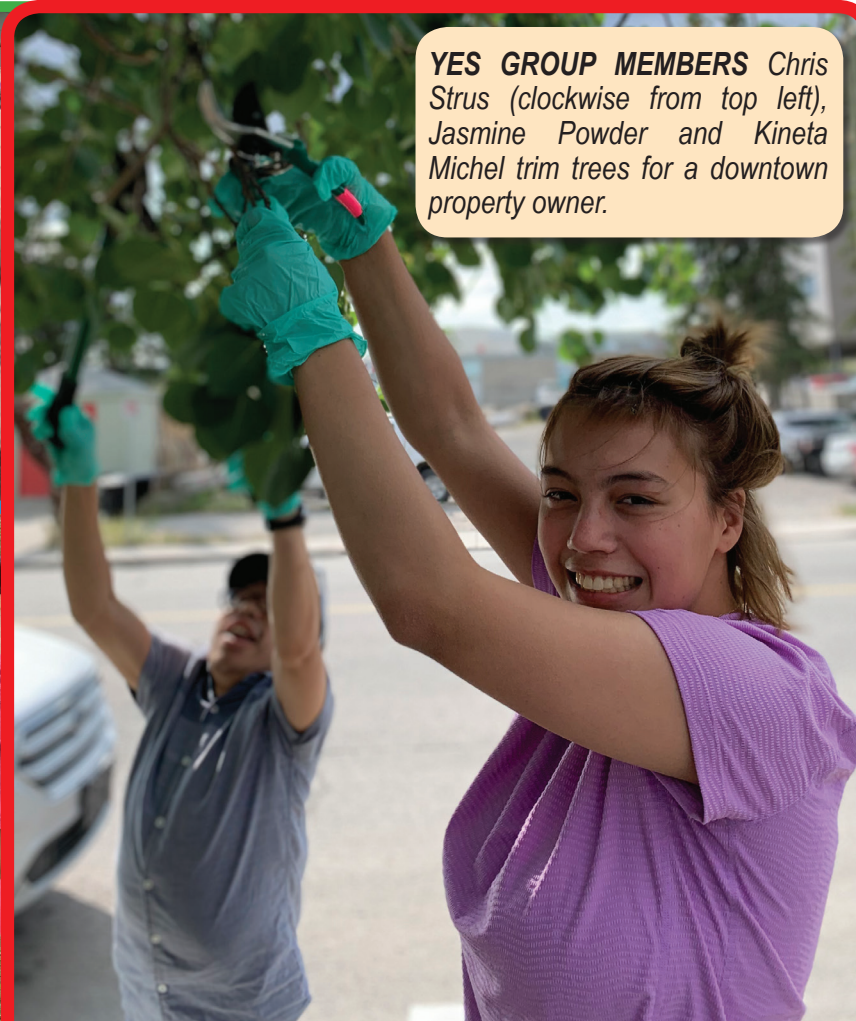
To hire the Squad, contact the hotline: 445-6967.

JULIE WHITE is responsible for a regular mail pick-up shift that includes downtown businesses, and government offices.





YES GROUP MEMBERS Chris Strus (clockwise from top left), Jasmine Powder and Kineta Michel trim trees for a downtown property owner.



YES GROUP MEMBERS Kineta Michel and Ron Sanders stacked these two cords of wood for a customer in August. To hire the YES Group call Donna Meserah-Zdyb at 920-2644.

YES GROUP UPDATE

by YKACL staff

LAST MONTH YES GROUP (Youth Employment Services) distributed 125 posters, completed 15 recycling pick-ups, and made more than 30 courier deliveries for customers that included the YK1 School Board and the City of Yellowknife. The 10-member group provided weekly cleaning services for:

- Bella Dance Academy
- Yellowknife Ski Club
- Ecology North
- Ptarmigan Ptheatrics

Members also volunteered at the Habitat for Humanity NWT ReSTORE and assembled a new storage shed for the Association.

Yes Group supports young people with disabilities who have finished high school and/or post-secondary training who may be under-engaged in employment and volunteer work.

YKACL STAFF PROFILE by Andrew Willy summer student

What do summer students contribute to the Yellowknife Association for Community Living (YKACL)? St. Patrick High School Student Jordyn Riou and Concordia University student Colleen Nagel offer good examples of students' potential.

PATIENCE AND CARING

Jordyn has worked with YKACL for the past two summers and during some spring and winter breaks. This summer, she worked as a Skills Training and Community Inclusion Facilitator in the mornings and as a facilitator with the Summer Teen Program in the afternoons. She has also served as a respite worker for the Association in the past.

"In Summer camp we have a new activity every day," said Jordyn.

"We try to do a lot of outdoor activities when the weather calls for it. It gets kids active and enjoying new experiences."

Vera Nesbitt, Manager of YKACL Family and Children's Services and one of Jordyn's supervisors, de-

scribes her as a hard worker.

"In the mornings, Jordyn provides clients with one-on-one attention. In the afternoons she helps young people with their ability to speak and helps them develop life skills, such as using the washroom properly and practicing safety in the community. She always greets the teens with a smile," said Vera.

"She does excellent work. She brings a lot of energy to the job and she also brings a lot of patience and caring. Each parent of children that Jordyn has worked with absolutely loves her."

During the regular high school year, Jordyn works as an after-school caregiver with the YWCA after school program at J.H. Sissons School. She adores working with young people at both jobs, she said.

"YKACL is a really welcoming place to work" said Jordyn.

"It's a really rewarding job. It's a really great place to work as a high school student. I've met lots of people and have had a lot of experiences I wouldn't have had if I hadn't worked here for the past two summers."

DANCE AND MOVEMENT

Colleen started working at the Association when she was 16. She started

working with the Summer Teen Program in the afternoons over summers and currently works full days with clients in Skills Training and Community Inclusion and YES group (Youth Employment Services).

Colleen is a dance instructor with many years of experience and she brings dance to her job with the Association. She likes to keep clients active, said Donna Messerah-Zdyb, Manager of Skills Training and Community Inclusion.

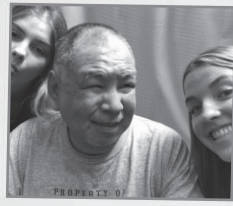
"Colleen really likes having everyone engaged," said Donna. "She's very client-oriented."

Colleen has led several dance classes for clients.

"I love being on my feet and moving around" said Colleen. "I love sharing Dance with the clients and trying to bring as much physical activity and health lessons as I can. I think it's really important."

Colleen returned to Concordia University for her second year of Contemporary Dance studies last month.

"YKACL is a nice place to work. Everyone is so nice," she said, during her last week of work. "I'm excited to come back and I'm sad to leave."



Jordyn + Colleen



ANDREW
WILLY

YKACL news

**More free pallets
(while supplies last)**



DROP BY the back of the Abe Miller Building (behind 4912 53rd St. next to the YK1 school board office) and help yourself to some pallets this week.

We need them gone to good homes ASAP!

**YKACL loans out
wheelchairs**



WHEELCHAIRS, walkers and more are available for loan for up to two weeks by donation.

Just contact our front desk staff at 920-2644 to reserve a chair or pop by the office (bring photo ID).

Chairs have a 16-inch width and 250lb capacity.

The first YKACL Parent/Family Night of the fall will be held on Wednesday, Sept 25, 7 to 9pm. This will provide families an opportunity to identify subjects they'd like to chat about over the winter.

Some upcoming discussion topics include:

- Wills and estates
- Living arrangement options

A message from our friends at Special Olympics NWT:

**Come join us at
Special Olympics!**

For athletes aged 12 and up (including adults):
Register for one or more of our sport programs:

- bowling
- swimming
- rhythmic gymnastics
- speed skating
- figure skating
- fitness

Registration held Monday, Sept. 23, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm
in the office of the Nunasi Building.

For youth aged 2 to 6 and 7 to 11:

Active Start and FUNdamentals on Saturday mornings!
Children learn basic sport skills in a setting where they can move and get used to being around and with others in a way that works best for them.

Parents can attend sessions if they wish. There will be a try-it and registration day on Saturday, September 21, 9:30 - 10:15 am, J.H. Sissons gym.

For more info: lynn@sonwt.ca

Maraming Salamat Sa iyong Suporta Ngayong tag-init!



MEMBERS OF THE YES GROUP (Youth Employment Services) prepared lumpia and pancit for sale on June 25 (above). The YES Group members included Kineta Michel and Ron Sanders, working alongside staff Jamaine Vilan and Lian Vilan.

Philippine Cuisine Sale season wraps up

by YKACL Staff

MEMBERS OF THE YES GROUP (YKACL Youth Employment Services) wrapped up their participation in Lian Vilan's first Philippine Cuisine Summer Sidewalk Sale after a successful two month-run. The young adults helped Lian prepare and sell more than 300 lumpia (Filipino egg rolls) and bowls of pancit (a popular Filipino noodle dish) to more than 100 customers since her weekly sale began in mid-June.

Vilan, who is also a Skills Facilitator with the Association, led the young adults through the steps for preparation and presentation in the Association's professional

kitchen. She also hired the Group to help her sell the food every Tuesday evening in front of the Abe Miller Building on 53rd Street, a block from the Yellowknife Farmers Market.

'HIGH QUALITY WORK'

"The young people did a wonderful job in the kitchen and learned new skills as they helped me to serve the public," said Lian. "They confirmed some of their employable skills and are proud of the high quality work they did with me. We had many return customers and lots of community support. We will certainly consider returning next summer."

YKACL news

Arctic char
was on the menu



JOEY OOGAAQ helped prepare this Arctic char alongside colleagues and staff on Sept. 13.

The char came from his home community of Kugaaruk, where he visited family this summer.

Lian Vilan and Clara Tutcho baked the char using a marinade of rosemary, roasted garlic and olive oil.

Free books in the
Abe Miller Garden

FREE BOOKS are available every day in the curbside library in the Abe Miller Garden (4912 53rd Street).

Dozens of titles for readers of all ages. Check out the selection today!

Outreach Legal Aid Clinics

The Legal Aid Commission offers a free outreach program to individuals to provide limited, confidential legal information or advice. The Outreach lawyer's role is only to provide advice and they cannot represent people in court.

The program assists people in dealing with issues relating to:

- Housing, landlord, and tenant disputes
- Disability, Canada Pension Plan, EI and Income Support Claims and Appeals
- Employment rights
- Worker's Health and Safety Commission claims
- Wills and estate advice
- Mental health and guardianship reviews
- Child protection matters
- Elder abuse
- Family Law
- Debtor, creditor or civil claims (formerly known as small claims court)

FYI

The outreach program holds weekly clinics in Yellowknife on a first-come, first-serve basis as follows:

- Tuesday from 1:30-4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Clients can also make appointments at other times depending on the circumstances. In-person clinics will be held in other NWT communities on a regular basis, or you may call the office for a scheduled phone appointment.

Government Service Officers may also provide help with Canada Pension Plan and employment insurance matters.

The Walk-in Clinics will be held on a first-come, first-serve basis. No appointments are needed.

For more information, please call toll-free 1-844-497-1319.



ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBER Tony Florio served clients, staff and their families during the annual YKACL BBQ on Sept. 7. Close to 90 guests turned out for the event.



**JOIN
the YKACL
YAY! FUSION
TEEN Group
For a FUN
COOKING
WORKSHOP**

YAY FUSION!
Yellowknife Youth Inclusive Teen Group
Yay! Fusion Teen Group is an inclusive teen group. We meet twice per month to have fun and socialize with peers. Designed for youth aged 13-18 with or without a disability.

**6pm-8:30pm Thursday, Sept. 19
Meet at the Abe Miller Building
(4912 53rd Street)**

**RSVP to Michael:
inclusion2@ykacl.ca**