

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Youth Unleashing Power a positive youth symposium

June 25 – 29, 2017

**Cowichan Valley Outdoor Education & Conference Centre
Vancouver Island, British Columbia
POZyouth@vpwas.org**

Welcome

It is a pleasure to invite you to the second annual Youth Unleashing Power: a positive youth symposium, a gathering for Canadians aged 18-32, who are living with HIV and/or Hepatitis C. A project of the Vancouver Island Persons Living with HIV/AIDS Society in Victoria, B.C. in partnership with YouthCo (Vancouver), this national meeting has been organized by and for positive youth, with an emphasis on collaborative decision making.

We held our first symposium last year at the University of Victoria, and featured presentations on non-disclosure, technology, sexuality, and spirituality. Program participants were also provided with opportunities for art making and access to complementary health care services, including massages throughout both days and a community acupuncture clinic.

Based on feedback from last year, we have extended the length of the symposium by an extra day and moved to a location that will provide us with a more of a retreat-style meeting. Please check out our website or contact the organizers for more information about the conference location.

This call for abstracts is open to any youth living in Canada, aged 18-32, who is living with HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, or both.

The 4-day symposium will feature presenters from across the country who are doing radical work for positive folks. There will be opportunities to access self-care as well as connect in a casual environment. The project is peer-led, meaning it has been developed by and for positive youth through a collaborative process.

We, the organizers, are excited to be able to offer you the opportunity to present to youth from across Canada the work that you have been doing in your home community, or on an area of interest and relevance to positive youth. The conference has been organized by staff and members of the Vancouver Island Persons Living with HIV/AIDS Society.

Presentations will be selected by the planning team, which is made up of 4 positive youth and one non-peer administrative support person.

Topics of interest

We would like to suggest the following topics as particularly relevant to this symposium, however, we welcome creative and innovative ideas beyond this list:

Healthcare
Stigma
Criminalization
Deisolation
Organizing

Guide for authors

Please limit abstracts to 500 words or less. Abstracts must be submitted in .pdf form.

Important dates

Deadline to submit abstracts: May 15, 2017

Notification of acceptance: May 30, 2017

Submission Guidelines

Fill out the contact form and return it along with your abstract.