

2022

FLOURISHING CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM FAIR

The CFYS 20th Anniversary Edition

Organized in collaboration between the Centre for Youth and Society and the CRD Community Health Network, the program fair showcased the community and school-based programs and initiatives created to support children and youth. The event brought together educators, counsellors, community leaders, researchers, and students for panels and booth presentations throughout the day.

The program fair was also the occasion to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Centre as a Uvic research centre, presenting some of the programs it has created.

Thursday May 19th

- 8:30 a.m. **Opening and booth setting**
- 9:00 a.m. **Greetings and territory acknowledgment** by Elder Barbara Hulme
Virtual Address by Myer Horowitz (CFYS)
Plan for the day by Kristen Mah (CRD-CHN)
- 9:45 a.m. **Panel: “Lessons from Long-Established and Recent Programs for Children & Youth”:** Moderated by Frederick Grouzet.
Panelists: Bonnie Leadbeater (CFYS), Mandeep Kaur Mucina (CFYS), Debbie Douez (Art of Reconciliation), Gita John-Iyam (Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria)
- 10:45 a.m. **Program Fair (Morning + All-Day Sessions)**
- 12:00 p.m. **Health Break**
- 1:00 p.m. **Panel “Current Programs and Initiative: How to support them”:** Moderated by Frederick Grouzet. Panelists: Paweena Sukhawathanakul (CFYS), Vivienne Temple (CFYS), Charlene Smith (Take-A-Hike Foundation), Tara Skobel (Quadra Village Community Centre)
- 2:00 p.m. **Program Fair (Afternoon + All-Day Sessions)**
- 3:00 p.m. **Round Table Conversation:** What did we learn today? What are the gaps? How could we continue to support programs and initiatives for children and Youth?
- 4:00 p.m. **Closing Remarks** by Frederick Grouzet



Myer Horowitz

Dr. Myer Horowitz was a founding member of the CFYS and an established scholar. He gave an inaugural talk at our first Flourishing Children & Youth Program Fair, and we will remember him for the many Program Fairs to come.



Lessons from Long-Established and Recent Programs for Children & Youth

For the first panel of the event, the panelists and the moderator discussed various programs for children and youth. During the discussion, they exchanged perspectives about the benefits and consequences of long-established and recent programs in relation to mental health of children and youth.



Current Programs and Initiative: How to Support them?

The second panel focused more on innovating the current programs for children and youth. They focused on the strengths and contributions of youth to their families, schools, and communities, and on youth who are vulnerable due to societal, family, and community challenges.

The discussion panels were presented as an opportunity for disseminating knowledge about the various challenges surrounding funding, collaboration, and experiences regarding children and youth programs. The panelists also shared the success of some initiatives and the availability of resources for youth, which provided information and guidance for attendees and relative organizations to overcome funding and collaboration difficulties.

LEARNING FROM THE PANELS

“A lot about the organizations themselves and their impact. Impact was really interesting!”

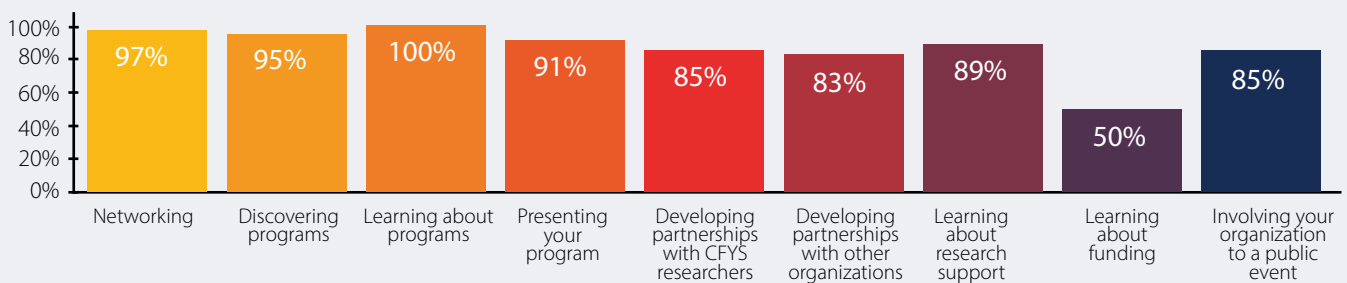
“How amazing return on social investment stats are!”

“About the seeking reciprocity from relationships with researchers. I learned the importance of the role that researchers play and how potentially their research can aid collaborations in the future.”

“In spite of difficulties, there are still many good resources available for youth in Victoria area.”

“Youth are important and more effort needs to be made to include, reach and advocate for them.”

Level of satisfaction with the **opportunities being presented** during the event as ‘somewhat satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’



Many attendees were impressed by the different program initiatives at the event. It was an excellent way for them to connect with their organizers, research fellows, and other stakeholders. It introduced the possibility of working with academia for some of their programs.

Attendees found that the program facilitated learning and making connections with others. Some of them noted that the format could be improved for greater engagement. For example, it has been suggested to have more opportunities to connect with others through more frequent presentations and conversations. In addition, many attendees would like to discuss tips, supports, tools, and calls for action throughout the event.

LEARNING FROM THE PROGRAM INITIATIVES

"Many I was not aware of--event was great for this! It was nice to connect and network with other program stakeholders."

"The possibility of involving academia in our programs."

"I learned about the UVic Centre for Youth and Society and its pivotal role as a resource hub for non-profit organizations serving children, youth and families."

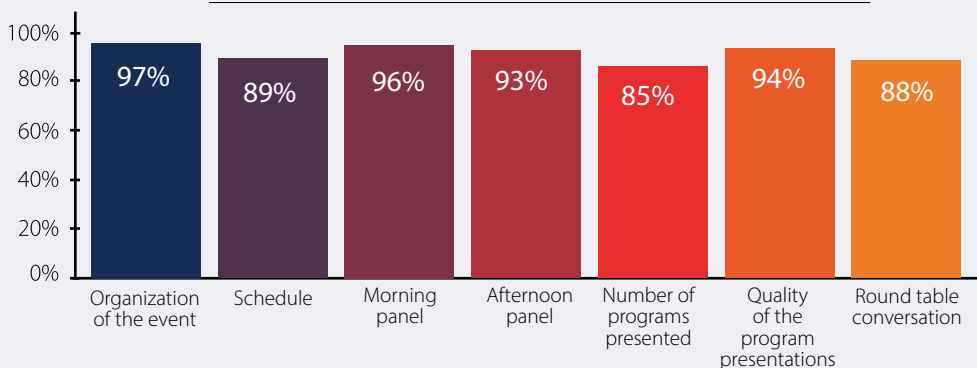
FEEDBACK FOR THE STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

"The event was great. I learned a lot from the panels and the forum or discussions. However, I felt that interaction at the booths could have been more comprehensive. Perhaps have each booth present to the group, giving participants a chance to get more info during the walk-around portion."

"I especially enjoyed the round table conversation as well as connecting with new people during that beautifully catered lunch."

"Would be great to do something similar that is open to children/youth/families to attend."

Level of satisfaction with the **agenda and content** of the event as 'somewhat satisfied' or 'very satisfied'



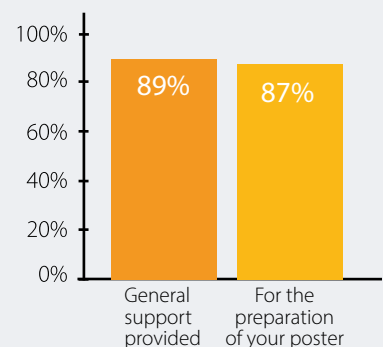
"I found the day to be hugely hopeful and reinvigorating."

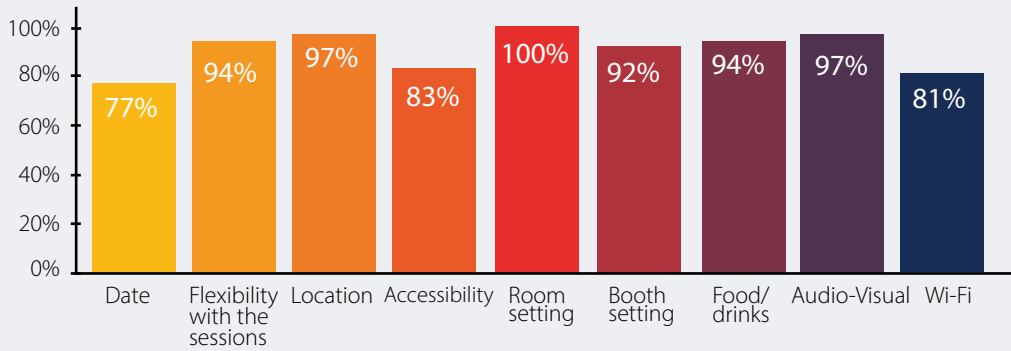
"The room was nicely organized, and it was easy to circulate among the booths. Round tables encourage conversation and networking."

"It would be nice if it were held on a day or time that classroom educators could attend. Educators are our target audience for some of our programming, so having them in attendance would have made it more successful. Would be helpful to have a drop-off spot for those bringing items to display."

Attendees considered the venue well organized and the setting of the room encouraged networking. Most of the participants found the event location to be suitable, although a few of them had some inconveniences derived from the parking. Improvement on parking capacity and accessibility will be needed if the event is to be scaled to receive a larger audience. As the Program Fair becomes an annual event, much longer notice will be provided.

Level of satisfaction with the **support provided** as 'somewhat satisfied' or 'very satisfied'





Level of satisfaction on the **setting of the event** as 'somewhat satisfied' or 'very satisfied'.

75% or more of the attendees were satisfied with different elements from the event's setting.

"I was not part of any organization that was presenting, but I did learn a lot about certain resources in the community for children, youth and families."

"I was thrilled at the possibilities; the Flourishing Children and Youth Program Fair restored my hope and exposed me to information regarding researchers and funding procurement. I also learned there are federal grants and things available to the researchers that we would not otherwise have access to. Finally, I saw the effective use of the data and how CFYS can boost our initiatives."

"Opportunities for people at all levels of the work - from researchers and funders to front line workers - is an incredible way to feel supported by a larger body. Having a connection to a university like UVic is of huge benefit."

The Flourishing Children and Youth Program Fair provided an opportunity to discuss and learn about various issues related to the development of children and youth. It was a great opportunity to learn about the available resources, form new connections, and raise awareness of youth related issues according to many attendees. The environment was encouraging for conversations although some suggested to change the agenda of the events so it can be more inclusive. In general, the satisfaction of attendees to various aspects of the event is high, and many of them expressed their interest in future program fairs.

UPCOMING

FLOURISHING CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM FAIR

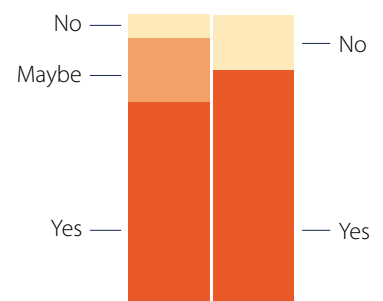
MAY 11th, 2023

Due to the success of this year's program fair, we would like to invite all attendees to showcase their programs and initiatives in the next CFYS's program fair.



If you are interested in learning more about this event please visit:
<https://www.uvic.ca/research/centres/youthsociety/events/programfair/index.php>

Interested in a future program fair | Interested in an annual program fair



<http://youth.society.uvic.ca>



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