



Y4CA Project Criteria

Your project must...

- Measurably contribute to community footprint reduction, either through a structural change in the community, or through influencing individual behavioural change. The community involved can be any community, including but not limited to the entire school, part of the school population, the neighbourhood, or a different community
 - Examples: school, school sports program, western canadian choral community, a skate park network
- Build power by recruiting and training new people to ensure long term dedication for climate solutions in your community (*building active support*)
- Strengthen the existing community through a shift in values towards climate action, social change, sustainability, and/or the natural world (*building passive support* by shifting public opinion / moving the overton window)

Required process elements:

- Engage or involve community members in the action project.
- Host a community event as part of the project, can be digitally or in-person
 - dialogue or discussion, or voice feedback
- Apply a systems thinking lens (the “iceberg” model) to your project, and work to make change at the deepest level possible through either education or advocacy.
 - *Important note: The Y4CA project should not include advocacy that is perceived as political work. For example, in this program, we are not working towards getting city council to make policy changes. We encourage working collaboratively with decision makers.*
- Ideally: recruit more youth in the community to join the team
- Be able to run and succeed despite Covid-19 and public health restrictions

How do you know if your project idea is a good one?

Excitement: Does this idea excite us?

Significance: Will this make a significant impact toward accomplishing our shared purpose of stopping the climate crisis?

Relevance: Is it relevant to what is going on in the world / the broader climate justice movement?

Feelings: Does it respond to the feelings we each have about the climate crisis/the feelings that we want to put out into the world about the climate crisis?

Interest: Are we actually interested in doing the tasks associated with this project?

Power + capacity: What's the capacity of our team? What capacity do we want to build? What is the capacity of our base/community? Does this match the capacity needed for this idea?

SMART: The goal should be written as a SMART goal!