

# Youth Circle for Mother Earth

## Coordinating Circle Self-Nomination Form

Thank you for your interest in the Youth Circle for Mother Earth (YCME) project! This project is led in partnership between **Plenty Canada, Trent University's Indigenous Environmental Institute, Walpole Island Heritage Centre** and **Ontario Nature**.

The goal of the YCME project is to create and support a cross-cultural network of young Indigenous and non-Indigenous environmental leaders who become lifelong ambassadors for nature and conservation.

### About YCME and What's Involved

The YCME project will be led by a Coordinating Circle of approximately 30 Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth who will determine the focus of campaigns and lead the delivery of project activities, by and for youth, with the guidance of project partners. Contributions from Coordinating Circle members will vary, depending on interest and availability.

All members are expected to support YCME outreach and communications materials using mediums/platforms such as presentations, blogs, articles, social media, etc. All members should dedicate approximately 4-5 volunteer hours per month for project planning and delivery, which will include monthly conference calls (1-2 hours). In addition, all members should attend the scheduled weekend-long retreat and annual summit (estimated two events a year).

Members with more specific roles/responsibilities can expect to spend approximately 2 hours a week on campaigns/projects/events. This may include, but is not limited to: research, coordinating/planning, creating social media content, connecting with other members, etc.

### Key Project Elements

- The project will be a cross-cultural environmental network with mentorship.
- It will bring together like-minded youth (aged 15-25) to share a collective responsibility to take care of the land.
- It assumes that bringing together allies in conservation is key to making a formidable and positive change in the world.
- It will be led by a Coordinating Circle of approximately 30 Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth who will determine the focus of campaign(s) and lead the delivery of project activities, by youth, for youth, with the guidance of project partners.
- The August 2019 retreat for Indigenous youth who are interested in being part of the Coordinating Circle is to prepare them spiritually, emotionally, mentally and physically for cross-cultural sharing and cooperation with other youth leaders for the shared purpose of protecting the environment.
- Preparation for non-Indigenous youth who are interested in being part of the Coordinating Circle will occur at the March 2019 retreat for the Ontario Nature Youth Council and at the September 2019 Youth Summit for Biodiversity.
- The larger 2020 retreat with all members of YCME will create the conditions for respectful cross-cultural learning and collaborative initiatives to occur.

In this nomination form, we will be collecting demographic information that will be shared among the partner organizations and funders to ensure we have a diverse group of young people participating in this project. Please be assured that your privacy is important to us, and your answers will not be shared with the public.

This project would not be possible without the support of TD Corporate and Canadian Heritage Youth Take Charge.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this form, please contact Christine toll-free at 1-800-440-2366 ext. 244.

**Please print clearly in black or blue ink.** All questions are required, unless indicated otherwise.

## Basic Information

**Full Name of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/Town/Community:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Age (select one):**

15

16-17

18-24

25-30

**Email of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Communications regarding the project will primarily be over email. We will do our best to communicate via other means if you do not have access to a computer.*

**Phone Number of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gender of Nominee:**

Male

Female

Prefer not to answer

Other gender identity (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Who did you hear this opportunity from?**

Plenty Canada

Indigenous Environmental Institute at Trent University

Walpole Island Heritage Centre

Ontario Nature

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Being part of the Coordinating Circle will provide an opportunity to connect with like-minded youth and spend time on the land outdoors in nature. For any part of the project, we strive to host inclusive, accessible events and meetings in a safe, ethical space that enable all individuals, including individuals with disabilities, to engage fully.**

**Are there any needs that we should be aware of to make our events and meetings as accessible as possible for you? (optional)**





## Demographics Questions

**NOTE: Please skip to the “Acknowledgement of Commitment” section if you are a youth under 15.**

As mentioned previously, we will be collecting demographic information that will be shared among the partner organizations and funders (Canadian Heritage) to ensure we have a diverse group of young people for the project. Please be assured that your privacy is important to us, and your answers will not be shared with the public.

### I identify as:

- Indigenous (First Nations, Metis, or Inuit)
- Non-Indigenous, with ancestors from Africa
- Non-Indigenous, with ancestors from Asia/Pacific Islands
- Non-Indigenous, with ancestors from Central/South America
- Non-Indigenous, with ancestors from Europe
- A visible minority (defined by Canadian Heritage as “an individual other than an Indigenous person, who is non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour”)
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

**Do you live in an official language minority community?**  Yes  No

*French-language communities outside of Québec or English-language community in Québec.*

### Language spoken most often at home:

- English  French  Both English and French
- Prefer not to answer  Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

## Acknowledgement of Commitment

Commitment from Coordinating Circle members:

- Contributions from Coordinating Circle members will vary, depending on interest and availability. All members can expect to dedicate approximately 4-5 volunteer hours per month for project planning and delivery, in addition to the scheduled weekend-long retreats and summit. This will include monthly conference calls (1-2 hours).
- Members with more specific responsibilities can expect to spend approximately 2 hours a week for campaigns/projects/events. This may include, but is not limited to: research, event planning, creating social media content, connecting with other members, etc.
- Members will support outreach and communications about the project, for example, through oral and other presentations, blogs, articles, and/or social media.

**To finalize your application, please acknowledge the commitment of the Coordinating Circle by checking the box below.**

- I acknowledge the commitment of the Coordinating Circle as mentioned above.

## Next Steps

On behalf of the four project partners, thank you for your nomination. To send in your completed form, please **fax all pages to 416-444-9866** or **scan and send via email to [christinea@ontarionature.org](mailto:christinea@ontarionature.org) by July 28, 2019.**

While we appreciate the time you have taken to fill out the form, please note that not all nominees will be selected. We will notify all participants by end of July 2019.

If you have any questions regarding the project as a whole or the upcoming August retreat for Indigenous youth, please contact Christine at 1-800-440-2366 ext. 244 (toll-free) or via email.