

Chinese Canadian youth lag behind in leadership

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A research study conducted in the former Toronto Board of Education shows that Chinese Canadian youth were 20% more likely to get into university than their non-Chinese peers. 41% of Chinese Canadian youth were high achievers, compared to 26% among other youth. However, the same study also shows Chinese Canadian youth lagged far behind their non-Chinese peers in the other areas, which are important ingredients for effective leadership. Chinese Canadian youth rated 55% in social skills, 32% in oral skills, 46% in problem-solving skills, and 32% in leadership skills, while non-Chinese youth rated 74%, 58%, 57% and 54% respectively. Ms. Maria Yau, one of the principal investigators of the study, presented the findings.

Dr. Ernest Cheng, the Managing Director of Canadian Test Centre (CTC) and the publisher of the Canadian Achievement Test (CAT) series points out that the immigrant parents of Chinese Canadian youth have a significant influence on their academic decision and career choice. Professor Wilfred Fong, the Associate Dean of the Faculty of Business and Information Technology at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) reminds us to look at the leadership roles that many of Chinese Canadian youths will take in the future, especially in a multicultural and hi-tech society that we are living in. He believes that leaders are made, not born.

In response to the needs of the young generation, Across U-hub offers a Youth Leadership Development Certificate Program (YLD) with emphasis on the developing their creative capacity, discernment ability, and communication skills. The development of the program is resulted from a series of consultation with a group of experienced educators, including the three presenters mentioned above (see YLD consulting group profile attachment).

The YLD is a comprehensive and holistic leadership program for the youth. It is tailored to the needs of Chinese Canadian youths and to expand their horizons in knowledge, skills, and experiences. It also intends to foster the development of a youth community where critical inquiry is encouraged and leadership potentials are realized. The program on "Youth Leadership" offers a variety of courses on leadership quality, skill development, outdoor challenges, and multi-media.

The YLD consists of two levels. The completion of 22 units of courses, include specialize areas in skill development, outdoor challenges and multi-media will be

awarded certificate. For more details, please contact 905-944-1944 or visit www.acrossuhub.com. The organizer of the YLD is the Across U-hub, which is a charitable, community-based organization dedicated to serve Chinese Canadian youth. It offers holistic educational programs focusing on youth's social-emotional and spiritual growth. These programs are designed to facilitate their integration into our multiethnic society.