



Community Learning Centre



Program Evaluation 2010-11

During the week of May 16 - 20, students were asked to complete a brief questionnaire during their Home Room period. The survey asked about their participation in lunch time and after school activities as well as their memory of outings organized through the Community Learning Centre. They were also asked to recall groups who visited the school to present their programs. Finally their awareness of the CLC and its purpose was queried. One hundred nineteen students completed the questionnaires; this represents a 60% return rate.

1) Student participation in activities.

The 5-30 Challenge was the activity that drew the most participation from students this year; 28% of those responding to the survey indicated that they had participated in this week-long project. A close second is Cooking with 26% of the students reporting participation.

It is clear that activities which foster healthy lifestyle choices have strong acceptance among the student population and that funding to expand these should be vigorously pursued. It is also clear that of the Youth Fusion directed activities, *Green Team* and *Robotics* are the most popular

Complete list

5-30 Challenge	28%
Cooking	26
Vocational School Visits	25
Montreal Juniors Hockey	24
Leadership	21
LOVE	21
Sexual Health Conference	20
Visit to Air Canada	18
Green Team	14
Zumba class	13
Exchange trip	13
Robotics	12
Hairdressing	10
Woodworking	8
Newspaper	7
Yearbook	5
Painting Activities	4

- 2) Among classroom activities and outings the most impressive to students were the museum visits; 26% of the students recalled a trip to a museum and 16% specifically recalled their sleepover at the Ecomuseum (several museums were visited by different classes, the MMFA, Holocaust, Science Center, and Ecomuseum)

Future plans should include a museum outing at least once for each class. That the activities which can be funded through the Culture in the Schools project* are so popular encourages future applications.

3) In choosing their favourites from among those recalled, students mentioned the Ecomuseum, the Sexuality visits and the Depression presentations most often. Other mentions were below significance.

Complete list

*Museum visits	26%
*Ecomuseum Sleepover	16
Depression presentation	15
*Writer in the classroom	12
Sexuality	10
Brain Awareness	10
Poetry Slam	9
Play at Centaur Theatre	8

- 4/5) Questions about the school and CLC newsletter revealed that just under half of our students read it themselves, while only 29% deliver it to their parents as requested.

Given the cost of printing this monthly communication tool, which is meant to be received by all families, a change to electronic delivery should be instituted for the coming academic year, with all parent e-mail addresses being stored in a data base for this purpose.

- 6) Participation in Videoconferences remains somewhat low among our students, only 21% of whom recall having this experience. This however is an improvement over past years and we can anticipate that, as teachers become more aware of the possibilities, use of the VCN as a teaching tool will increase.

- 7/8) Attendance at extra-curricular activities seems unaffected by the time at which the activities are offered.

	<u>After School</u>	<u>Lunch time</u>
Often	17%	16%
Sometimes	13	13
Seldom/rarely	14	14
Never	42	42
n/a	14	15

- 9) Some interesting suggestions emerge when students are asked what might make them more likely to engage in extra-curricular activities. While a certain proportion would not ever participate (13%), many seek things that would be more interesting to them (14%) such as

<u>Suggestion</u>	<u># of mentions</u>
Sports (B-ball, football, hockey etc)	10
Art related	6
Music/singing/dance/drama	6
Girls' sports	3
Food/cooking	3
Field trips	3
Video Games	2
During class time	7

Looking to the future an attempt should be made to provide performing and plastic arts options as part of the array of extra-curricular options. An expansion of sports offerings should also be pursued - the absence of hockey as well as girls' sports has been felt this year in comparison to the past.

- 10) Twenty percent of students responding to the question about CLC were aware that James Lyng is a Community Learning Centre, while 80% were not aware, or did not recognize the term. Students variously described a Community Learning Centre as:

A place where people come from all over to learn	12 mentions
Bring community into the school	3
A place where you learn about The community	2
Helps people in the area	2
Get an education	2

While awareness is increasing slowly, it is encouraging to note that the understanding of a CLC's role is well-described. As part of the general orientation of students each fall it would be advisable to include a quick overview of the meaning and role of the James Lyng CLC

