



Child & Youth Wellbeing Survey (Halton Youth Impact Survey)

The Child & Youth Wellbeing Survey is a youth-friendly, validated tool developed by UNICEF Canada. Halton was one of the communities in Canada invited to participate along with Waterloo Region, Ottawa, and Digby, Nova Scotia. UNICEF and the Canadian Index of Wellbeing supported the implementation of the survey. This survey opportunity was provided by a partnership with the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), UNICEF Canada, the Canadian Index of Wellbeing at the University of Waterloo, and the Medivae Foundation. The children and youth who participated in the development of the survey and in the initial pilot test in Waterloo Region also created a more youth-friendly name for it: The Youth Impact Survey.

Our Kids Network (OKN) led the implementation in Halton and will receive the raw data and reports. OKN will also participate in the development of a toolkit to support the administration of the survey across Canada, and the use of its data.

The survey was administered from late April to June 14, 2021, with the results being available by late 2021.

Purpose of the Survey

Halton has been facing a gap in comprehensive, local data about child and youth wellbeing. The Halton Youth Impact Survey provided the opportunity for OKN and Halton to collect and share new, quality, local data, and evidence to support the delivery of programs, services, policies, and initiatives that are critical to the wellbeing of children, youth and families in Halton. It also represents an opportunity for Halton to participate in a national-level research program.

The Halton Youth Impact Survey

The survey has versions and modules designed for children between 9 and 18 years of age. It measures key factors related to child and youth development and wellbeing, such as connection to family, schools, community, and peers, as well as other domains such as physical and mental health, participation, safety and leisure, and risk behaviours such as smoking and drug use.

Reaching and Engaging Youth 9 to 18 years of age

The Halton Youth Impact Survey was developed by the community for the community. The engagement strategy for the survey was largely developed by professionals and youth in the community at meetings and through conversations.

Most importantly, youth were at the centre. They participated in developing the survey. They contributed ideas. They gave their opinions on why this survey is important. And they launched their own campaigns, sharing the survey with their peers across Halton Region.

For more information about the Halton Youth Impact Survey, please contact Elisabeth Wells, PhD., OKN research & knowledge mobilization manager at elisabeth@ourkidsnetwork.ca.