

International Youth Day

August 12, 2019

The City of Winnipeg's Recreation Services Division worked in collaboration with Equitas – International Centre for Human Rights Education to recognize International Youth Day on August 12 – a day dedicated to promoting and supporting children's rights.

With guidance from Equitas – International Centre for Human Rights Education, Recreation Services participated in this national event by offering a variety of activities introduced within the Play it Fair! program. Equitas calls it Play it Fair! Day. Eight children's Free Play and What's Up! programs participated in the day's events, with a total of 173 kids.

Children were able to engage in a variety of games, discussions, and art activities, and even received medals as a reminder of the activities they had a chance to participate in!

The "**Right Olympics**" activities featured games to get participants thinking about their rights – the games chosen were intended to inscribe specific human rights values such as co-operation, respect for diversity, responsibility, and inclusion.

"**Creating a Work of Art**" had participants discuss the values inscribed on the medals they won, and choose the value they felt was most important to them. They were then asked to depict in some way, the value they have chosen.

OUTCOMES

The majority of participants enjoyed engaging in the activities, and front-line leaders reported this event as a successful way to engage participants in learning about human rights values, and making personal connections with the meaning of human rights.

Program sites participated in both full day, and half day events. Three program sites were able to offer both the "**Rights Olympics**" and the "**Creating a Work of Art**", while one program site played 12 different games throughout the day!

Participating in this national event was an excellent way to support children's rights, publicize children's rights and the Play it Fair! program, and promote human rights values while having fun!



SUMMARY

Program	Site	Number of Participants	Activities
Free Play	Broadway Neighbourhood Centre	15	Half day – games / discussions
Free Play	Mayfair Recreation Centre	11	Full day – all activities
Free Play	East Elmwood Community Centre	30	Full day – all activities
What's Up!	Bourkevale Lawn Bowling	16	Half day – games / discussions
What's Up!	Island Lakes School	27	Half day – games / discussions
What's Up!	Henry G. Izatt School	32	Half day – games / discussions
What's Up!	North Kildonan Community Centre	20	Full day – all activities
What's Up!	Glenwood School	22	Half day – games / discussions



TESTIMONIALS

“This was a great activity because it helped the kids make a personal connection with the meaning of human rights”

Bourkevale Lawn Bowling Leader

“Majority of the participants liked all games”

East Elmwood Community Centre participant

“Kids had a lot of fun playing the games”

Island Lakes School participant

“Kids had lots of fun competing for the medals”

Island Lakes School Leader

“Kids felt excited and confident to play the games”

Henry G. Izatt School Leader