



CYD-Home Team



Canadian Youth Delegation to COP 16

Canadian Youth Delegation Application for Home Team Leaders

United Nations Climate Change Conference

UNFCCC COP 16

November 29 – December 10, 2010

Cancun, Mexico

The **Canadian Youth Climate Coalition (CYCC)** is now accepting applications to join the **Canadian Youth Delegation (CYD) Home Team** to the 16th annual Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 16).

A Canadian Youth Delegate is inspiring, active and passionate. They are leaders, learners and listeners. But most importantly they are team players that form close bonds by uniting in a common cause. If you are committed to working tirelessly for Canada's youth and having the impact of a lifetime, please apply to the CYD Home Team.



Alex Doukas, CYD-Copenhagen

"Never before have I had the privilege of working with such a dedicated and inspiring group of young people as with the Canadian Youth Delegation to COP15. The CYD this year was incredibly impressive, accomplishing more than I could have imagined in the lead-up to and during the negotiations in Copenhagen. Many of the youth were more effective at creating change and shaping Canadians' understanding of our country's role in climate change negotiations than some of the full-time paid environmental NGO staff. Connecting with youth from across Canada, and building these personal links and networks across the country has enormously strengthened the ability of Canadian youth to take unified action on climate change at a national level."

There's no question that solving the climate crisis requires international cooperation. Only by working together can countries line up the requirement of science, development and global justice to create a deal that sharply reduces emissions, safeguards the basic right to development and protects the world's most vulnerable peoples and nations. The window is fast closing for global emissions to peak and begin declining if we are to keep climate change to manageable levels (ie. well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels). Meeting this goal while lifting many millions out of poverty requires urgent and coordinated action. In Cancun, the world will attempt just that.

COP16 will attempt to move the international climate negotiations forward after they stalled so spectacularly last year in Copenhagen. Building from the Bali Roadmap and the Copenhagen Accord nations will work together to attempt to forge a new global agreement to tackle climate change. This agreement will chart the course of international action on climate change after the first phase of the Kyoto Protocol ends in 2012. The new deal will be based on four pillars – Mitigation (reducing emissions), Adaptation, Technology Transfer and Financing – and underpinned by a new 'Shared Vision.'

Youth from around the world have played a powerful moral role in the talks, and the **Canadian Youth Delegation** continues to be critical in supporting the international youth climate movement, engaging Canadians and checking the often-errant Canadian Delegation. In Cancun, as the world struggles to come to an agreement on the very substance of our futures, these tasks will be more crucial than ever.

Why Form a CYD?

Youth must build on their success and involvement in the UNFCCC process to date and demand that Canada play a constructive role in forging the new global agreement moving forward. Youth from around the world have mobilized a significant presence at previous COPs, and this year we must demonstrate that youth have an important voice on the fate of our climate. In the recent past, youth have organized participation in Montreal (COP11/CMP1 in 2005), Nairobi (COP12/CMP2 in 2006), Bali (COP13/CMP3 in 2007), Poznan (COP14), and Copenhagen (COP15). Canadian youth have a history of being one of the largest, loudest, and most effective groups at the climate negotiations. Last year's CYD to Copenhagen was enormously successful and influential. **For the first time ever 2009 also saw the formation of the Canadian Youth Delegation Home Team who worked with the CYD-Copenhagen to move the climate agenda forward in Canada. Canadian youth received high praise for their hard work and dedication.**

It is again time for Canadian youth to demonstrate leadership and mobilize our fellow Canadians. In 2010 the CYD will have two components: CYD-Cancun, a diverse team of 25 young people who will travel to COP16 to represent Canadian youth at these important meetings, and CYD-Home Team who will work closely with CYD-Cancun at home in Canada. **Home Team will be composed of a talented and diverse group of 20 Canadian youth (the Home Team Leaders) who will be recognized as full members of CYD and will work closely with CYD-Cancun in the lead-up to and during COP 16,** along with young Canadians across the country who want to be involved to some level, but do not have the means to make the more intensive commitment as that made by the Home Team Leaders.

What are the Expectations of Home Team Leaders?

- Home Team Leaders will be expected to engage in substantial preparation, community engagement, and fundraising efforts in the months leading up to the conference.
- Home Team Leaders will work together to educate themselves, develop policy priorities, acquire skills in effective lobbying, and engage youth across the country on climate change.
- There will be a heavy emphasis on domestic engagement and Home Team Leaders will be expected to be active in their communities doing related education and campaign activities.
- Home Team Leaders will be required to stay in regular email contact and engage in research and conference calls, which will occur weekly or bi-weekly as needed. On average a Home Team Leader can expect to commit at least 2 hours most weeks, and more near Cancun, to keeping up with emails, being on conference calls, and working in sub groups on projects in relation to policy, communications, fundraising, and community education and mobilization.
- During COP16, Home Team Leaders will collaborate with each other and other interested young Canadians to mobilize their fellow Canadians using social and traditional media, partnerships with various organizations, outreach and education work, creative actions, and engagement with Canadian politicians. They will be the direct link from CYD-Cancun to the rest of Canada.
- While it is difficult to balance commitments such as work and school, delegates are expected to be available for the three-day Fall CYD Summit in Canada (date TBD). CYCC will provide letters for team members who require them to reschedule exams or work responsibilities.

Delegates selected as CYD-Home Team Leaders who are unable to meet these expectations will be asked to leave the team to allow someone from the waitlist who is able to make the necessary commitments for the program's success to join. If this occurs the individual will be able to participate in CYD-Home Team in a less intensive capacity.



Mentorship

Feeling lost with all these acronyms but still passionate about making a difference? Don't worry! CYD-Home Team is committed to welcoming and supporting those new to the process. This year, the CYD will benefit from an incredible Mentor Network, bringing the perspectives of a diverse group of experienced Canadians to delegates through a series of online trainings and an in-person capacity building summit in the months prior to COP16. New delegates will also benefit from support from more experienced members of the team and regional alumni across the country ready to help you settle into the world of climate negotiations.

How much will it cost?

CYD-Home Team will make every effort to support delegates to secure funding for travel to the Fall CYD Retreat. Due to the uncertainty of how much funding can be centrally secured through CYCC, your funding cannot be guaranteed and delegates will be expected to participate in fundraising efforts.

As part of the CYD-Home Team Leaders, individual donations that you solicit to support your participation (donations that you arrange from family, friends, community members, and smaller organizations) will be eligible for a charitable receipt. As a group, we will also be working on group fundraising that will support collective delegation costs or support costs of specific delegates. While CYD fundraising has always been successful in the past and best efforts will be made, group fundraising is not guaranteed and will be allocated as it is obtained.

The estimated cost per individual for participation in CYD-Home Team is \$500-\$1000, depending on where in Canada you will be travelling from. This estimate covers travel; accommodation; and food for participation in the Fall CYD Retreat.

Who organizes the CYD?

CYD-Home Team is a project of the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition (CYCC). The CYCC is a united front of youth from across Canada tackling the biggest challenge of our generation, the emerging climate crisis. Acting locally, provincially, federally, and internationally, we combine our forces to organize actions, influence government and implement concrete solutions. Working in schools and communities from coast to coast to coast, we are calling for and building a just and prosperous transition to the new Canada we all need to see.

For more information on the CYCC, our structures, project and campaigns, please visit:

www.ourclimate.ca

“Being a part of the CYD was such an amazing opportunity, not only to travel internationally and stand up for what I believe in, but to meet and work alongside 34 other extraordinary youth from across Canada. It will be the connections that we made in the 4 months prior to COP 15 and the three weeks we we're there together, which I believe will give us the strength and inspiration to continue standing up and raising our voices for respect and climate justice. Miigwech for the opportunity!”



Lyndsay Taibossigai, CYD-Copenhagen

The CYD is a strictly non-partisan project. While we welcome and encourage the active participation of youth in civic life, we are not able to accept paid representatives or official candidates of any political party as members of the CYD.

Delegates choose to participate at their own risk and CYCC and CYD-Home Team are not responsible for personal safety or other liabilities. Although we will make every effort to provide assistance and minimize travel risks, responsibility lies with the individual. We will however make every effort to assist delegates by helping the team get there, as well as providing the tools, knowledge, and connections necessary for a successful trip.

If you have limited familiarity with youth involvement at COP you are encouraged to visit these sites to review previous youth COP experiences and plans for COP16:

<http://www.ourclimate.ca/wordpress/projects-campaigns/canadian-youth-delegation/>

www.cydcopenhagen.org

<http://youthclimate.org/>



Selection Criteria:

CYCC is committed to selecting a skilled, diverse, and passionate delegation. **Applicants are required to be between the ages of 12 and 30 as of December 2010 and to either (a) be a Canadian citizen or (b) have studied or worked in Canada for more than six months.**

Please note that we do not expect everyone to be a policy expert and we highly encourage applicants who are brand-new to the process

Additional selection criteria are as follows:

- **Commitment to Climate Change Advocacy:** Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to the well-being of the environment, reducing the impacts from climate change and mitigating greenhouse gases. Previous experience with climate change policy, media, peer education or community organizing is an asset. Experience could range anywhere from organizing an event to forming a club to being active in environmental issues in your school or community.
- **Diversity:** Preference will be given to those who can contribute something unique to CYD-Home Team. If you have experience, perspectives or skills in a certain area that can assist the delegation as a whole, please note this in your application. Members of communities most impacted by climate change, such as Northern, low-income, and Aboriginal communities, will be given priority. In addition, CYD-Home Team will have an active Francophone component to its programming. Therefore a portion of delegation positions will be reserved for Francophone team members.
- **Geographic Representation:** CYD-Home Team aims to have representatives from every province and territory as part of the delegation to ensure that the diverse perspectives of Canadian youth can be better represented within the work of Home Team. In addition this criteria will ensure that Home Team Leaders will be able to better reach out to youth from across Canada to participate in their activities.
- **Leadership and Teamwork Skills:** Preference will be given to those who have experience in leadership and teamwork, such as student or grassroots organizing, event or project planning, or peer-to-peer education. Please describe your leadership and teamwork skills in your application.
- **Previous CYCC Involvement:** Applicants are not required to have been involved with CYCC or any of its member organizations. However, previous involvement will be given some consideration in selection process. In order to achieve a decent level of institutional memory we will be trying to strike a balance in the delegation between experienced CYDers and new members.

The CYD-HomeTeam Leaders will be made up of a group of 20 diverse young people from across the country plus the leadership team for this year's Home Team.

Applicant Information

There are two parts to this application. Please compile your responses to both parts in the attached pdf application and submit it, along with a recent copy of your CV (resume) via email, to cycc.director@gmail.com. Please write your full name and “CYD-Home Team Leader Application” in the subject line in this format: CYD-Home Team Leader Application: First Name Last Name.

Submission Deadline: 6:00pm PDT, Friday June 11th, 2010. Applicants will be notified of their selection and eligibility for scholarships in June and will be required to confirm their involvement shortly after notification.

PART I – Basic Information

1. Full name

2. Full address

3. Date of birth

4. Phone number(s)

5. Email address

6. Gender (self identified)

7. Are you a member of a First Nations, Metis, or Inuit community?

8. What community do you consider home or your permanent residence?

9. Where will you be based over the next six months?

10. Will you make every effort to attend a three-day CYD Summit in Fall 2010 (date TBD)?

11. Are you willing to invest approximately 5 hours a week, June-December (and more closer to COP16), towards working in your community to educate and organize around the negotiations, working with the team to prepare for the COP16, and participating in any conference calls and meetings?

12. Specifically, can you commit to being active in your community doing related education and campaign activities? Explain.

13. How do you see incorporating what you would learn from the CYD experience into the work you do in your community?

14. Please state any organizational affiliations (if applicable).

15. What college/university do you attend (if applicable).

16. What is your educational background? (formal and/or informal)

17. Please identify your first language. What other languages do you speak and how proficiently (ie. basic, intermediate, fluent)?

PART II – Essay Questions

1. Statement of Interest

Why do you want to be a CYD-Home Team Leader? What do you hope to accomplish with CYD-Home Team (individually and/or as part of the group)? (300 words max)

2. Your Skills

What skills do you bring to the role of a CYD-Home Team Leader? (e.g. communication skills, media skills, organizing skills, social media skills, project management skills) (300 words max)

3. Unique Perspectives

What unique perspectives or points of view could you bring to the CYD-Home Team? (e.g. background or experience) (300 words max)

Please note that we do not expect everyone to be a policy and/or organizing expert and we highly encourage applicants who are brand-new to the process.

Thank you for your interest in joining CYD-Home Team. We will be a delegation of youth with diverse experience, skills, and backgrounds from across Canada carrying our message to our fellow Canadians, to the Canadian government and to the media. If you are seeking a challenge, an unforgettable experience, and a chance to make change, this opportunity is for you!

If you have any questions about this application, please contact cyc.diector@gmail.com

Thank You!

