



ALBERNI CLAYOQUOT BUILDING YOUTH FUTURES

"ENGAGE YOUTH VOICE AND LIVED EXPERIENCE TO BUILD CAPACITY, YOUTH BELONGING, AND SUPPORT"

CHANGES WE ARE WANTING TO SEE:

- ★ Youth feel unsafe/disconnected within their community and at school. → Youth feel welcomed, safe and have a sense of belonging with the school and community. Youth have access to supports needed if they do not feel this way.
- ★ Programs servicing youth are under supported, and therefore struggle to sustain themselves. → There is a variety of stable youth programs in each community that have the support they need, including reliable financial support.
- ★ Youth struggle with mental health and lack the resources and support they need. → There is a variety of easily accessible services in our region to support youth with mental health.
- ★ Youth are using drugs and alcohol in unsafe ways with lack of education. → Youth are fully educated on their drug(s) of choice and have access to harm reduction supplies.
- ★ Youth are disconnected from their culture and from the land. → Youth have opportunities to engage in cultural and outdoor activities and feel a connection to their natural environment.

HOW ARE WE PLANNING ON DOING THIS?

- ★ Released \$130,000 in microgrants to increase capacity of existing programs.
- ★ Help connect youth to already existing opportunities to increase sense of belonging and engagement.
- ★ Empower youth voices through creation of youth leadership table and engagement opportunities.
- ★ Build capacity in current programs and support new initiatives.
- ★ Engage the community and stakeholders to prioritize youth needs.



WHERE ARE WE NOW?

Youth feeling that they belong in their community is down to 65% in 2018 from 74% in 2016**

31% of local youth admitted to vaping with/without nicotine in 2018**

In the past year, 10% of males and 26% of females had cut or injured themselves on purpose without the intention of killing themselves. Also, 19% had seriously considered suicide (vs. 12% in 2013) and 5% had attempted suicide during this time period**

In the past year, 21% of Central Vancouver Island youth had not received mental health services that they felt they needed. This rate was comparable to the province as a whole, and a local increase from 11% in 2013**

44% of youth reported being sexually harassed and 26% reported being physically sexually harassed in 2018**

14% increase in kids stating they suffer from anxiety disorders and 9% increase in depression**

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**All statistics are from McCreary Reports and Vital Signs

