

Youth Safety Training for 4-H in Canada

The diversity of the 4-H program across Canada is something to be celebrated, looking different from province to province. However, the safety and well-being of youth members is our shared priority across 4-H and it sits at the core of our 4-H Canada Positive Youth Development Formula (below).

4-H Canada is working in partnership with provincial organizations to ensure that 4-H has consistent policies and procedures in place across the country to provide successful and safe programs for all youth, to safeguard the trust and loyalty of families, and to ensure leaders have the resources and training to feel supported and prepared.

Together, the national and provincial 4-H organizations have already had success in the development of several shared policies and resources, including:

- Commit to Kids Training
- a national Code of Conduct
- a national Inclusion Statement, and
- the Youth Safety at 4-H in Canada policy manual and FAQs.



Youth Safety Training

We want to ensure that 4-H leaders are familiar with the new Youth Safety at 4-H in Canada policies, and they understand their role and specific responsibilities in delivering safe programming that meets youth industry best standards.

In collaboration with provincial organizations, 4-H Canada will be training staff and key leaders across Canada in May and June 2020. In turn, those staff and key leaders will bring the Youth Safety training to all 4-H leaders from coast to coast.

You will hear more from your provincial organization on when and how they will deliver this training. They will share the Youth Safety at 4-H Canada policy manual along with provincial procedures to support it.

After completing the training, 4-H leaders should be able to:

- ✓ Identify the policies outlined in the Youth Safety at 4-H in Canada document
- ✓ Respond to parent questions about the youth safety practices in 4-H
- ✓ Apply the Rule of Two to club settings and events
- ✓ Recognize the steps in planning safe activities and events
- ✓ Recognize when to report concerns of abuse, misconduct, and safety issues
- ✓ Access 4-H Canada policy and resources
- ✓ Access provincial procedures and resources

As 4-H leaders, we know you are dedicated to giving your time, passion, and enthusiasm to 4-H. We know these changes will require more time, commitment, and effort, but that together we are working to make the 4-H program stronger for our youth members and for 4-H across Canada.