

## RESEARCH ON TYPS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

TYPS does its own research, but we also are the key linkages between youth and other researchers – such as TeenNet at the University of Toronto, Harvard’s Family Studies, and Carleton University’s Space and Culture Institute. In addition, there have been four master theses written about or in connection with TYPS, and two doctoral theses drawing upon part of TYPS programs and methodologies.

### **2006: Validating Youth Achievement Program:**

Development and implementation of a youth centre based computer program to permit youth and volunteers to track their participation in youth centres and to provide aggregate data collection for research purposes on youth participation rates in youth centres and their significance.

### **2005 TYPS Best Practices and Effective Programmes Workbook for Youth Centre (Smiths Falls)**

*A handbook presenting the best practices and effective programs in youth centres in communities with populations of less than 25,000. Funded through the “Drug Strategy Community Initiatives Fund” of Health Canada.*

### **2003 International Child and Youth Health Congress (Vancouver)**

*Presentation of research and findings of studies which TYPS had been involved with for the past few years. The presentations “Youth Homelessness in Rural Ontario” and “Substance Abuse by Canadian Rural Youth: Reviewing Changes over the Past Ten Years.” The first presentation was made by a youth who was involved in the study, and the second paper was presented by Les Voakes.*

### **2003 United Nations (Vienna, Austria)**

*TYPS representatives (Les Voakes and Steve Harrison, former Youth President of the Kapuskasing Youth Centre) were part of a committee, representing eight countries, to review a new program evaluation guidebook being developed by the United Nations for youth projects and youth centres.*

### **2000 Harvard Family Research Project: Youth Involvement in Evaluation and Research**

*Les Voakes of TYPS was part of a group of **participatory evaluation** (PE) practitioners interviewed to find best practices in PE, when working with youth.*

### **Ontario Architectural Conservancy Conference, Perth**

*“Youth & Public Spaces: Streets, Parks, Public, and Pseudo-public Liminal Spaces. Presented by Les Voakes of TYPS as part of a discussion with architectural conservators to better understand youth street activities.*

**1999 Participatory Development Forum: Deepening Our Understanding & Practice. Presentation/Workshop: “Learning from the Experts.”**

A unique presentation/workshop on facilitating a TYPS model for researching and learning about youth drug and alcohol use and patterns in a localized area. Workshop involved twelve youth from three towns, presented to an international conference of participatory development practitioners.

**1993-96 Town Youth Participation Strategies (TYPS)**

A three year project working with youth and youth workers in five communities to develop a local network of youth centres. The project was reviewed by several evaluators and recognized in “Best Practices” lists as innovative and a model for youth participatory projects. Funded by Health Canada: Canada’s Drug Strategy and listed as one of the country’s most successful youth projects.

**1991 Small Town Street Worker Report**

A study of one town in Eastern Ontario, but revealed many issues and needs in that community, but were recognized as the same as other similar sized towns. Funded by Health Canada: Canada’s Drug Strategy.

**Articles and Publications**

The following are research papers and published reports which included TYPS programs and activities (usually through the cooperation of working with youth centres that are part of the TYPS network), or reviewed the TYPS methodology and models. There are also academic studies, listed below, concerning youth issues which included data and observations collected through connecting with TYPS.

- Sabo, Kim (1996) *Young People’s Involvement In Evaluating the Programs That Serve Them*. Phd. Dissertation for the Faculty of Environmental Psychology, Doctor of Philosophy. New York: City University of New York. (A Phd thesis)
- Shields, Rob (1998) *TYPS Ongoing Evaluation: Final Report*. in Voakes’: Town Youth Participation Strategies (TYPS): Final Report. A Health Canada Community Support Program: Project # 6552-2-4008. Smiths Falls, ON: TriCounty Addiciton Services. Sturgeon, Kathy & Voakes, Les (1996)
- *Policy and Procedures Manual (TYPS)* Smiths Falls, ON: TriCounty Addiciton Services. Sergnese, Elio (1995). Revised by Kevin Morris and Les Voakes in 2004.
- *Images in Vogue: The Transitions and Identity Changes of Former Street Youth Re-Entering Mainstream Society*. Masters Thesis. Ottawa: Carleton University Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology.
- Sabo, Kim (2003) “A Vygotskian Perspective on Youth Participatory Evaluation,” *Youth Participatory Evaluation: A Field in the Making*, Ed. Kim Sabo, New Directions For Evaluation No. 98 Summer 2003. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass
- Voakes, L. 2003 “Listening to the Experts” *Youth Participatory Evaluation: a field in the Making*. Ed. Kim Sabo, New Directions For Evaluation No. 98 Summer 2003. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

### **Articles presented through Transitions Committee**

- *Transitions: Youth Homelessness in Lanark County*. Smiths Falls: TriCounty Addicton Services & Open Doors for Children & Youth.
- Voakes, L. (1992) *Final Report on the Small Town Streetworker Project*. Smiths Falls, ON: Health and Welfare Canada.
- Voakes, L. (1994) *Street Youth: Differences between Small Towns and Cities*. Ottawa: Canadian Criminal Justice Association's "Justice Report" Vol. 9, No.1
- Voakes, L. 1998 *Town Youth Participation Strategies (TYPS): Final Report. A Health Canada Community Support Program: Project # 6552-2-4008*. Smiths Falls, ON: TriCounty Addicton Services.
- Voakes, L. 2000 *TYPS Workshop Series: Report*. Smiths Falls: TriCounty Addicton Services.
- Voakes, L. 2001 *Town Youth Participation Strategies Project: Applying Participatory Action Research in Small Town Canada*. Masters Thesis. Ottawa: Carleton University, Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology.
- By L. Voakes and E. Oliver, 2004 "Behaviour Changes in Youth Participants at Youth Centres, Transitions Report (To be published).