

**LCCJ Community Animator Report - May 23, 2017**

**Schools & Youth Centres News**

YAK – Circle Wednesdays continue. However, due to weather – warm weather resulting in few drop ins – and events at YAK, notably the book sale and resume and job application training, few circles were held in the last month.

Almonte District High School (Almonte) - Circles with two intermediate classes, one grade 7 and one grade 8 have continued. In order to increase participation and address some issues affecting class dynamics, each class has been divided into two groups, with Helen and Peggy each facilitating one of the class circles simultaneously. Andrew provides back-up support in the event that Helen or Peggy is absent.

Arklan Community Public School (Carleton Place) – Circles with some kindergarten and primary grade classes continue. Helen Rochon also assists students with dispute resolution using restorative dialogue.

Maple Grove Public School (Lanark) – On Mondays, volunteers Laurie Clark and Helen Mugford lead circles with all of the classes at Maple Grove. They also convene responsive restorative circles to help with conflict resolution.

The Stewart Public School (Perth) – Tracey Parker and Darlene Graham are conducting weekly circles with a couple of primary classes.

Note that Andrew is preparing a flyer about Be Strong and LCCJ to circulate to the families of all elementary students in Lanark County and the Town of Smiths Falls in June.

**Presentations & Training**

UCDSB Summer Institute for Teachers, August 22 & 23, 2017. Al Howard and Andrew have submitted a proposal for two one-day workshops – one for elementary teachers and one for secondary teachers. The workshop description in part reads: *This dynamic workshop provides the basics for understanding and using Restorative Practice in school settings. Hands-on, fast paced and highly interactive, these one-day sessions are founded on the belief that an effective learning environment is one where students feel safe in taking risks, where they experience and grow from their failures and where everyone in the space learns with and from each other.*

**Be Strong Day & United Way of Lanark County** Kate Hallas of United Way has produced a brief video documentary of *Be Strong Day*. The video can be found on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/GT0uYUN5Bbg>.