

***Helping build inclusive, caring and safe communities***

**LCCJ Community Animator Report - February 15, 2018**

**Submitted by** Andrew Lynch, Community Animator

**Schools & Youth Centres News**

We are still in transition at the secondary level. There is a new role of health coach has just been instituted as part of a board-wide pilot at all UCDSB secondary schools. I will be meeting later this month with the health coach, principal and related guidance staff at ADHS and possibly other schools to develop a plan for collaboration.

At YAK, and possibly other youth centres, we are exploring the value of focusing on the training of staff , then youth to support the creation of a sustainable restorative culture. We will finalize plans in a meeting scheduled for the end of February.

**Numbers of Student Engagements**

I still have not received logs from several volunteers, but can reasonably guess that our total is well over 9400, with approximately 3800 of those being high level, weekly engagements.

**Be Strong Handbook**

As a next step following the development of the *Restorative Practices Learning Continuum* and last months’s Be Strong training day, we have developed a *Be Strong Handbook* for staff and volunteers. Printed copies are being produced for volunteers and staff. All sections will be made available on the website where we also will post additional support documentation and revisions. As noted in the handbook’s introduction, “this handbook captures essential elements of restorative practices for use in school and youth centre. It is intended to be a “living document”’ the contents of which will evolve over time with contributions from Lanark County Community Justice staff and volunteers.

**Next Steps**

In addition to developing a resource kit for teachers and support materials for volunteers, we will be developing a package specifically targeted for use with senior school board administrators. It will show the connections between restorative practice and various Ministry of Education and school board initiatives that focus on the creation of an effective learning community.