



Equity and Technology Research Project

Enhancing Equity for Canadian Youth

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Update to collaborators and partners
May, 2005

Hello everyone!

Here we are at the midpoint of the project already! Much of the last three months has been spent pulling together the information required by SSHRC for their midterm review, due at the end of May. Happily, the project is on time and on budget!

As you may recall, the first stage of the project involved conducting surveys and interviews relating equity to youth and ICTs, with high school teachers and students in Nova Scotia and Nunavut, as well as with youth and staff in organizations that deal with street youth. To this point in the project, we have completed the data entry for 1160 students and 68 teachers from Nova Scotia, as well as 382 students and 57 teachers from Nunavut. Because the numbers of Nova Scotian surveys from rural schools are lower than we would like, we are adding the Eastern Shore District High School in Musquodoboit Harbour to the list. They are quite keen to be involved, and we're happy that they're on board! The interviews and surveys with Phoenix House and the Ark, our street youth organizations, are complete and being transcribed. Twenty street youth were interviewed and completed the survey, as well as six staff members. As well, interviews with 31 FLEC (an alternative school) students have been completed, and they are in the final process of being surveyed. Interviews with the teachers are in progress.

Our biggest challenge recently has been with the Nova Scotia Schools/Faculties of Education at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, and Acadia University in Wolfville. Faculty at both of these schools have been in discussions concerning their participation; however, things seem to be getting sorted out, and it now looks like the interviews and surveys at these two places will take place in September. Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax is completed except for student interviews, which are in progress, and should be finished in the next two weeks.

Response to a recent e-mail to partners and collaborators like you has indicated that a quarterly newsletter would be of the most benefit to keep you in touch with the progress of this project. After this, the next one will be sent out in August. You may find more details on the project website (<http://techequity.acadiau.ca>), including copies of the survey instruments. If you would like a more detailed report, please don't hesitate to contact either Cheryl or me.

With best wishes
Dianne Looker