



## Press Release

May 1, 2017

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# 150 youth changemakers initiate 10 projects building a more vibrant, inclusive Montreal

- Equitas to showcase the impact of 10 innovative Montreal youth-led projects at “Youth are leading change in their communities” event on May 5 at Creative Space 8 Queen.
- Over 150 youth from 8 organizations will share how they have put their ideas into action through projects that : build intergenerational links; promote environmental sustainability; counter stereotypes and discrimination; and create community spaces where Indigenous youth, newcomers, and all youth can participate and have a strong voice.

**Montreal, May 1, 2017** - On May 5, 2017, Equitas will host an event profiling youth leaders driving social change across Montreal. A dialogue with decision makers about how to promote diversity, gender equality, and inclusive community spaces will also take place. Join us and meet youth who are making their mark in a year of Montreal 375, taking action to change the face of their communities now and for the future.

The event will take place on **Friday May 5 from 5:30-8pm** at **Creative Space 8 Queen, situated at 8 Queen St., in Old-Montreal.**

## Featured youth projects

- **Éco-quartier Sud Ouest:** a project to promote community gardens, food security and intergenerational cooperation
- **Ensemble Comité empreintes de l'École Lavoie:** a project to establish intercultural dialogue through the organization of kiosks promoting citizen initiatives around the world.
- **Y des femmes de Montréal:** a photo exhibit and project profiling extraordinary women leaders from diverse cultural backgrounds and gender equality
- **Ensemble: École du Chêne-Bleu Pincourt:** a series of activities promoting gender equality, culminating in the unveiling of new posters for non-gendered bathrooms.
- **Native Montreal:** a project creating community discussions and community spaces for Indigenous youth
- **Carrefour jeunesse emploi - Montréal Centre-Ville:** a collective prints mural, promoting diversity within the school and within the Montreal community.
- **Say Ça:** a project introducing Syrian youth to Montreal and encouraging intercultural exchanges and dialogues through food and dance during Montreal Restaurant day.
- **Youth Fusion:** a project to support youth mediators to learn and develop leadership and conflict resolution skills in Waskaganish. A 2<sup>nd</sup> project is a youth-led cross-cultural day of activities and exchange with Cree and Inuit students.

## Quote

"The youth gathered here from across Montreal are our leaders of today and tomorrow. We need to tap into and recognize the ideas they bring to the table for making our communities inclusive, equitable, vibrant places where everyone can participate. We are proud to collaborate with these youth leaders and support their efforts to shape change", says Equitas Executive Director **Ian Hamilton**.

**Interviews and images:** Media are invited to contact Equitas to join us for the event. Youth, event guests and Equitas Executive Director, Ian Hamilton, are available for interviews. Images of the youth projects are available upon request.

## Ends

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**Youth are leading change in their communities.**

**Join the movement.**

Friday  
**5/5/17**      5:30pm  
– 8pm

**Where?**  
Creative Space 8 Queen  
8 Queen St, MtL, H3C 2N5

**RSVP**  
equitas.org / ascote@equitas.org

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### About Equitas

Based in Montreal, Equitas is Canada's oldest and most active human rights education organization, working for the advancement of equality, social justice and respect for human rights. In Montreal each year, more than 15,000 children and youth participate in Equitas programs taking leadership to promote respect, acceptance and build more inclusive, equitable communities. 2017 marks the organization's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



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