

2023-BLACK STUDENT SUMMER LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

HIGHLIGHTS FROM ORIENTATION WEEK- July 4th to 7th



We are in our 5th Year !

This year, the Centre of Excellence for Black Student Achievement welcomed 115 students out of 250 applicants for the 2023 Black Student Summer Leadership Program (BSSLP).

Students began the research component of the program, Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) in April.

Currently, they are working through the second half of YPAR to develop their final research papers to be presented on August 15th and 16th.



Staff Support

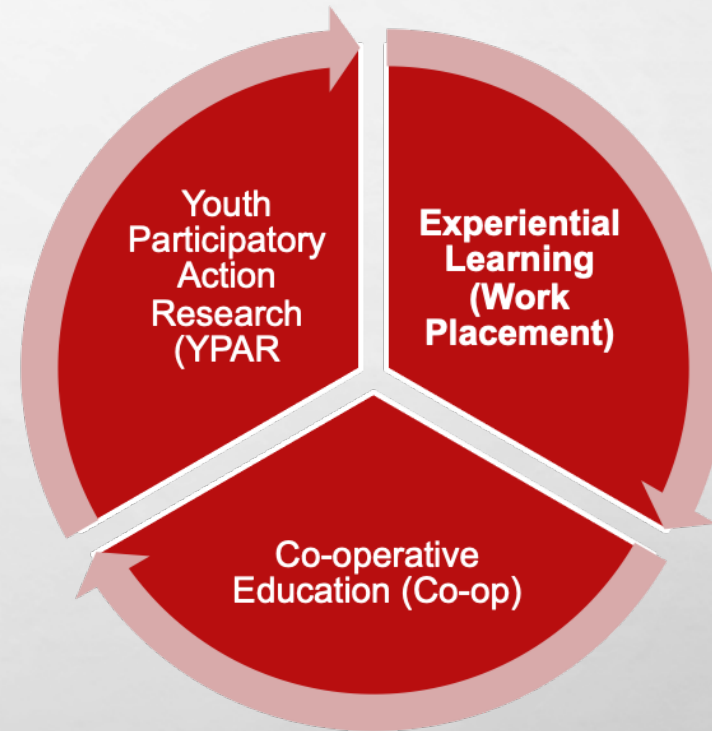


The program continues to work with a Black multidisciplinary team to support the needs of the junior leaders.



Centring Black Students Identity

Our three (3) focus areas combine the concepts of youth action research and real-world experiential learning. We continue to focus a lot on improving their citizenship, agency, leadership and activism.



More Youth-Led Leadership Activities



The Centre of Excellence staff incorporated more youth-led leadership activities to compliment student professional development before entering their experiential learning placement.



Creating Change Agents

We recognized the need for Black students to see themselves as change agents and decision makers that can (and do) contribute to the social order and functioning of a society.



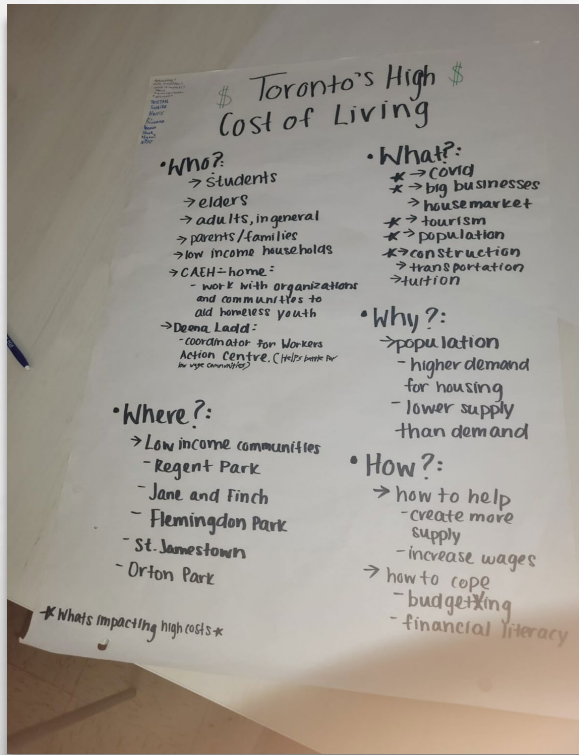
Participating Actively in Civic Engagement

We strived to find innovative ways to ensure Black students understand the importance of civic engagement and decision making.

Our goal was to build their skills and increase understanding that the ideas and leadership of young people will help overcome many of the challenges facing the world today.



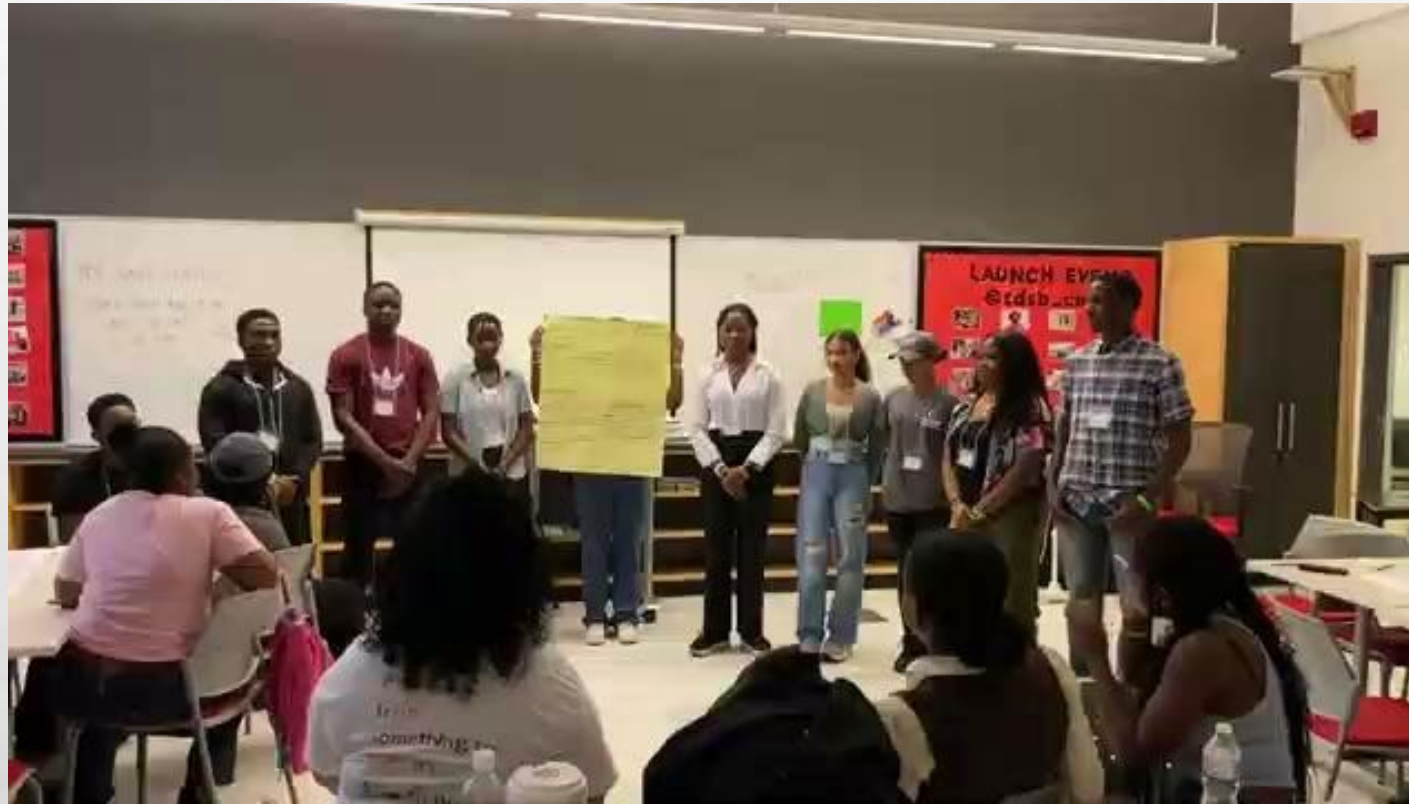
“If I Were Mayor For A Day”



Addressing Toronto's High Cost of Living

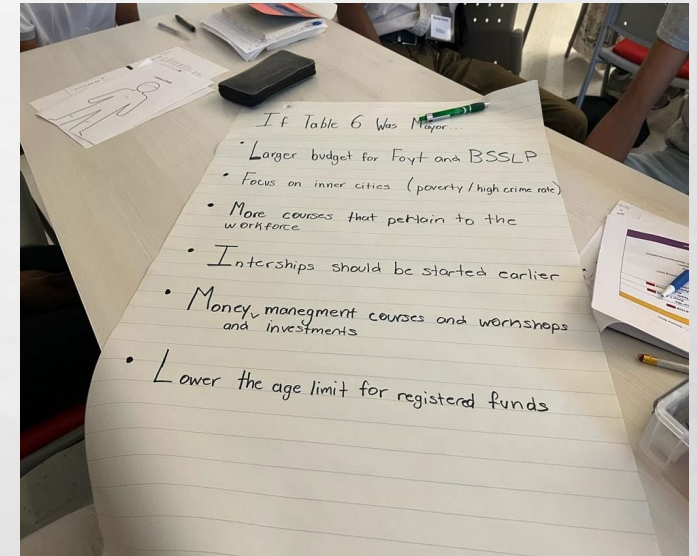
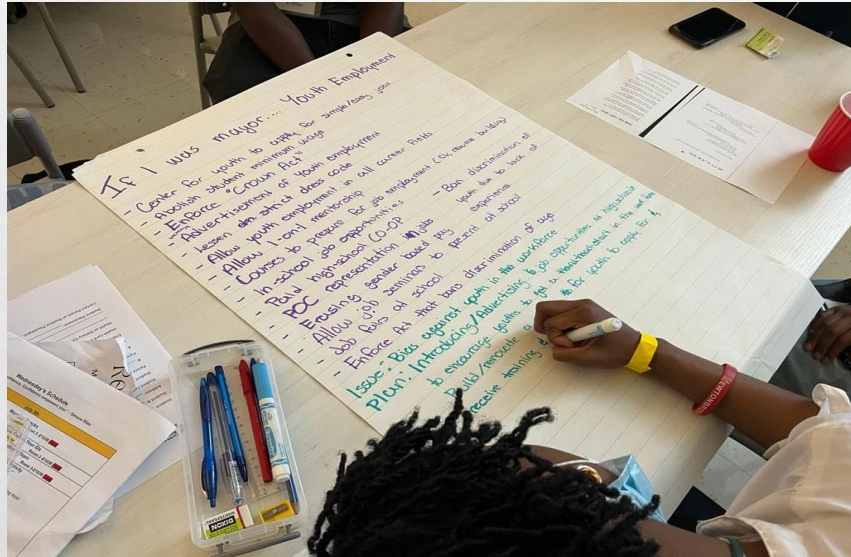


“If I Were Mayor For A Day”



Addressing Youth Homelessness

"If I Were Mayor For A Day"

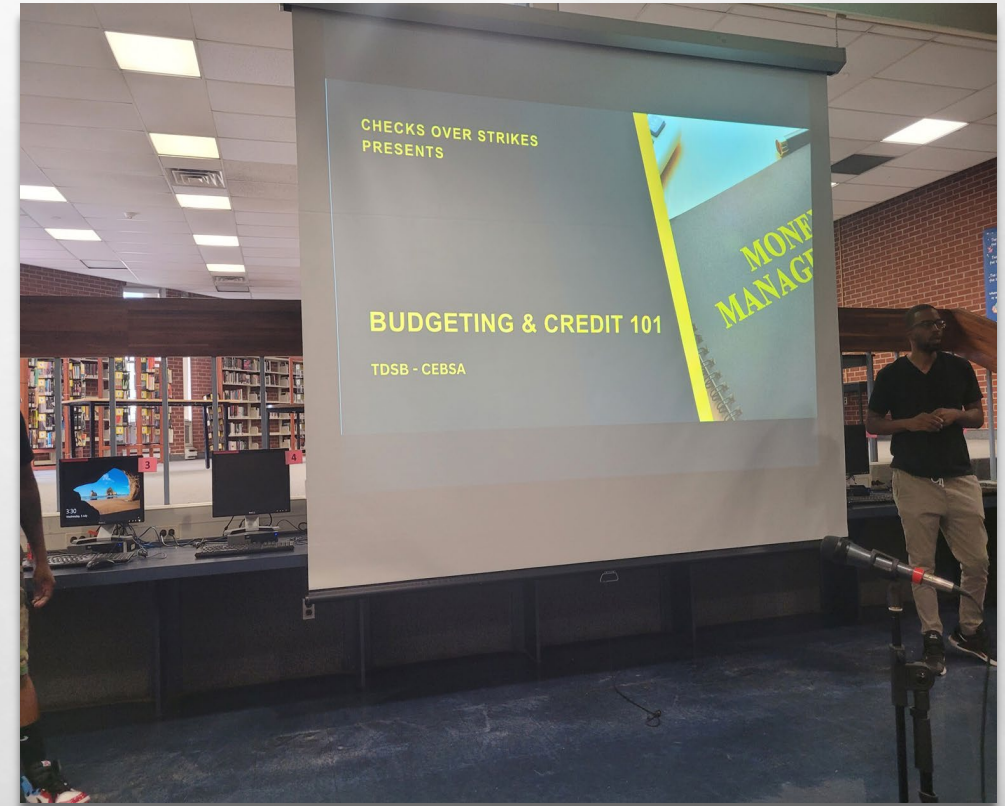


Youth Employment

Community Engagement Workshops

As with previous years, students had the opportunity to learn from Black community members and had meaningful conversations to develop their professional skills and awareness of:

- Human Rights
- Public Health
- Financial Literacy
- Business Management
- Community Development



Joy Through the Eyes of Black Students



See You Soon!

Students are off to placement across Toronto for the next 5 weeks. We will continue to guide and support them as much as possible while centring their well-being.