



MoYO: Mobile Youth Outreach Committee Innovative Services Award of Excellence

In most respects, the MoYO bus -- with its video games, flat screen TV and easy conversation -- is like any other youth centre. The difference is youth don't have to go to MoYO. This youth centre comes to them.

The MoYO bus got rolling in 2006 when Surrey Parks Recreation and Culture staff was looking at ways to address activity by unsupervised youth in city parks. A summer pilot project connected with 625 youth and confirmed that mobile outreach was an effective means of connecting with young people.

Now, with a donated TransLink bus, MoYO rolls through the city setting up in places where youth are, inviting them aboard. MoYO looks for youth hanging out in parks, playgrounds or on the street and gives them a safe place to be with activities that interest them.

Once on the bus, youth can connect with trained outreach workers who provide information about youth services or offer guidance if needed. Good behaviour is rewarded with free passes to city recreation centres and young people learn of the city's land-based youth centres.

Over the past four spring and summer seasons, MoYO has connected with thousands of Surrey young people and is recognized city-wide.

Quotes from Nomination Letters

"The program has experienced tremendous growth over the last four years and has proven to be a proactive outreach program that supports connection with youth in a positive and meaningful manner."

"MoYO has become a very visible and recognizable entity for youth in Surrey. With all community partners working together to ensure its success, the MoYO outreach workers are able to connect with more Surrey youth each year."