

CSFEP VIRTUAL EXCHANGES UPDATE

As we all across Canada continue to adapt to the life-transforming changes in our way of living, brought about by Covid-19(Coronavirus), the CSFEP continues to heed the advice and follow the directions / guidelines of the Canada Public Health Agency; especially as the safety and security of all our exchange participants, organizers, and their families involved in the CSFEP exchanges, has been and remain our most priority.

Currently, following the Health guidelines from the government, we have been delivering our exchanges virtually, and taking advantage of this means to give our youth participants' insightful and exciting experiences, which continue to connect Canadian youths, foster friendships, develop their sense of Canadian identity and diversity, and also to encourage the participation of Canadian youths from all walks of life, including youths from Indigenous communities, visible minorities, youths with disabilities, and youths from low-income and rural communities.

Groups are encouraged to send in their applications (can be filled online @ www.csfep.com) to our office address, along with the signed agreements, registration cheque (\$635), their plan of activities (itinerary), and a budget for materials required to carry out their exchanges virtually. And upon approval of their exchanges, the CSFEP will make provisions to subsidize the cost of exchange activities, support facilitators (sub-staff), and the virtual exchange equipment where needed.

For now we are in the thick of doing things virtually, and adapting to the new normal, while ensuring our participants continue to get the opportunity to share their voice, experience new cultures, and share their local traditions howbeit, virtually. We are not held back, but we see technology as a crucial part of our exchanges, used to ensure that each group has an equitable opportunity to host (by showcasing their community), and to participate (even from their homes) in our virtual exchanges, giving the youth participants memorable experiences with their new friends, regardless of the pandemic.



The CSFEP has put structures in place, in accordance to the direction of Health Canada and the Provincial Health Agency, to develop secure and precautionary measures to deliver our services and materials to our participants and organizers. Please feel free to contact us via email at info@csfep.com, also our phone lines are open and directed to any of our staff for further information on our program.

We will like to thank all our participants and organizers for your continued collaborations and cooperation with the CSFEP, and we will surely get back to travelling when it is possible again to do so. Please keep in contact with us for information on future travel exchanges.

For more information and updates on COVID-19, please visit your Provincial Health Agency and the Public Health Agency of Canada's website.