

# Northern Youth Abroad

education through work and travel

BUILD  
LEADERSHIP  
CAPACITY



EARN  
SCHOOL  
CREDITS



LEARN  
NEW  
SKILLS



TRAVEL

SHARE  
YOUR  
CULTURE



**NYA's Program Information Update and Steps Forward**

*May 1, 2020*

# Options for Participants and Alternates

## 2020 Canadian, Next, International Program

Like the rest of the world, NYA has been working to adjust to the huge effect that CoVid-19 has had on not only how we live day to day, but the decisions we make about the future. NYA is an organization that offers programs based on experience and travel and under our current restrictions this changes everything about our programming – but beyond that what we really offer is the chance for Participants to explore opportunities, develop as young leaders, and build skills, networks and confidence helping them to set and reach new goals. With this in mind, we continue to work to develop options to engage with the youth we serve.

We are working on a path forward that allows for Participants to choose what options suit them best at this moment and lets us continue to work to offer anything possible in support of Participants, Alumni and other youth across the North.

At this time every active Participant/Alternate has the following options:

### Option 1. Request a Deferral

**Pick this option if you know for sure that you do not want to participate in your NYA program in 2020, and are not interested in other program options that could be available.** When you request the deferral, NYA staff will get in touch to let you know if there is anything that you need to do to qualify for the deferral and the next steps for you. There is no deadline to defer - you can ask for a deferral at any time.

You can still choose to be a part of other NYA opportunities like Northern Youth in Service, asking for help with next steps etc.

### Option 2. Stay "On Hold"

**Pick this option if you are interested in waiting to see what might be offered in 2020.** NYA is committed to offering programming whenever it is safe to do so. It is possible that available program options may look different than normal NYA programs. In this option, when something is available it will be offered to you, and at that time you can decide to say yes to what we offer, or to defer to regular programming in 2021.

### Option 3. Withdraw from Program

**Pick this option if you are no longer interested in the NYA Program that you are a part of.** This means that if you want to participate in NYA in the future that you will need to re-apply. You can still choose to be part of other programs like Northern Youth in Service or Northern Compass.

# Criteria for Decisions

The criteria NYA is using to make decisions:

- The health and safety of Participants.
- The health and safety of NYA's staff, volunteers and program partners.
- The ability to run viable programming that meets the spirit of what NYA intends to provide.
- The ability for any travel-based programs to operate in a way that doesn't require additional complication or risk to participants.
- That we have the resources necessary to run programming.
- That we have support from our stakeholders and partners and together believe what we can offer is prudent and viable.
- That when we do feel that there is a viable option that we have the plans necessary to address new or changing circumstances.

## Our Steps Moving Forward

- We will continue to monitor the situation as things evolve. As things change and develop, we will continue to assess what might be possible. Some ideas would be changing the timing or location of programming.
- Northern Youth in Service, NYA's program that supports youth interested in creating community-based projects is open to new applicants.
- NYA Staff are available to work with Participants and Alumni and other youth to help plan their next steps, connect with opportunities that are active right now, or create options for fun, connection and learning. More info is on the next page.

# Opportunities for Right Now

Right now, there are still opportunities that exist to support and engage our Participants, Alumni, and northern youth. We hope that we can keep everyone engaged with NYA as we move forward, and want to be a collaborative resource for all. Please let us know if there are any other opportunities that you know of, and we would be happy to share them with our networks. Follow NYA social media to stay up to date in other opportunities and programs.

Opportunity	Best For	Details
<p><b>Northern Youth in Service (NYiS)</b></p> <p>A new NYA program that helps youth start community-based projects</p> <p>For more info go to <a href="http://www.nya.ca/nyis">www.nya.ca/nyis</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any youth aged 14-25 living in the NWT, Yukon, or Nunavut</li> <li>Youth who want to lead a project</li> <li>Youth who want to get involved in their community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open now for 2020! Apply or nominate someone at <a href="http://nya.ca/nyis">nya.ca/nyis</a></li> <li>Gives youth the chance to start a project in their own community</li> <li>Teaches youth how to design a project, and gives them the resources they need to deliver it</li> <li>Past projects have included hunting projects, sewing and beading groups, cultural activities, events, and youth groups. Last year one even won an Arctic Inspiration Prize!</li> </ul>
<p><b>Northern Compass</b></p> <p>A project that helps with navigating next steps beyond high school</p> <p>For support email <a href="mailto:NorthernCompass@nya.ca">NorthernCompass@nya.ca</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any northerners looking for support beyond high school</li> <li>Students currently in high school wondering about options or next steps</li> <li>Students currently in post-secondary (college or university)</li> <li>High school students who have work to do from home and need help</li> <li>Students who have applied for post-secondary but aren't sure what to do next</li> </ul>	<p>Here are some the ways we can help:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We can work with you to explore your interests and what programs and options are available that might be a good fit for you.</li> <li>We can help you with applications or making a plan to meet program requirements.</li> <li>We can help you through next steps after applying to school, how to accept offers, how to apply for funding, and making a plan for success.</li> <li>We can work with you to make a career plan and explore career options</li> <li>We can connect you with tutors, mentors, school supplies, and other resources.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Opportunities</b></p> <p>For help accessing other opportunities please email <a href="mailto:nya@nya.ca">nya@nya.ca</a></p>	<p>Youth looking for other opportunities to get involved</p>	<p>We can help you get more information about external opportunities or other programs and can help you apply to them.</p>

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Assignment Completion

Q: What's happening with my assignments?

A: That depends on what option you pick:

If you are requesting a deferral, you will be asked to submit all assignments due up to March 6th in the Canadian Program, and March 13th in the Next and International Programs as a requirement for accepting your spot in the fall for the 2021 programs.

If you are choosing to stay on hold right now, you are not expected to complete any more assignments at this time, but you are certainly welcome to – either in your binder or in the online classroom. We will let you know what is needed once we know what the program options are moving forward.

If you are withdrawing, you can decide to re-apply to NYA at any time that you are still eligible (including applying in fall 2020 if you change your mind).

## Fundraising

Q: What will happen to my fundraising money while the programs are on hold?

A: All fundraising for NYA must be submitted immediately. Please send it by cheque, money order, or e-transfer to NYA. It will be held in your name for a period of one year, so it will be counted towards your participation in the future. We are not able to refund any money fundraised.

## Acclaimed status

Q: I am an acclaimed participant this year. Does that affect my options?

A: No. We know that you have been trying to participate for two years now and apologize that you have to wait a little longer. You still have the option to request a deferral, remain on hold, or withdraw like everyone else. We hope that NYA still fits into your plans for yourself, should you choose to participate now or in the future.

## Aging out

Q: What if I want to request to defer my spot until next year, but I will be over the normal NYA age requirements (15-20 in the Canadian Program, and 16-22 in the International and Next Programs)?

A: We will make an exception for you - you can still keep your spot if your deferral is approved!

## Unsure what to do?

Q: I'm not sure what to do. I'm nervous to travel.

A: We understand that this is an uncertain time for everyone. We will follow government regulations and make decisions with everyone's safety in mind. Talk with your family members, mentor and consider your options. Being on hold right now doesn't mean you need to commit to anything – it means you are open to hearing the options.

Any other questions? Contact us at [nya@nya.ca](mailto:nya@nya.ca) or leave us a message at 1-866-212-2307.

# Thank You!

We would like to send huge thank you's to the NYA community of Participants, Mentors, Funding Partners, Program Partners, volunteers, Alumni and more – the support, flexibility and care that we continue to receive always warms our heart. And our hearts are with you – please know that NYA is here – whether it is to take part in what we can offer, to ask for help, or to reach out to a friendly voice – we remain deeply committed to supporting the youth that we serve across Nunavut and the NWT.

Mársı | Kinanāskomitin | Thank you | Merci | Hąj' |  
Quana | Qujannamiik | Quyanainni | Máhsı | Máhsı |  
Mahsı



## Our Dedicated Funders

Atuqtuarvik Corporation

Beaufort Delta Education Council

Canadian North Airlines

Dehcho Divisional Education Council

Dominion Diamond Corporation

Government of Canada – Youth Take Charge and Canada Service Corps

Government of the Northwest Territories- Departments of Municipal and Community Affairs and Education, Culture, and Employment

Government of Nunavut – Departments of Culture and Heritage and Education

Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

Kakivak Association

Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Kivalliq Inuit Association

Nunastar Fund for Northern Children

Nunavut Tunngavik Inc

Sahtu Dene Council

Sahtu Divisional Education Council

Stantec

Tachane Foundation

The Counselling Foundation of Canada

Tlicho Government