



OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

PROGRAMS HANDBOOK 2022-2023

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MISSION

Through the transformative art of dance, Indigenous youth are inspired to pursue education, engage in self-expression, and celebrate empowerment!



ABOUT

Outside Looking In was founded by Tracee Smith in September 2007 as a sole proprietorship. After the first successful show in May 2008, charitable status was sought in July 2008, and Outside Looking In became an official charitable organization in February 2009 (Charitable Status #81551 7099 RR 0001).

Outside Looking In was created to give Indigenous youth an opportunity to express themselves through the arts while giving Canadians the opportunity to learn more about Indigenous peoples, beyond what they see and read in the media, through Outside Looking In's annual multi-media performance in downtown Toronto. The annual event and performance are about give and take. Canadians have an opportunity to look inside Indigenous communities, while the Indigenous youth get to see beyond theirs.



CANADA-WIDE: We are a national charity, founded in 2007.



HEALTH: We engage youth in regular physical activity and promote healthy eating habits.



INDIGENOUS: We work with Indigenous youth in communities, organizations, and friendship centres.



LIFE SKILLS: We teach youth about commitment, perseverance, and hard work.



EDUCATION: We offer a high school credit program and engage youth in grades 7 – 12.



PERFORMANCE: We invite audiences to celebrate the success of OLI youth at our culminating annual event in Toronto.



DANCE: We recruit the most talented choreographers from across the country to teach OLI youth the latest dance moves.



EMPOWERMENT: We guide youth on a journey to academic achievement, well-being, personal growth, and prosperous futures.

OUR PROGRAMS

PURPOSE BUILT PROGRAMS FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH



Our **life cycle of programs** has been purpose-built to support Indigenous youth every step of the way from intermediate grades and secondary school to their career path of choice. We have worked hard to develop and continuously improve these programs **over the last 15 years** to ensure they best meet the needs of the youth we serve and their communities.



COMMUNITY DANCE
ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR LIFE



RBC FUTURE LEADERS
LEADERSHIP THROUGH MENTORSHIP



ALUMNI EXCELERATOR
NEXT STEPS



COMMUNITY DANCE

Above: Community Dance participants on stage at Meridian Hall.

The OLI Community Program is our flagship offering that empowers youth to achieve their best in school and life. Through the transformative power of the arts, we empower youth to unlock their full potential in all facets of life.

Guided by regular training sessions with professional artists and supported by community volunteers and educators, Indigenous youth from grades 7 - 12 learn a dance piece with multiple opportunities to perform virtually and within their communities. Ultimately, participating youth are given the opportunity to showcase their hard work on Canada's largest stage at our Annual Showcase.

Empowered youth are inspired to use their strength to reach new heights of academic success and personal growth. The program can be run as a credit course to contribute towards their Secondary School diploma. We work closely with your province's Ministry of Education to ensure that the course meets curriculum requirements.

The OLI Community Program can be tailored to become part of the school day or be run as an after-school activity - depending on the needs and planning strategies of the community, organization, friendship centre, or school.

WHO: This program is designed for Indigenous youth in Grades 7 - 12. It is open to youth from all our partnering communities.

WHY: This program focuses on:

- Relationship building
- Developing higher self-esteem, self-reliance, and self-discipline
- Improving academic performance
- Providing a sense of accomplishment
- Improving mental and physical health

COVID-19 ADJUSTMENTS: As we continue on through this pandemic and a post-pandemic environment, we are more than willing to work with your community, school, organization, or friendship centre to make program adjustments that meet your established protocols. We can deliver the program virtually or in-person by meeting your vaccination, quarantine, and testing requirements. Our 2023 Annual Showcase can take place locally at your community, in Toronto, or both locations!



Above: RBC Future Leaders on stage at Meridian Hall.

RBC FUTURE LEADERS

RBC Future Leaders was developed to support youth as they begin to consider their next steps after High School. RBC Future Leaders offers a unique approach to career education, leadership development and mentorship. Additionally, it allows Indigenous youth to earn a high school credit through their participation. RBC Future Leaders matches Indigenous youth in grade 10, 11 or 12 with a mentor.

Together, the mentor and youth develop a supportive and motivational relationship to encourage youth to see beyond their borders and explore opportunities available to them. RBC Future Leaders helps prepare youth for “next steps” beyond graduation by building personal management and employability skills, defining opportunities and pathways, and growing a supportive network.

RBC Future Leaders is an enrichment program for youth already participating in their Community Dance program who want to pursue additional challenges and go above and beyond

WHO: This program is designed for Indigenous youth seeking a leadership development opportunity. Participants must be in Grades 10-12. This program is open to youth in our partnering communities who have completed at least one year of OLI Dance

WHY: This program focuses on:

- Leadership skills
- Essential skills and career readiness
- Digital literacy
- Communication skills
- Financial literacy
- Interpersonal skills

COVID-19 ADJUSTMENTS: As we continue through this pandemic and a post-pandemic environment, we are more than willing to work with your community, school, organization, or friendship centre to make program adjustments that meet your established protocols. The bulk of this program is offered virtually, and in-person components can be offered virtually or in-person by meeting your vaccination, quarantine, and testing requirements.



ALUMNI EXCELERATOR

Above: OLI Alumni hosting our Annual Showcase at Meridian Hall.

The Alumni Exceleator program was designed to meet the post-secondary needs of OLI Alumni.

Alumni are paired with OLI program managers and mentors to help understand their aspirations and provide direction with career planning. Based on these discussions, mentors assist participants to set a robust personal goal. Through regular meetings and discussions, mentees are supported to complete a series of specific steps to realize their goal. This might include completing the application process and getting set up to attend a post-secondary institution, gaining practical experience in a field of choice, or creating opportunities to contribute positively to their community.

Alumni admitted into post-secondary institutions are encouraged to apply for Alumni Exceleator bursaries and scholarships to partially or fully subsidize their tuition fees.

WHO: This program is designed for past OLI participants who are interested in pursuing post-secondary education (college, university, trade school) or are seeking mentorship and support when determining next steps. All applicants must have graduated from an OLI program in the past.

WHY: This program focuses on:

- Career planning
- Writing skills
- Financial support
- Networking
- Providing a sense of accomplishment

COVID-19 ADJUSTMENTS: As we continue through this pandemic and a post-pandemic environment, we are more than willing to work with your community, school, organization, or friendship centre to make program adjustments that meet your established protocols. The bulk of this program is offered virtually, and in-person components can be offered virtually or in-person by meeting your vaccination, quarantine, and testing requirements.

THE ANNUAL SHOWCASE

Every year, OLI works hard to put together a culminating event to showcase and celebrate the achievements of our youth. This show has traditionally taken place on Canada's largest stage – at Meridian Hall in Toronto. In May 2022, OLI youth and alumni returned to the stage to celebrate our 15th anniversary with a live audience.

With celebrity hosts and Oscar-winning artists – our Annual Showcase show truly celebrates the achievements of youth in all of our programs. It provides OLI participants with a national platform to speak about their experience with OLI, what the programming means to them, and how it impacts their lives.

Each of our youth has their own stories and experiences of how OLI has touched them, whether it's the time spent dancing with classmates in their community program, meeting new friends in OLI's nationwide network of Indigenous youth, or learning from an RBC Future Leader mentor.

Bringing together like-minded youth during the formative years of their lives is so essential - OLI gives Indigenous participants exposure to others who help to motivate and inspire them to reach goals that they might not be able to on their own.





BY THE NUMBERS

50+
Communities Served

700+
Alumni

4100+
Instruction hours a year



96%
High School completion rate

80%
Gained new skills

75%
More prepared for the workforce

85%
Reported increased motivation



85%
Reported higher quality friendships

80%
Improved personal and professional networks



Inspire youth to re-engage in education with OLI

Our life cycle of programming supports Indigenous youth from grade 7 through to their career path of choice.



NOW REGISTERING FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

96%

of participants in all of our programs go on to graduate high school.

PROGRAM FEES

AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

At OLI, we firmly believe that our programs are most impactful when offered as a complete life cycle of support. As a whole, the programs provide Indigenous youth with the opportunity to rely on a resilient and robust network of people – from the Intermediate grades, through high school, and into their career of choice.

As an Indigenous-led organization with over 15 years of experience working with Indigenous youth, our programs are purpose-built to meet the needs of Indigenous youth while addressing their challenges.

Community Dance

\$30,000

OLI fees are paid for by the community, school, organization, or friendship centre looking to bring our programs to their youth. All program participants have an opportunity to participate in our national Annual Showcase.

The cost to run the dance program is \$50K, but through our donors’ generosity, we are able to offer the program to all new and returning communities for the ‘22-’23 and ‘23-’24 school years for \$30K in year one.

The cost covers travel for OLI staff and artists, meals, marketing materials, video and photography production, costumes, equipment rentals, technology, and more.

RBC Future Leaders

\$10,000

RBC Future Leaders is available to all returning communities. The fee will be added to the Community Dance fee.

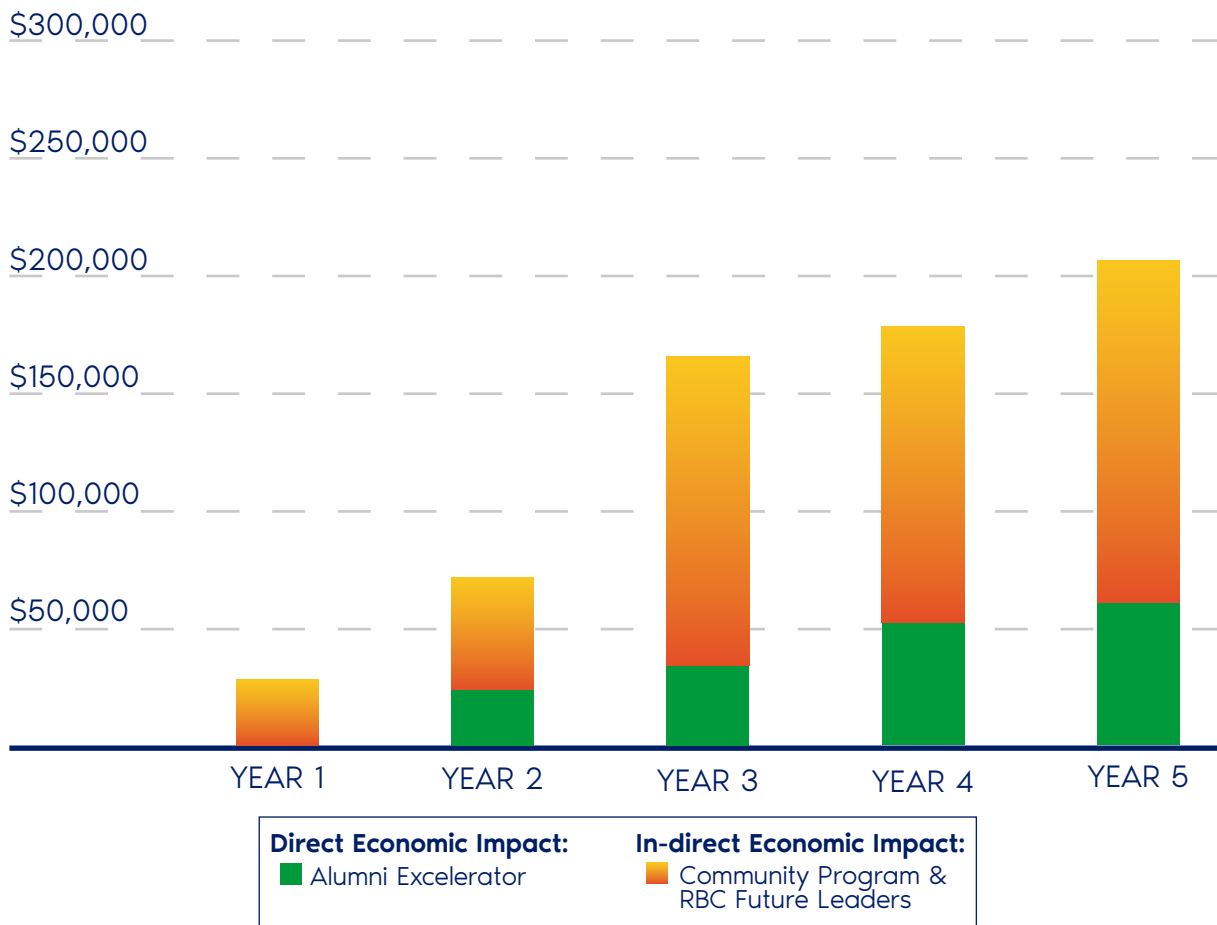
The cost covers mentor orientation and program supplies, flights, accommodations, meals, and materials for our annual Meet Your Mentor in-person event (usually in Toronto) and our one-week OLI Retreat event (usually in Winnipeg), program-specific merchandise for participants, and travel for OLI staff.

Program Benefits Summary:

Program	Core Service	Credit	Participant Compensation
Community Program	Includes a year-long schedule of classes taught by our national roster of artists. These can be conducted in-person or virtually.	High School	-
RBC Future Leaders	Includes one-on-one mentoring from our roster of hundreds of mentors across the country from highly diverse professional backgrounds.	High School	-
Alumni Excelerator	Participation in a tailor-made mentorship and goal-setting program. Access to scholarships and bursaries for all OLI alumni.	-	Post-secondary scholarships and bursaries

RETURN ON YOUR INVESTMENT

The direct and in-direct economic impact of OLI programs on your youth and your community as a whole is monumental. The chart below summarizes this impact by program.



"I just want to thank OLI for giving our children the privilege of being in this program."

Susan Wood,
Vice Principal, Garden Hill First Nation

"OLI - It's just really about cultivating that responsibility of growing up, becoming an adult, and a contributing citizen."

Rob Mitchell,
Principal, Lac La Croix First Nation



"The secret of getting ahead is getting started."

- Mark Twain

HOW TO APPLY

The OLI application process involves learning more about each other and tailoring our program to ensure it meets the needs of the youth we will be serving.

As we continue to work through into a post-pandemic environment, we are more than willing to work with your community, school, organization, or friendship centre to make program adjustments that meet your established protocols. We can deliver our program virtually or in-person by meeting your vaccination, quarantine, and testing requirements.

While we can implement our programs anytime during the year, our programs are best run in tandem with the academic school year (September - June). We highly encourage interested communities to apply early, between May - July.

Step 1:

Let's get to know each other!

Interested communities are encouraged to either apply online at www.olishow.com or by getting in touch with us at info@olishow.com

Step 2:

Establishing OLI in your community

Our program managers will work closely with your community and its leadership to ensure the success of our programs within your community.

Step 3:

Orientation

Once the program details have been established, OLI staff will work closely with your community leadership to ensure educational staff and students are onboarded.





**Help us to continue to make a difference
in the lives of Indigenous youth and
communities.**

**For more information, please contact info@olishow.com
call 1-855.946.5448 or visit www.olishow.com**



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Outside Looking In is a registered charity
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