

# Gendering Adolescent AIDS Prevention Program (GAAP)

## GENDERING ADOLESCENT AIDS PREVENTION

The Gendering Adolescent AIDS Prevention project (GAAP) is a team of researchers (faculty and graduate students) working in several research sites and interested in participatory approaches to working with young people in relation to sexuality, HIV prevention and AIDS awareness. The overall goal of this work is to develop gender-based analyses of HIV/AIDS and gender sensitive HIV prevention programs for youth, informed by the research, education, and activist work conducted with youth associated with GAAP.

Current GAAP research projects include:

- **Toronto Teen Survey** (funded by the Ontario HIV Treatment Network, in partnership with Planned Parenthood, York University's Faculty of Environmental Sciences, the University of Toronto's Public Health Sciences Department, and Toronto Public Health), which aims to gather information from youth on sexual health education and services and to use the information to develop a city-wide strategy to increase positive sexual health outcomes for diverse Toronto youth;
- **HIV Risk, Systemic Inequities, and Aboriginal Youth: Widening the Circle for Prevention Programming** (funded by CANFAR, in partnership with the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network, Youth Action Network, and McGill University), which aims to work with Aboriginal youth in Ontario and Quebec on issues related to HIV risk and to use the data to suggest prevention strategies that may work for Aboriginal populations;
- **TIG Xpress – HIV/AIDS** (funded by CIDA, in partnership with TakingIT Global and TeenNet), which aims to create innovative tools for HIV/AIDS prevention and education using photography in Canada and South Africa, with a focus on issues of global social justice.

## NEW COLLEGE YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

The New College Youth Advisory Board (YAB) is the youth activist and advisory group for GAAP. Recent YAB activities include a fall orientation, the Post-Card Project (an educational project exploring issues pertaining to HIV/AIDS and youth voices through an arts-based medium), the Movement Project (an opportunity to explore the use of arts-based research processes), the Francophone Project (in partnership with the Centre Francophone de Toronto, which runs an HIV/AIDS community outreach program as part of its health services), and a winter orientation with an education workshop by Wangari Esther Thaora from Women's Health in Women's Hands. In addition, several YAB attended the International AIDS Conference in Toronto in August 2006, and GAAP hosted a barbeque for youth delegates attending the conference from around the world.

