

Community Partner Guide for the Global Community Challenge YYC

Welcome and thanks for your interest in being a Community Partner for our Global Community Challenge YYC!

The Global Community Challenge YYC is a hands-on program that challenges students from the University of Calgary and from UCalgary's exchange partner universities around the world to work in cross-disciplinary, cross-cultural teams to come up with solutions for real life problems identified by organizations in the Calgary community. This will give them the opportunity to develop valuable skills in areas such as communication, intercultural capacity, teamwork, leadership, problem solving, interdisciplinary thinking and innovation, while also extending their network with other students, mentors and organizations. All this will be done from home due to the virtual nature of this program.

As a Community Partner, you will determine a challenge your organization is facing that will be addressed by the student team. Whether or not you use/implement their proposed solution is entirely up to you! Your feedback on the team's work as well as their solution will also be a part of the "competition" aspect of the challenge. To make it easier for you, we will outline the responsibilities and expectations here:

Who can be a community partner?

We handpicked community partners based on the organization's focus on a combination of local and global issues. This challenge is all about understanding how issues around the world affect day-to-day life here in Calgary and/or in the regions in which you are active. The Global Community Challenge YYC aims to inspire students to create positive change in their own city and beyond - and that starts with supporting your organization!

What is your role as a community partner? How much time do you need to invest?

As a community partner, we ask that you come up with a problem/challenge for a student team to solve – ideally a real-world challenge that your organization is currently facing. You will work with the student team as they develop a solution.

We expect that your time commitment will be about 6-8 hours for the duration of the challenge (from early October to mid-November 2021). Of course, you are welcome to put in more time if you would like.

As a community partner, you are expected to:

- Provide the student team with a challenge faced by your organization
- Hold an initial meeting with the team(s) to provide them with an overview of your organization and to explain the issue/challenge you are facing
- Respond to follow-up calls or emails to answer questions and provide clarification, as needed, while the students develop their solution
- Watch the presentation of the team's proposed solution and provide feedback to the University of Calgary challenge organizers both on the challenge and on the team's performance throughout the process

- Provide a dedicated point of contact in your organization for the student team. Respond to students’ emails within 3 business days
- Give constructive feedback. For more information, see these [6 tips from the Center for Mentorship](#). Also be open to receiving feedback from students - the Global Community Challenge YJC is a learning opportunity for all involved.

All meetings will be held virtually on Zoom or other platforms with ongoing communication over phone and/or email.

How will you get connected with your student team(s)?

In their application, students will select their top two or three options from a ‘menu’ of challenges based on their interest, knowledge, and skills. Individual students will be placed into teams of 5 or 6 with the goal of creating cross-disciplinary and multi-cultural groups to address each challenge. Once the teams are assembled, you will be matched with the team(s) that selected your challenge.

We will facilitate an introduction between the student team and community partners at the beginning of October. After that, it is the responsibility of the student team to maintain communication and to set up the first virtual meeting by mid-October. If you have not heard from them by Oct. 15, or in case you have any questions or issues, please email global.challenge@ucalgary.ca or contact Stephanie Perrin, International Development Officer: stephanie.perrin@ucalgary.ca

Global Challenge YJC Timeline

Date(s)	Milestone or task
Fri, Sep 18	Community partner sign-up form due, includes a description of your challenge
Sep 21-Oct 2	Student sign up open
Tues, Oct 6	Challenge starts, introductions between student teams and community partners
Oct 6-Nov 20	Community partners participate in ongoing communication with student teams
Mon Oct 19	Schedule posted for competition week
Fri Nov 6	Student teams participate in round 1 to practice final presentation
Thurs Nov 19	Community partners attend final presentations by student teams
Fri Nov 20	Community partners attend announcement of winning student team

What is expected from the student groups in terms of deliverables?

We expect that participating in this challenge will require students to commit approximately 30 hours of their time. This would include, workshops, meetings with community partners and mentors, working with your team, and the final presentations.

Each team will have an assigned mentor(s) to support them in the development of their proposed solution. Students are expected to have 3-4 meetings (1.5 hours each) with their mentors across the span of the challenge between October to mid-November over zoom.

We will be running 5 separate workshops across the 6 weeks of the challenge. 4 of the 5 workshops are mandatory to attend and it is our expectation that students attend all sessions synchronously. It is strongly recommended that students attend workshops as a team in order to receive the maximum benefits of the content provided.

Students are expected to lead and maintain communication with their assigned community partner and mentor.

What are the overarching goals of this challenge? Something to keep in mind...

For us, the challenge is secondary! It is not just about the results and who wins this challenge, it is really about the process and the learnings that students gain along the way. They will work in interdisciplinary teams with students from different countries and cultures, learning to see things through different lenses, gaining a better understanding of themselves, discovering more about their strengths and weaknesses and how to work effectively with others.

During this pilot phase of the Global Community Challenge YYC, we are hoping to explore ways to make the proposed solutions and contributions of student teams sustainable for our community partners. If you have suggestions for how we can continue to work together, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Challenge evaluation guidelines:

The student teams will present their solutions and be evaluated by a panel of adjudicators based on the rubric below:

Global Community Challenge YYC

Scoring Rubric

Fall 2020

Team:	
Community Partner:	
Challenge:	

Please score how well the team addressed the criteria outlined below using the following scale:

Description	Score Value
This criterion was very well addressed	4
This criterion was well addressed but there are small areas that could be improved	3
This criterion was addressed but could use improvement/elaboration	2
This criterion was somewhat addressed but has significant gaps	1
This criterion was not addressed.	0

Please note that 60% of their final score will be based on the proposed solution to the community organization's challenge and 40% will be based on their presentation.

Explanation of the challenge	Score
The challenge has been clearly explained	
The team has a deep understanding of intersectional issues that contribute to the challenge	
Comments:	
Proposed solution	Score
The solution addresses the defined challenge	
The solution is innovative, demonstrates critical thinking and, where appropriate, applies disciplinary knowledge	
The solution is feasible and takes into consideration accessibility to resources and	

necessary supports, addresses the capacity of the community partner to implement the solution	
The solution is sustainable and can be implemented long term with the plan outlined by the team	
The team has identified the impact that this solution, if implemented, could have on the community partner and its stakeholders	
Comments:	
Global mindset	Score
Where appropriate, the team has aligned their solution with global or regional strategic goals and priorities (such as UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs))	
Comments:	
Understanding of community partner	Score
The team demonstrates that they have appropriately engaged the community partner in the development in the solution	
The work of the team demonstrates knowledge, skills and abilities for Engaging Respectfully, Learning Cultures, Valuing Diversity	
Comments:	
Presentation	Score
The presentation was well organized and fell within the allotted time limits	
Presentation aids, if used (i.e. PowerPoint, video, etc.) served to enhance the presentation	
The team was able to address questions that were within the reasonable scope of their project	
Presenters spoke clearly, at an appropriate pace and volume to connect with their audience.	
Comments:	
FINAL SCORE	

Additional resources:

- [6 tips from the Center for Mentorship](#)
- [Receiving and Giving Effective Feedback](#)
- [Best Practices for Supervising Students in their Community-Based Learning and Research Position](#)

Conflict of Interest

If you become aware of a conflict of interest, please let the administrators of the Global Community Challenge YJC know about it. Conflict of interest could include, for instance, a familial or financial relationship between the designated contact in your organization with one of the participants working on your challenge.

Looking after each other

As we strive to create a safe and respectful workspace for mentors, students, community partners, all are responsible to:

- Ensure that your team's environment is safe, healthy, and free from harassment, discrimination, and conflict.
- Contribute to a collegial environment, seeking to add to, rather than take away from, the wellness of others.

Contact information:

Please email global.challenge@ucalgary.ca or contact Stephanie Perrin, International Development Officer: stephanie.perrin@ucalgary.ca

Thank you!!!

We hope this will be a meaningful experience for all involved.