

THE DOOR LA PORTE

YOUTH CENTRE JEUNESSE

April Highlights: Small Moments, Big Impact



April 2026

Monthly Newsletter –April 2026

Updates from The Door

April was a vibrant month at The Door Youth Centre, centered on learning, creativity, and community. We recognized key awareness initiatives, including World Autism Awareness, Sexual Health Awareness, Alcohol Awareness, and National Volunteer Week, while continuing to provide a safe and welcoming space for youth.

Youth engaged in interactive workshops and discussions led by partners such as Project FLY and students from Carleton University's Department of Neuroscience, alongside ongoing homework support and reading activities that encouraged growth and confidence.

Recreational programming remained a highlight, with sports, gaming, music, and creative activities bringing youth together. Special moments like Girls' Day, Pizza Night supported by Domino's Pizza, and Birthday Celebrations supported by Massine's Independent Grocer helped strengthen connections and build community.

The month also featured a field trip to Flying Squirrel, supported by the Ottawa Community Foundation, and a bike distribution initiative with Revalie Ottawa, expanding opportunities for youth. Overall, April reflected a positive, supportive environment where youth continued to connect, learn, and thrive.

May Monthly Calendar

THE DOOR MAY CALENDAR!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
4 Closed For Training	5 Youth Of The Month Special Meal Young Men's Motivational Tuesday's with Vincent	6 Mental Health Awareness Month Info session Charades/3D Printing with Bingchen	7 Music with Armaan Mother's Day Card Making Bike Tuning with Dillon	1 Fun Friday Cleaning the Capital
11 National Physical Fitness & Sports Month Activity Career Day Funeral Director	12 VR with Joe Critical Thinking Games	13 Art with Joanne Bingo Night 3D Printing with Bingchen	14 Music with Armaan National Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day/ Martial Arts with Dan Bike Tuning with Dillon	8 Fun Friday Karaoke with Elijah
18 Closed For Victoria Day	19 VR with Joe International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia with Baz	20 Art with Joanne Life Skills Games 3D Printing with Bingchen	21 World Meditation Day National Bike Month Bike Tuning with Dillon	15 Fun Friday Karaoke with Elijah
25 Quick Math Games Water Ballon Fight	26 Closed For AGM	27 Art with Joanne Job Prep Activity 3D Printing with Bingchen	28 Menstrual Hygiene Day Girls Night	22 Fun Friday Karaoke with Elijah Swimming at Plant Bath
				29 Fun Friday/Karaoke with Elijah Pizza night + Birthday celebration Announcement of Youth of the Month Cooking Class

Legend:
Info Session (i), Field Trip (F), Workshop (W), Life Skills Activity (★)

Spring Homework Help 2026

4-8PM

FREE

HOMEWORK HELP

MONDAY
SPANISH, MATH,
CHEMISTRY,
BIOLOGY & ARTS

TUESDAY
MATH, PHYSICS,
ENGLISH, ARTS
& COMPUTER
PROGRAMMING

WEDNESDAY
ARTS, MATH,
COMPUTER
PROGRAMMING
& HISTORY

THURSDAY
FRENCH,
COMPUTER
PROGRAMMING,
MATH & PHYSICS

FRIDAY
SCIENCES, ARTS,
MATH & ENGLISH

EVERYDAY
ENGLISH
& FRENCH

you can do it!

FIRST COME FIRST SERVE OR SIGNUP AHEAD OF TIME

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



In celebration of Volunteer Appreciation Week, the centre closed early on April 22 to host a casual appreciation dinner, creating space for volunteers to connect with staff, board members, and fellow supporters. The evening offered a chance to reflect, unwind, and recognize the time, energy, and care volunteers consistently bring to the community.

Volunteer Appreciation Week highlighted the strong sense of community that defines The Door. Volunteers shared that they are drawn to the centre by a desire to give back, gain experience, and support youth in meaningful ways. What keeps them engaged is the welcoming environment, strong relationships, and the ability to see the direct impact of their involvement.

Volunteers also completed a survey, with common themes including belonging, mentorship, and personal growth. Many shared that volunteering at The Door has strengthened their communication, patience, and relationship-building skills, while helping youth gain confidence, life skills, and a safe space to connect.

Our volunteers come from diverse backgrounds and bring valuable experiences, perspectives, and knowledge that help support youth growth and create a welcoming environment for everyone. At The Door, we are incredibly thankful for the dedication and time our volunteers continue to give to our youth and community.



A Fun Day At Flying Squirrel



On April 23, The Door hosted its annual field trip to Flying Squirrel for the third year in a row, with 25 youth in attendance. As one of the most requested and anticipated field trips of the year, the outing gave youth the opportunity to jump, play, and challenge themselves in a fun, high energy environment.

The group represented The Door exceptionally well, demonstrating positive behaviour throughout the trip while making the most of the experience. Opportunities like these go beyond recreation by helping youth build friendships, try new activities, grow their confidence, and stay physically active in a positive and supportive setting outside of their usual environment.

Thank you to the Ottawa Community Foundation for supporting opportunities like this and helping make these experiences possible for our youth.



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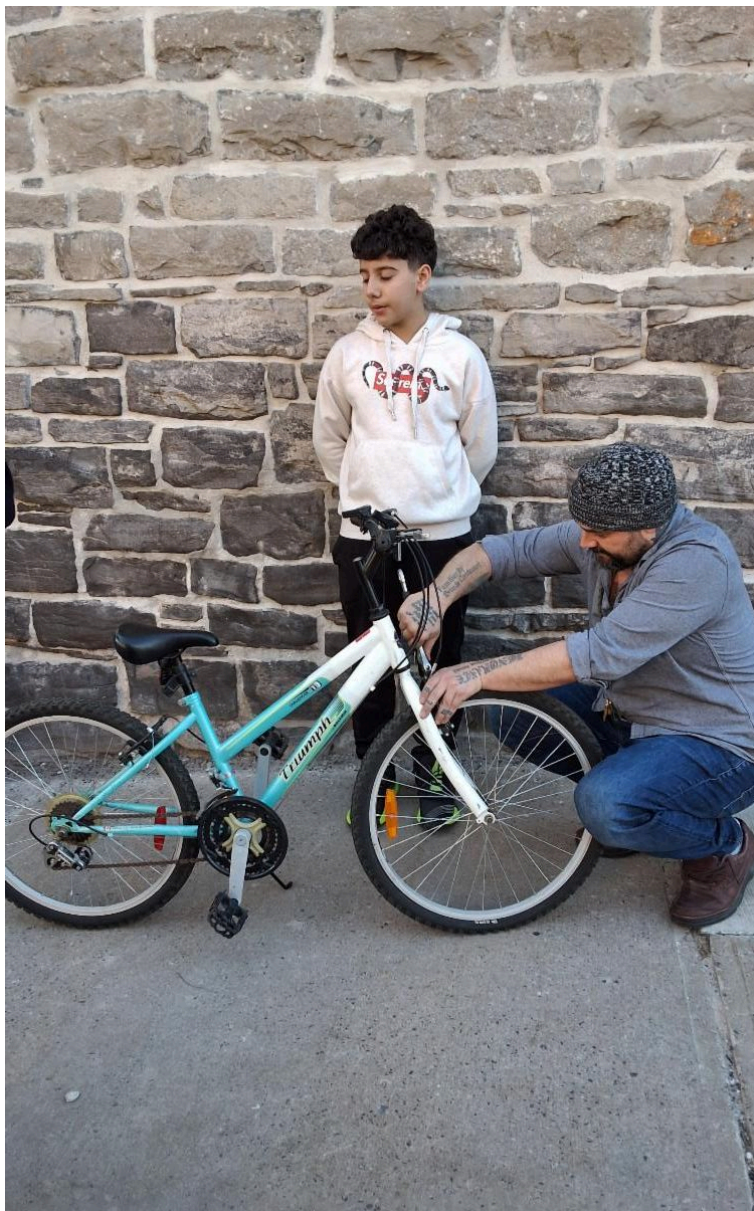
Building Independence: Bike Donations Create New Opportunities for Youth

On April 16, bikes were distributed to youth by Rachel Borzecki of Revalie Ottawa. As part of the process, youth were asked to write a few reasons why they needed a bike, how it would benefit them, and how they would take care of it. This encouraged reflection and responsibility while highlighting the positive impact access to a bike can have.

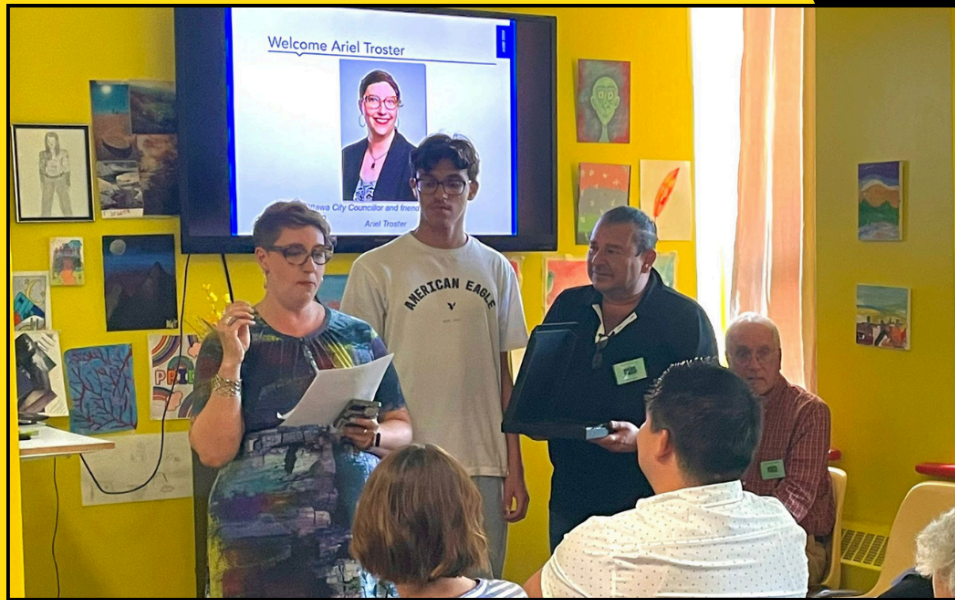
Youth shared that the bikes would help them get to work, reduce the cost of bus transportation, and give some the opportunity to learn how to ride for the first time.

Five youth were selected to receive bikes, creating meaningful moments of opportunity and independence. Beginning in May, these youth will also have the chance to bring their bikes in every Thursday to tune them up with volunteer Dillon and Youth Worker Vincent, helping them learn basic maintenance skills and take ownership of their new resource.

Thank you to Rachel Borzecki of Revalie Ottawa for this generous donation and for creating such a meaningful opportunity for our youth.



Looking Back and Moving Forward:
2026 Annual General Meeting



2026 Annual General Meeting

May 26th , 2026

6 PM to 7 PM

2- 755 Somerset Street West

To RSVP please email **E.D Malik Ayass** at
info@thedooryouthcentre.com
by May 20th , 2026

On May 26, 2026, The Door Youth Centre will host its Annual General Meeting from 6 PM to 7 PM at the centre. The AGM is an opportunity to reflect on the past year, celebrate achievements, recognize the contributions of youth, volunteers, staff, and community partners, and share updates on the organization's ongoing work and future direction.

The evening will bring together community members, supporters, and partners to highlight the impact of programs, field trips, mentorship opportunities, and youth initiatives that continue to shape the centre. The AGM also serves as a chance to recognize the strong community support that helps make these opportunities possible for local youth.

Community members interested in attending are encouraged to RSVP to Executive Director **Malik Ayass** (info@thedooryouthcentre.com) by May 20, 2026.



Open the Door to Opportunity: Support Our Youth

We've been fortunate to receive many of our previous wishlist items over the past few months, but we still truly need your support. Your financial donation makes a real difference in the lives of our youth. Even a small monthly contribution of \$10–\$20 helps sustain our programs.

A monthly gift of \$100 provides one youth with full access to all of The Door's programs, including hot meals, workshops, music lessons, life skills training, and a safe space to belong.

[Donate Here](#)



The Door's
Website



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