THE DOOR LA PORTE
YOUTH CENTRE JEUNESSE

June Highlights: Learning, Leadership & Recreation



(Members of The Door Youth Centre learned valuable gardening skills from former Board Chair Debbie Barton.)

June 2026

Monthly Newsletter -June 2026
Updates from The Door

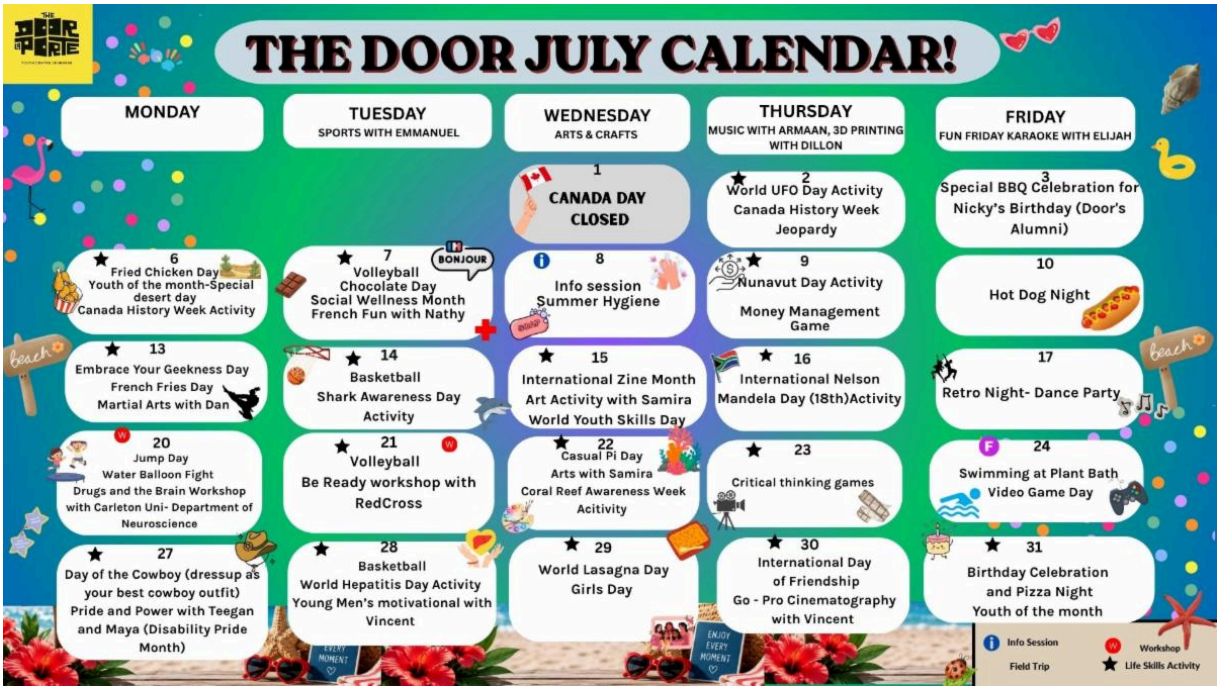
June was another exciting month at The Door Youth Centre, filled with opportunities for youth to learn, connect, and have fun. Throughout the month, members participated in a wide variety of recreational activities including basketball and volleyball with Emmanuel for our outdoor summer sports program,sponsored by Participation, karaoke, arts and crafts, gaming, gardening, tournaments, bingo, outdoor recreation, and creative projects. Homework support continued to be available each day, helping youth stay on track while enjoying the centre's welcoming environment.

The month also featured several educational workshops and awareness activities. Youth learned about financial literacy through Project FLY's Credit Score Workshop, explored disaster preparedness during the Canadian Red Cross LEGO workshop, and gained insight into careers during a Military Leadership and International Relations presentation. They also took part in activities recognizing World Ocean Day, Action Anxiety Day, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, Pride Month, and World Kidney Cancer Awareness, encouraging meaningful discussions and personal growth.

June included several memorable special events. Youth enjoyed a field trip to the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum sponsored by Ottawa Community Foundation, where they explored exhibits and learned about agriculture while representing The Door with outstanding behaviour. Girls' Day provided participants with the opportunity to create personalized jewelry, make bubble tea, and take part in a healthy relationships discussion. The month also celebrated June birthdays with our monthly Pizza Night sponsored by Dominions Pizza and Birthday Celebration sponsored by Massines Independent Grocer, continued Young Men's Motivational Tuesdays, and concluded with the launch of our first Pride & Power Youth Night, creating a welcoming and supportive space for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth.

Thank you to our dedicated staff, volunteers, placement students, community partners, and supporters for helping make June another successful month of learning, friendship, and fun at The Door Youth Centre.

July Monthly Calendar



Learning Beyond the Classroom

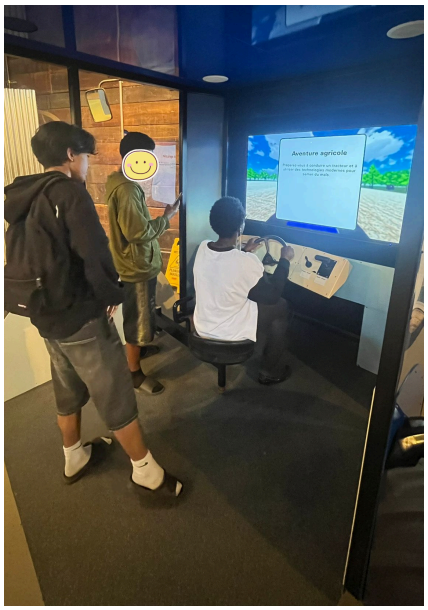
On June 24, 16 youth, 3 volunteers, and 3 staff from The Door Youth Centre spent the day exploring the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum in Ottawa.

The field trip gave youth the opportunity to discover Canadian agriculture through fun, hands-on experiences. They met a variety of farm animals, enjoyed a tractor ride, watched the popular cow parade, learned how ice cream is made, explored the dairy barn, and visited the rabbits. Throughout the day, youth gained a deeper understanding of where food comes from and the important role agriculture plays in everyday life.

At The Door Youth Centre, we believe some of the most meaningful learning happens outside the classroom. Educational outings like this inspire curiosity, encourage teamwork, build confidence, and expose youth to new experiences in an engaging and interactive way.

We are grateful to the Ottawa Community Foundation for making this memorable field trip possible. Their generous support helps create enriching opportunities that allow our youth to learn, grow, and build lasting memories.


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Career Day: Veteran Yann

On Monday, June 15, The Door Youth Centre welcomed Veteran Yann Hidiroglou for a special Career Day focused on Military Leadership and International Relations. During the session, Yann shared his personal experiences serving in the military and spoke about the leadership, teamwork, discipline, and communication skills developed through military service.

Youth learned about the many career opportunities available within the Canadian Armed Forces, including both military and civilian roles, as well as how these careers can lead to opportunities in international relations, humanitarian work, and peacekeeping missions. Yann also discussed the education and training pathways required for various careers and encouraged youth to explore options that align with their interests and goals.

The presentation sparked thoughtful questions from participants, who were engaged throughout the session and eager to learn more about military life, leadership, and serving both locally and abroad. We thank Veteran Yann for taking the time to inspire our youth and provide valuable insight into careers dedicated to service, leadership, and making a positive impact in communities around the world.



Pride and Power

The Door Youth Centre was proud to host its first Pride and Power Youth Night, led by Teegan, Baz, and Maya. Four youth identifying as members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community participated in the inaugural session, creating a welcoming, respectful, and supportive environment. All participants were engaged, well behaved, and enjoyed the activities throughout the evening.

As part of the session, youth worked together to create a group Code of Conduct, establishing shared expectations for respect, inclusion, confidentiality, and kindness. They also completed an anonymous feedback survey, providing ideas for future activities, discussion topics, guest speakers, and community field trips. Participants shared that they enjoyed the program and would like future sessions to be longer.

The Door Youth Centre recognizes the importance of providing a safe, affirming space where 2SLGBTQIA+ youth can connect with peers, build confidence, express themselves, and know they are accepted for who they are. Programs like Pride and Power help foster belonging, strengthen mental well-being, and create meaningful opportunities for youth to learn, grow, and support one another.

Following the success of this first session, we hope to continue Pride and Power Youth Night on the last Monday of every month, giving 2SLGBTQIA+ youth and their allies a regular opportunity to connect in a welcoming and inclusive environment. We look forward to growing this program and continuing to build a community where every young person feels safe, respected, and empowered.



LEGO® Serious Play Workshop with the Canadian Red Cross

On June 4, youth at The Door Youth Centre participated in an interactive LEGO® Serious Play Workshop facilitated by Daniel Medina and the Canadian Red Cross team.

Using the LEGO® Serious Play methodology, youth explored topics related to climate change, disaster preparedness, and emergency readiness through hands-on building activities. The workshop encouraged creativity, teamwork, problem-solving, and discussion through four key stages: Invite, Build, Share, and Think.

The youth did very well in expressing their ideas, sharing their perspectives, and participating in group discussions. They especially enjoyed the play-to-learn approach, which made learning about disaster preparedness both engaging and fun. Participants created LEGO models to represent their ideas, explained the stories behind their builds, and reflected on ways to stay safe during emergencies.

The workshop lasted approximately 40 minutes, providing an excellent balance of learning and interaction. The youth actively participated in each stage of the workshop and showed great enthusiasm for the hands-on, play-to-learn approach.

We extend our sincere thanks to Daniel Medina and the Canadian Red Cross for providing this creative and educational opportunity for our youth.







Minto Yard Sale Fundraiser



We are incredibly grateful to everyone who supported The Door Youth Centre at the 2026 Minto Park Sale.

This community event brought together neighbours, local organizations, volunteers, and businesses in support of a stronger Centretown. Thanks to the generosity of those who attended our bake sale and BBQ, we were able to raise funds that will directly support youth programs and opportunities at The Door.

A special thank you to Councillor Ariel Troster for her ongoing commitment to our community and to Dave Massine and Massine's Your Independent Grocer's for generously sponsoring our community BBQ.

We also extend our appreciation to our dedicated volunteers, staff, youth participants, and community partners whose efforts helped make the day such a success.

Community support like this allows us to continue providing a safe, welcoming space where young people can learn, connect, and thrive. Thank you for investing in the future of our youth.

Thank you to our Spring/ Summer 2026 Supporters!

Your generosity helps create safe, welcoming spaces where youth can learn, grow, and thrive. Thank you for making our programs and opportunities possible.

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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

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(613) 237-3667

The Door's Website

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