

# Building Community and Celebrating After School Programming



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## The beginning of 4-H



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## In 1913 it moved north to Canada and Roland, Manitoba



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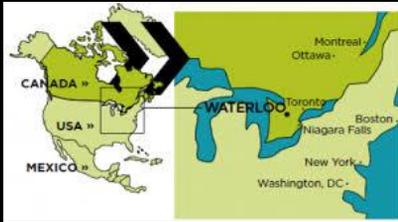
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In 1915 the first 4-H club was registered in Waterloo, Ontario



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- 4-H was originally called Boys & Girls Clubs
- Administered by the Department of Agriculture, later known as the Ministry of Agriculture
- Founded on the concept of teaching youth agricultural skills in a club atmosphere and based on the concept of 'learning to do by doing'
- 1935 the first Homemaking Club was introduced with the project "A Simple Cotton Dress"



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- In 1952 the 4-H logo and name was adopted by 4-H Canada to reflect the four H's in the pledge: head, heart, hands, health

**I PLEDGE**  
MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING,  
MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY,  
MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE,  
MY HEALTH TO BETTER LIVING,  
FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY  
AND MY COUNTRY.



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- During this time there was a refocus of 4-H initiatives and renewed emphasis was placed on the 'person' not the 'project'
- The Club goal switched from the best calf or crop to the most well rounded individuals and best community contributing citizens.



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- This is the focus 4-H still holds today; building leadership and life skills that equip youth with the tools they need to reach their full potential and become conscious and contributing citizens.



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- In 1988 the Ontario 4-H Council was established to act as a guardian of the 4-H program ensuring longevity of the program.
- In 1998 the Ontario 4-H Foundation was established as a charitable organization to ensure the financial security of 4-H Ontario activities.




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- In 2000 4-H Ontario became a fully independent, charitable organization after OMAFRA handed all responsibility to the Ontario 4-H Council. OMAFRA continues to be strong funding partner of the 4-H program




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- Today 4-H Ontario has an expansive reach and can be found in communities all across the province; including rural, urban, and suburban areas.
- 4-H is also part of a national and global movement




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### Five Things All Kids Need

- ✓ Strong positive relationships with people who care for them
- ✓ Safe and caring places to live, learn and play
- ✓ Opportunities to provide service to others, learn and try new things
- ✓ Healthy habits
- ✓ Hope for the future



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The 4-H program is still well rooted in a strong agriculture history but recognizes that everyone can benefit from the holistic and socially conscious approach 4-H takes to learning



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- Agriculture, food and the environment will always be an important part of the 4-H program, but Clubs that cover non-agriculture topics are also important to today's youth.




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4-H Ontario offers programming for youth 6-25

- Cloverbuds- ages 6-8  
3 year curriculum
- 4-H club programming –ages 9-21  
including senior member (15+) Youth Leader Program
- Sen\$e programs- 18-25




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Today's 4-H youth have the freedom and ability to tackle the issues that matter to them most; this makes the 4-H program unique and ever changing




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**4-H members have the ability to participate in projects that reflect their interests**




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**At each age level 4-H Ontario offers leadership development opportunities in the form of camps and conferences**

- Discovery Days- ages 9-12
- Youth Adventure Camp –ages 12-15
- Careermania- ages 14-18
- Provincial Leadership Camp-ages 15-21
- Future Leaders in Action- 16-21
- Ignite Leadership- 17-21
- Sen\$e Conference- ages 18-25




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**4-H Ontario empowers 4-H members the opportunity to put their leadership skills to use beyond their local community**

- 4-H Ontario Ambassadors 
- Ontario 4-H Council- Youth Director
- Canadian 4-H Council Youth Advisory Committee




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“Through 4-H, kids come into their own and they go on to be great community citizens”



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### Volunteers



the foundation of our success



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- Close to 1800 volunteers in 50 active 4-H Associations
- Filling a variety of roles including
  - Club Leaders
  - Association volunteers
  - Volunteers at Large
  - Opportunity Facilitators
  - Event Chaperones
  - Provincial and National Directors



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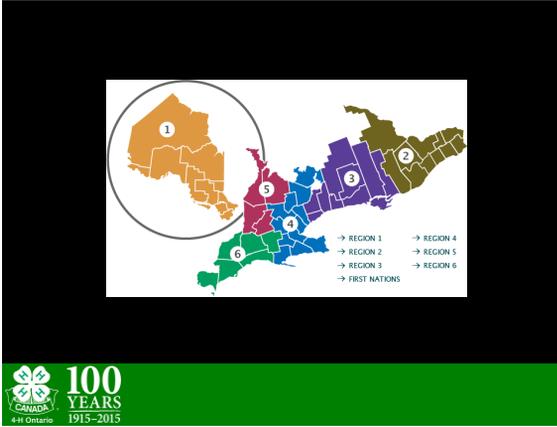
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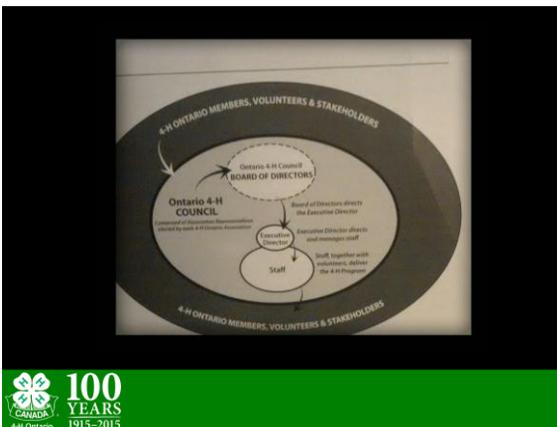
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**Alumni Engagement**

- 4-H volunteers
- Sponsors
- Opportunity Facilitators
- Multi-generational families
  
- Sharing Your Story



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**Transitioning with the times**

- Providing safe space to explore and enhance skills
  
- Offering developmental asset integrated program-
  - Autonomy
  - Relatedness
  - Competence



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- Focusing on the 'person' not the project
- Revising and updating project material
- Introducing new 4-H club projects that address the interest of today's youth
- Continual updating of opportunity curriculum
- Removing barriers related to participation



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**Engaging in New Partnerships**

- Community based
- Provincial
- National
- International



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**Celebrating and Sharing Success**

- Local Club Achievement Days
- Awards and Recognition Programs
- Milestone Achievements of members and volunteers
- Opportunities that empower members and volunteers
  - Volunteer Symposiums Open Discussion sessions



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**Risk Management Policies and Procedures**

- Screening and Training for all 4-H volunteers
- Policies and procedures that address wide scope of risk management areas including insurance, chaperones, Code of Conduct

**4-H Association Health**

- Financial
- Volunteer Recruitment & Retention



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### Embracing Technology

- Social Media
  - Facebook
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- On-line registration
- Training webinars
- YouTube videos



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Celebrating Our Success while planning for Our Future



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