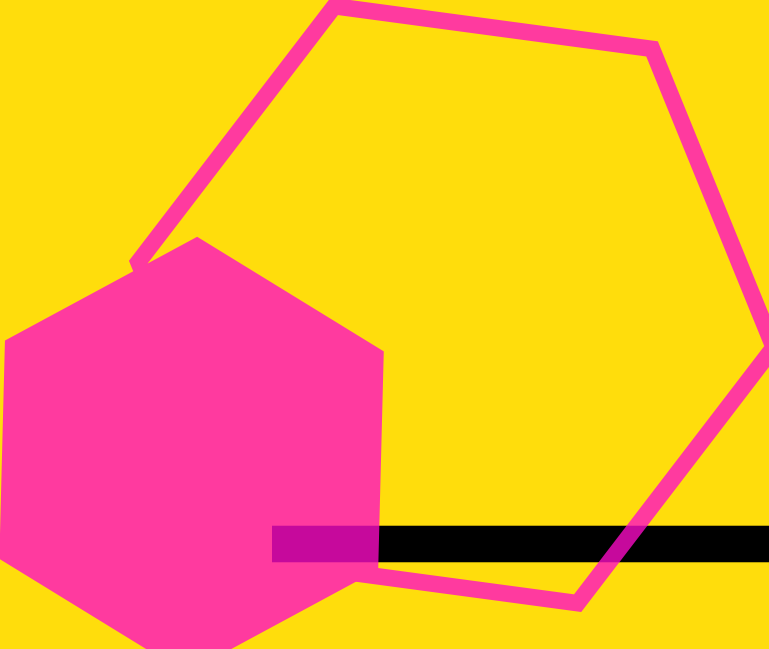


This fall, the Youth Engagement Coordinator worked with **8 schools, 16 school champions, and 139 students** across the SSRCE to create youth-led grants for well-being projects in their school communities. We are really excited to share and celebrate their amazing ideas and hard work.



UpLift Grants

2020/2021

Hebville Academy's grade four class purchased a class set of bikes so that they can explore new parts of their school community and stay active. As BullRun trail stewards they will work with community partners to promote community use of the trail while also keeping the trails safe and clean.

"When we ride bikes we will all get to spend time together and become friends."



The grade 8's of **South Queens Middle School** wanted to create a project that could promote physical activity in their outdoor spaces. They chose to purchase laser tag and archery equipment, and develop an archery range and beach volleyball court. They are excited to support students and their school community to be active outdoors.

"We would be lucky to have a smart environment, but proud to have a motivated, friendly, and free one to create a strong team."

At **Bluenose academy**, the grade 7 outdoor education class wanted new canoes to help them to stay active on the water. Through their mentorship program this group will have time to develop their skills so that when they are in grade 9 they will be able to support younger students to paddle.

"This project will help students gain confidence in themselves, whether they may be life skills, mental health or physical health."



Feeling disconnected from other students due to COVID-19, the grade 6 students of **West Northfield Elementary School** saw an opportunity to connect students and community through video and technology. By purchasing equipment for an audio visual studio, these young leaders will be able to host online events, connect and support their fellow students, and celebrate their school.

"As a grade 6 student I do believe its very important to connect with younger students, but because of COVID-19 we cant. The school video studio would be a great way for the grade 6 students to connect with the younger elementary students in a safe way."

The grade 3's and 4's at **Newcomville Elementary School** love spending time outdoors and hoped an UpLift grant could support them to explore, play, and eat outdoors all year. Together, these classes created a project that would provide sheltered spaces to eat and learn and play.

"We would like to share skills and host competitions with our new equipment. We are willing to put in the hard work to make this project happen."



In an effort to better celebrate and share Mi'kmaq ways of being and knowing, **North Queens Community School** chose to build a wikuom as an outdoor safe space for students. A group of young indigenous leaders and their allies wanted a space where they felt safe to share their experience, culture, and traditions.

"We want to create a space where students feel like one of the people."

The students of **Dr. John C. Wickwire Academy** love to skateboard. That is why their skateboard club wanted to make their group accessible to more students. By purchasing more equipment, suitable for a range of ability levels, these students are inviting all students and staff to learn a new skill, have fun, and be active.

"Skateboard club is a place where I feel safe. I get to choose how I use my time and how I learn new tricks. It gets us ready for the day and it's so fun skating with friends."



The grade 5/6 split class at **New Germany Elementary School** want to create a more engaging outdoor space for younger students. In response to COVID and a need to create outdoor spaces that students can enjoy in all weather, they will be building the Tiger Lair, a forest jungle gym and shelter.

"I want to help the little kids be more interested in our playground."

Is your school next?

Each school in the SSRCE will be able to access one \$ 5,000 grant before the end of 2023. If you would like your class or school to work towards an UpLift grant contact our Youth Engagement Coordinator Alex Coley by email: alex.coley@nshealth.ca or by phone: (902) 521 2986

