

LEVEL Youth Policy Program – Group Mentorship

Purpose:

This mentorship plan can be adapted to help participants prepare effectively for each module and maximize their learning experience. It ensures that they are well-equipped and supported to write their own policy asks and engage meaningfully in the program.

Process:

- The LEVEL Team will pre-assign the 16 participants to mentors in four groups.
- Mentors will be invited to attend a Mentors Briefing on Monday, March 25th from noon-1pm
- The LEVEL Team will send out an introductory email to the mentor and participants.
- Mentors and Participants will connect directly to arrange group meetings.
- Mentors are encouraged to host up to two recurring group meetings and offer a drop-in office hour (15mins to allow for one-on-one meetings)
- Mentors will connect with the LEVEL Team for any further support throughout the journey.

Mentorship Plan Overview:

- The mentor will meet with the participants in small groups to support them with ongoing support throughout the program.
- The mentor will provide guidance on policy development and offer insights relevant to the specific module and workbook materials.
- Communication between mentor and participants will be a combination of online meetings, drop-in office hours, emails, and phone calls based on pre-agreed recurring meeting cadence at minimum once a month. (Up to two recurring group meetings and offer a drop-in office hour)
- The mentor will facilitate peer-to-peer connections among mentees and encourage collaboration on policy development.
- The mentor will foster a forum for mentees to post questions and seek advice.
- The mentor will share relevant articles, case studies, and resources and create a platform for mentees to share their findings.
- The mentor will help participants integrate new knowledge into their projects.
- Mentors are encouraged to connect with other Mentors to share ideas and challenges.
- Consider recommending Faculty advisors and other subject matter experts to lend their expertise in one or two meetings. This collaborative effort can significantly enrich the overall mentorship experience and contribute to the formulation of impactful policy proposals.
- **Consider working on a policy ask as a group. Ask questions for better understanding and provide guidance and feedback to participants during this exercise.**

Throughout the Program:

- Encouraging participants to reference the Workbook is important, as individuals in previous cohorts had difficulties connecting the modules to the workbook.
- Provide ongoing support through email and additional virtual meetings as needed.
- Foster a collaborative environment among participants.
- Encourage participants to utilize the culturally safe-trauma informed counselling supports offered by VF.
- Encourage participants to use and adapt the provided Policy Project template and project tracker (still to come).

Tools:

- Workbook and #YPP2022 Resource Page:
To access the **YPP Workbook***Click the link:
<https://levelvf.ca/ypp2022-resource-page/> and enter your password **LEVEL2022!** .
- Mentorship Guide shared with both Mentors and Participants.
- Policy Project Template: Here is a link to the policy project template that you can work with as a guide. [Policy Book Worksheet \(Template VF 2024\) - Google Docs](#)
- Policy Project Tracker (TBC)

Module	Supports	Important Considerations
Pre-Program Briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to mentors and mentees- March 20th • 	Email Introductions- March 20th
Module 1: Introduction to Public Policy and Each Other (online) – February 14 & 15 and February 21 & 22 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of program expectations and goals • Initial goal-setting discussion • Community Agreements • Tasks and Responsibilities e.g. scheduling meetings 	Participants might attend the February 14th Women’s Memorial March after the module.
Module 2: Public Policy in BC – (online) – March 13 & 14 and March 20 & 21, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist participants in identifying potential policy areas of interest • Ministries they might want to engage in Victoria • Provide guidance on conducting research related to policy issues. 	
Module 3: Stakeholder Analysis and Budget Cycles Apr 11 & 12, and Apr 17 & 18 – Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forum for mentees to post questions and seek advice • Help participants identify key stakeholders relevant to their policy interests. • Discuss strategies for effective stakeholder engagement 	Take into consideration. Easter Break and Eid.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare participants for the in-person module in Victoria, BC. 	
Module 4: Canadian Government and Indigenous Governance May 1, 2 & 3, – In Person (Victoria, BC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide guidance on respectful engagement with Indigenous communities. • Prepare participants for the in-person module in Victoria, BC 	Meet Before April 29 th as we will be traveling to Victoria on April 30 th
Module 5: Storytelling and New Narratives in Shaping Policy Jun 12 & 13, and Jun 19 & 20 – Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help participants integrate new knowledge into their projects. 	Meetings in the summer as they write the policy asks working towards Aug 5th as the deadline for policy project submission
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist participants as they write their policy asks. 	Keep in mind meetings with subject matter experts and other evidence-based support.
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist participants in reviewing and finalizing their policy asks and presentations. 	Policy Projects due by August 5th
Module 6 Prep Sep 18 & 19 – Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare participants for the final in-person module in Vancouver, BC. 	Sep 18 from 9am to noon could be available to Mentors to provide support in session
Module 6: Reflecting and Moving Forward Sep 25, 26 & 27 – In Person- (Vancouver, BC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist participants in preparing for their final presentations. 	Travel to Vancouver to begin that week.