

Title of the study: Community Impact Evaluation & Youth Intrapreneurship Research

February 24, 2022

Dear Ocean Wise community partner or participant,

I am writing to you from the Youth & Innovation Project at the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario.

My colleague Dr. Amelia Clarke and I are conducting a study that aims to evaluate the Ocean Wise youth service program. This evaluation will focus on the impact of the Ocean Wise youth service program on community partners, local communities and social and environmental issues. As part of this research study, we have been given your name by Ocean Wise because you or your organization participated in the Ocean Wise youth service program. We are asking all the organizations and participants who took part in Ocean Wise youth service program to voluntarily complete a short online survey. Neither participating in nor decide not to participate in this survey will affect your relationship with Ocean Wise.

Participation in this research involves filling out a short online survey, it should take you no longer than 20 mins to complete. You will be completing the study by an online survey operated by Qualtrics. When information is transmitted or stored on the internet privacy cannot be guaranteed. There is always a risk your responses may be intercepted by a third party (e.g., government agencies, hackers). Qualtrics temporarily collects your ID and computer IP address to avoid duplicate responses in the dataset but will not collect information that could identify you personally.

We will ask you to share your experience and perspectives on you or your organization's participation in the Ocean Wise youth service program. Your responses will be collected and analyzed to create a summary report for Ocean Wise. Your responses will not be linked to your name or if applicable the name of your organization anywhere in the report, and Ocean Wise will not have access to any data that would connect you or your organization to specific comments. However, if applicable the name of your organization will be included in the report in an appendix indicating which organizations completed the survey. The data collected in this study may be used in future academic publications or in studies that further explore the impact of youth service programs, the responses will not be linked to your name or the name of your organization in any future publications. As a result, there is no risk associated with filling out this survey.

The data collected will be stored on the Youth & Innovation Project's OneDrive, and on password protected computers. Access to the One Drive is granted to the YouthInn staff, students, and research assistants while they are working in the project. The data will be kept for 7 years, and after that it will be erased.

If you do not wish to participate, you can withdraw from this study anytime up until the data has been analyzed and the report submitted to Ocean Wise in April 2022 and your responses will be deleted. You may also skip any questions in the survey that you do not wish to answer. The information collected from this study will be kept for a period of at least seven years on a password protected computer.

At the end of the survey, you will be asked if you are interested in participating in a follow up interview. Participating in the follow up interview is voluntary. Neither participating in nor decide not to participate in this survey will affect your relationship with Ocean Wise. Only a small number

of those who agree to a follow up interview will be selected for an interview based on regional representation and diversity. Further information will be provided for you about the interview should you be selected to participate.

This study has been reviewed and received ethics clearance through a University of Waterloo Research Ethics Board (REB #40348). If you have questions for the Board contact the Office of Research Ethics at 1-519-888-4567 ext. 36005 or [reb@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:reb@uwaterloo.ca).

If you are an Indigenous person and/or representing an Indigenous organization, we would like to assure you that this research recognizes the responsibility of Indigenous peoples to preserve and maintain their role as traditional guardians of these ecosystems through the maintenance of their cultures, spiritual beliefs and customary practices. This research respects the integrity, morality and spirituality of the culture, traditions and relationships of the Indigenous communities and aims to avoid the imposition of external conceptions and standards. We recognize that the Indigenous communities have the right to exclude and/or keep any information concerning their culture, traditions or spiritual beliefs confidential. Further, we acknowledge the traditional rights of Indigenous peoples to control the way the information they provide is used and accessed. As such we have included space in the questionnaire for you to provide us with any comments that you would like us to consider when we handle and process your responses.

If you would like to participate, please access the link for the survey here: [https://uwaterloo.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_54NuHY4wIG2LVau](https://uwaterloo.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_54NuHY4wIG2LVau).

If you have any questions about participation in this research study or the Youth and Innovation Project, please feel free to contact Valentina Castillo Cifuentes at 226-729-2096 or [vcastillocifuentes@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vcastillocifuentes@uwaterloo.ca). Thank you for your assistance with this research study.

Sincerely,

Ilona Dougherty  
Managing Director  
Youth & Innovation Project  
University of Waterloo  
<https://uwaterloo.ca/youth-and-innovation/>