

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH & EVALUATION
3333 University Way • Prince George, B. C. • V2N 4Z9 • Phone: (250) 960-5302

May 2007

Dear Respondent,

The Institute for Social Research and Evaluation (ISRE) at UNBC, in collaboration with the Mayor's Task Force on Youth in Prince George, has developed a survey for any young person aged 15 to 24 in the city. The results of this survey will improve our understanding of young people's views about various aspects of the quality of their lives, and members of the Task Force believe an improved understanding will provide a sound basis for new programs of benefit to young people here.

Copies of the survey questionnaire are available in hard copy at City Hall, and may be downloaded in PDF format from your computer from the City website (www.city.pg.bc.ca) and from the ISRE website at ([Http://web.unbc.ca/isre/](http://web.unbc.ca/isre/)). Also, the questionnaire may be completed online from the ISRE website.

Each student's participation in the survey is voluntary and anyone may withdraw from participation at any time. There are no known risks from completing the questionnaire.

Because no student names appear on any questionnaires, anonymity is guaranteed. Questionnaires in hard copy will be stored in locked cases until the information is transcribed to electronic data files to which only researchers will have access. Data files will be stored in the Institute archive indefinitely.

The information obtained from this survey will be summarized in statistical tables that will be available to researchers, teachers, administrators, parents and students, and it should be helpful for planning the future projects and activities for young people in our city.

In case questions arise about the project, they should be directed to Dr. Alex C. Michalos at the University of Northern British Columbia, 250 960 6697. Complaints should be addressed to the Office of Research, 250 960 5820.

Summaries of research results may be obtained after September 1, 2007 at <http://web.unbc.ca/isre/> or from the Office Manager of the Institute for Social Research and Evaluation at UNBC, Joyce Henley, 960 5302.

The success of a survey like this depends upon large numbers of people being willing to complete and return questionnaires. So, a response from every eligible young person is very important to us. It takes about 20 minutes to complete the questionnaire.

Please complete your questionnaire no later than July 6, 2007 at any appropriate return site indicated at the end of the questionnaire. Once the answers are submitted, you have the option of entering a grand prize draw for a Samsung A645 cell phone plus 50 prepaid minutes from Telus. Details are available at the end of the survey.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alex C. Michalos

Youth Survey 2007

Section 1. Preferences and Experiences

For the following statements, please circle the number indicating that you

- 1 strongly disagree
- 2 disagree
- 3 are undecided
- 4 agree
- 5 strongly agree

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
PE1. People with different cultural or ethnic backgrounds from yours often make you feel physically insecure or unsafe.	1	2	3	4	5
PE2. You have actually been physically attacked or abused by someone because of your cultural or ethnic background.	1	2	3	4	5
PE3. If it were possible, you would avoid any contacts with people who have different cultural or ethnic backgrounds from yours.	1	2	3	4	5
PE4. When youth commit crimes, they should be punished to the maximum extent the law allows.	1	2	3	4	5
PE5. A youth curfew should be started in your community.	1	2	3	4	5
PE6. You need more drug and alcohol counselling in your community.	1	2	3	4	5
PE7. Teachers should be made aware of youths in their classes with a history of violence.	1	2	3	4	5

Section 2. Crime and Personal Safety

(Please circle the number indicating your response.)

How much do you worry about the possibility that . . . *(Circle appropriate response.)*

- C1a. Someone will use a weapon to take something from you by force.
- | | | |
|-------|---|------------|
| Never | | Worry a |
| Worry | | Great Deal |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | 4 | 5 |

C1b. A thief will break into your home while you are home.

Never Worry a
Worry Great Deal
1 2 3 4 5

C1c. Someone will assault you.

Never Worry a
Worry Great Deal
1 2 3 4 5

C1d. Your friends will reject you if you don't use drugs.

Never Worry a
Worry Great Deal
1 2 3 4 5

C1e. Your friends will reject you if you don't use alcohol.

Never Worry a
Worry Great Deal
1 2 3 4 5

C2. Below is a list of things that some people have said are problems in their neighbourhoods. Please indicate how much of a problem you think each of these is for the residents of your neighbourhood.

How much of a problem in your neighbourhood is/are: (*Circle appropriate response.*)

C2a. Misbehaving youth.

Not a Problem A Big
At All Problem
1 2 3 4 5

C2b. People hanging around on the streets.

Not a Problem A Big
At All Problem
1 2 3 4 5

C2c. People using drugs.

Not a Problem A Big
At All Problem
1 2 3 4 5

C2d. People using alcohol.

Not a Problem A Big
At All Problem
1 2 3 4 5

C2e. People selling drugs.
 Not a Problem A Big
 At All Problem
 1 2 3 4 5

C3. Of which crimes in the following list have you been a victim? Indicate all that apply.

- a. Theft of item worth less than \$100 _____
- b. Theft of item worth more than \$100 _____
- c. Drunken driving causing injury _____
- d. Vandalism _____
- e. Assault _____
- f. Sexual assault _____
- g. Break and Enter dwelling, house
 out building or business _____
- h. Other (specify)_____

Are your habits affected by concern about crime: for example do you . . .(Circle appropriate response.)

C4a. Stay off streets in your neighbourhood at night?
 1. Yes 2. No

C4b. Keep the doors locked when you are at home during the day?
 1. Yes 2. No

C4c. Avoid going to some area of Prince George because of concern about crime?
 1. Yes 2. No

C4d. If yes, what area do you avoid?_____

C4e. Lock the doors whenever you leave home?
 1. Yes 2. No

C5. Do you or does anyone else in your home own a hand gun?
 1. Yes 2. No

C6. How satisfied are you with your personal safety in your neighbourhood - safety from being attacked and injured in some way?
 Very Dissatisfied 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Very Satisfied

TAH2. What do you like to do in the time you are out of school? (Circle as many numbers as appropriate from each column.)

<i>School months (Sept.-June)</i>	<i>Summer months (July-August)</i>
1. Listen to music	1. Listen to music
2. Watch television	2. Watch television
3. Go to movies	3. Go to movies
4. Attend parties	4. Attend parties
5. Play individual sports	5. Play individual sports
6. Go to malls	6. Go to malls
7. Play team sports	7. Play team sports
8. Read books	8. Read books
9. Dance	9. Dance
10. Spend time on holiday	10. Spend time on holiday
11. Work out	11. Work out
12. Attend sports event	12. Attend sports event
13. Play video/computer games	13. Play video/computer games
14. Sit and think	14. Sit and think
15. Participate in youth group	15. Participate in youth group
16. Camping	16. Camping
17. Spend time with friends	17. Spend time with friends
18. Work	18. Work
19. Play instrument	19. Play instrument
20. Ride bicycle	20. Ride bicycle
21. Motorbike/4x4/ATV	21. Motorbike/4x4/ATV
22. Go-cart	22. Go-cart
23. Skateboard	23. Skateboard
24. Horseback riding	24. Horseback riding
25. Internet	25. Internet
26. Other (specify _____)	26. Other (specify _____)

TAH3. If you had a problem with any of the following, to whom or where would you go for help with it. (Please circle the number to indicate your first choice.)

	Friend	Family	Teacher	Police	Coach	Church Leader	School Counsellor	Teen Crisis Line	Don't Know
1. Drug abuse	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
2. Alcohol abuse	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
3. Teen pregnancy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
4. Child abuse	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
5. Sexual abuse	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
6. Need a job	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
7. Need to quit smoking	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
8. Racial problems	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
9. Sexual problems	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
10. Boredom	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0

11. AIDS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
12. Problems with the law	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
13. Health problems	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
14. Relationship problems	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
15. Transportation problems	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
16. Fitting in	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0
17. School problems	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	0

TAH4. What two activities would you most like to take part in that you are not currently able to take part in now?(1)_____ (2)_____

TAH5. Why are you unable to take part in these activities? (*Please circle as many numbers of responses as are appropriate for each activity.*)

(Activity 1)

(Activity 2)

1. financial reasons

1. financial reasons

2. not enough time

2. not enough time

3. not available in your area

3. not available in your area

4. lack transportation

4. lack transportation

5. parent/guardian disapproves

5. parent/guardian disapproves

6. other _____

6. other _____

TAH6. What is your main occupational goal, i.e., what do you hope to be able to do for a living when you are out of school? _____

TAH7. Do you plan to attend any post-secondary schools when you complete high school? (*Circle the numbers indicating your plans.*)

1. Trade school

2. College of New Caledonia

3. Other college

4. University of Northern British Columbia

5. Other university

6. Other (Specify _____)

Section 5. Health

H1. How would you rate your health, in general, now? (*Please circle the number corresponding to your choice*)

5. Excellent, 4. Very good, 3. Good, 2. Fair, 1. Poor

H2. How often do you smoke? About _____ times per week.

H3. How often are you exposed to second-hand smoke **in your home**? (*Circle one response.*)

1. Never, 2. Occasionally, 3. Daily

H4. How often do you drink alcoholic beverages? About _____ times per week.

H5. How often do you use drugs? About _____ times per week.

H6. How often do you feel you do not have enough food? (*Circle one.*)

1. Never, 2. Occasionally, 3. Daily

Section 6. Social Activities and Support

S1. Are you a member of any voluntary organizations or associations such as school groups, sports groups, church social groups, community centres or organizations, ethnic associations, or social, civic or fraternal clubs? (*Check one.*)

Yes No (*Go to question S3*)

S2. If yes, how often did you participate in meetings or activities sponsored by all these groups in the past month? About _____times

S3. Other than on special occasions (such as weddings, funerals or baptisms), on average how often did you attend religious services in the past month? About _____times.

S4. About how many hours per week do you serve as a volunteer? About _____hours per week.

S5. Are you willing to volunteer for a City Council Committee? (*Check one.*)

Yes No

S6. What is the best way for the City to get young people involved with politics in the City? (*Circle letter for best way.*)

- A. Youth City Council
- B. Current Youth Committee
- C. City contact with local high school, college, university boards
- D. Other (Specify)_____

S7. Do City officials communicate well with young people? (*Check one.*)

Yes No

S8. The best way to contact you is by: (*Circle letter indicating best way.*)

- A. Email
- B. Mail
- C. Phone
- D. Website
- E. Word of mouth
- F. Other (Specify)_____

Section 7. Aspects of Your Life

Here are some features of people's lives affecting them today. Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of them. Indicate whether you are (1) very dissatisfied, (2) somewhat dissatisfied, (3) a little dissatisfied, (4) about evenly balanced, (5) a little satisfied, (6) somewhat satisfied, (7) very satisfied with each of the following:

How **satisfied** are you with:

(Please circle your response.)

	Very Dissat.			Evenly Balanced			Very Satis.
QL1. Your house, apartment or mobile home	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL2. Your neighbourhood as a place to live	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL3. Your school life	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL4. Your family relations, generally	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL5. Your extra-curricular activities at school	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL6. Organized recreation activities outside of school	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL7. Your life as a whole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL8. Your friendships	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL9. Your physical health	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL10. Your psychological health	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL11. Your religion or spiritual fulfillment	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL12. Your overall standard of living	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL13. Your financial security	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL14. Your recreation activities	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL15. Your school marks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL16. Your level of social activity / getting out	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL17. Air quality where you live	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL18. Quality of drinking water where you live	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL19. Amount of land pollution where you live	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL20. Your sense of meaning in life	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL21. Your self-esteem	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL22. Your amount of free time	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL23. Your school, overall	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL24. Your personal safety around your home	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL25. Federal government officials	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL26. Provincial government officials	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL27. Local government officials	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL28. Your overall quality of life	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL29. How local people treat you	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL30. Your access to health care	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL31. What you achieve in life	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL32. Your future security	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL33. Feeling part of your community	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL34. Your job	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL35. Public transportation in PG	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
QL36. Accessibility of City officials	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

QL37. Considering your life as a whole, how **happy** would you say you are? *(Please circle number indicating your response.)*

Very Unhappy	Somewhat Unhappy	A Little Unhappy	Evenly Balanced	A Little Happy	Somewhat Happy	Very Happy
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Section 8. Your Life Compared to Diverse Standards

ST1. Considering your life as a whole, how does it measure up to your general aspirations or what you want out of life? Generally, does life provide what you want fairly poorly, fairly well, etc.? *(Please circle number indicating your response.)*

Provides nothing that you want			Provides half of what you want			Provides all that you want
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

ST2. Considering your life as a whole, how does it measure up to the average for most people your own age and sex in this area? Generally, does your life offer you far less than what is offered the average person, more, etc.? *(Please circle number indicating your response.)*

Far below average			About average			Far above average
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

ST3. Considering your life as a whole, how does it measure up to the life you think you deserve? Generally, does your life offer you far less than you deserve, more, etc.? *(Please circle number indicating your response.)*

Far less than you deserve			About what you deserve			Far more than you deserve
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

ST4. Considering your life as a whole, how does it measure up to what you think you need? Generally, does your life offer you far less than you need, more, etc.? *(Please circle number indicating your response.)*

Far less than you need			About what you need			Far more than you need
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

ST5. Considering your life as a whole, how does it measure up to what you expected about 3 years ago? Generally, does your life offer you far less now than you expected it would offer, more, etc.? *(Please circle number indicating your response.)*

Far less than expected			About as expected			Far more than expected
---------------------------	--	--	----------------------	--	--	------------------------------

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

ST6. Considering your life as a whole, how does it measure up to what you expect in the next 5 years? Generally, does your life offer you far less now than you expect it will offer in 5 years, more, etc.? (Please circle number indicating your response.)

Far more than it will offer (future is dark) About what you expect in the future Far less than it will offer (future is bright)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

ST7. Considering your life as a whole, how does it measure up to the best in your previous experience? Generally, is your life these days running far below your previous best, above, etc.? (Please circle number indicating your response.)

Far below previous best Equals previous best Far above previous best

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Section 9. Other Reflections on Your Life

For each of the statements below, please indicate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the statement by circling the appropriate number.

	Strongly Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Neutral	Slightly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	
E1. Nothing is currently lacking in my life.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E2. I am living my life to the fullest.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E3. I am very content with my life.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E4. When I examine my life as a whole, I feel that I am not meeting my aspirations.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E5. My life is perfect for me.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E6. I feel dissatisfied because I'm not doing everything that I want to be doing in my life.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E7. In most ways my life is close to my ideal.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E8. The conditions of my life are excellent.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E9. I am satisfied with life.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E10. So far I have gotten the important things I want in life.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E11. If I could live my life over, I would change almost nothing.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

E12. What is the best thing about living in Prince George? _____

E13. What is the worst thing about living in Prince George? _____

E14. If you could change anything in Prince George to improve the quality of your life, what change would you make? _____

Section 10. Demographics, Education and Work

Finally, for statistical purposes, we would like to ask a few questions about yourself.

D1. You are: *(Please circle the appropriate number.)*

1. Female 2. Male

D2. What are the first 3 characters of your postal code? _____

D3. How old are you? _____

D4. Are you a student and if so, at what level? *(Please circle the appropriate number.)*

1. Not a student *(Go to question D9)* 2. Secondary school 3. College 4. University

D5. If you are a student, where? _____

D6. Can you name a course that you would like to take which is not offered where you currently take classes? _____

D7. Do you intend to graduate? *(Check one.)*

- Yes No

D8. Do you intend to stay in Prince George to work after you graduate? *(Check one.)*

- Yes No

D9. About how many hours per week are you employed for wages? About _____ hours.

D10. If you are not working, are you looking for work? *(Check one.)*

- Yes No *(Go to question D12.)*

D11. Are you looking for work in _____ Prince George, _____ elsewhere or _____ both? *(Check one.)*

D12. What language do you usually speak at home? _____

D13. Would you say that housing for young people in Prince George is: *(Check yes or no.)*

1. Adequate Yes No

2. Affordable Yes No

3. Accessible Yes No

You are now finished with this questionnaire. We sincerely appreciate your assistance. Thank you for your time. If you picked up your questionnaire in hard copy, please return the completed form to the box at the same site by July 6 (Friday). If you want to enter your name for the grand prize draw to win a free cell phone of Samsung A645 plus , just complete the information on the back page, tear it off and insert it separately into the drop off box by July 6 (Friday). If you download the hardcopy survey from online, you could return the filled survey with the lucky draw entry to a drop off box at the UNBC library. For the UNBC library hours, please go to <http://library.unbc.ca/pages/constant/hours.asp>.

Grand Prize Draw Entry, Draw on August 21 2007.

Name _____

Telephone number (*) _____

or Email address (*) _____

*** Note: Please make sure that you provide at least a phone number or an email address for us to contact you.**

Note:

Please make sure that this page is returned to the drop off box by July 6 (Friday), 2007.