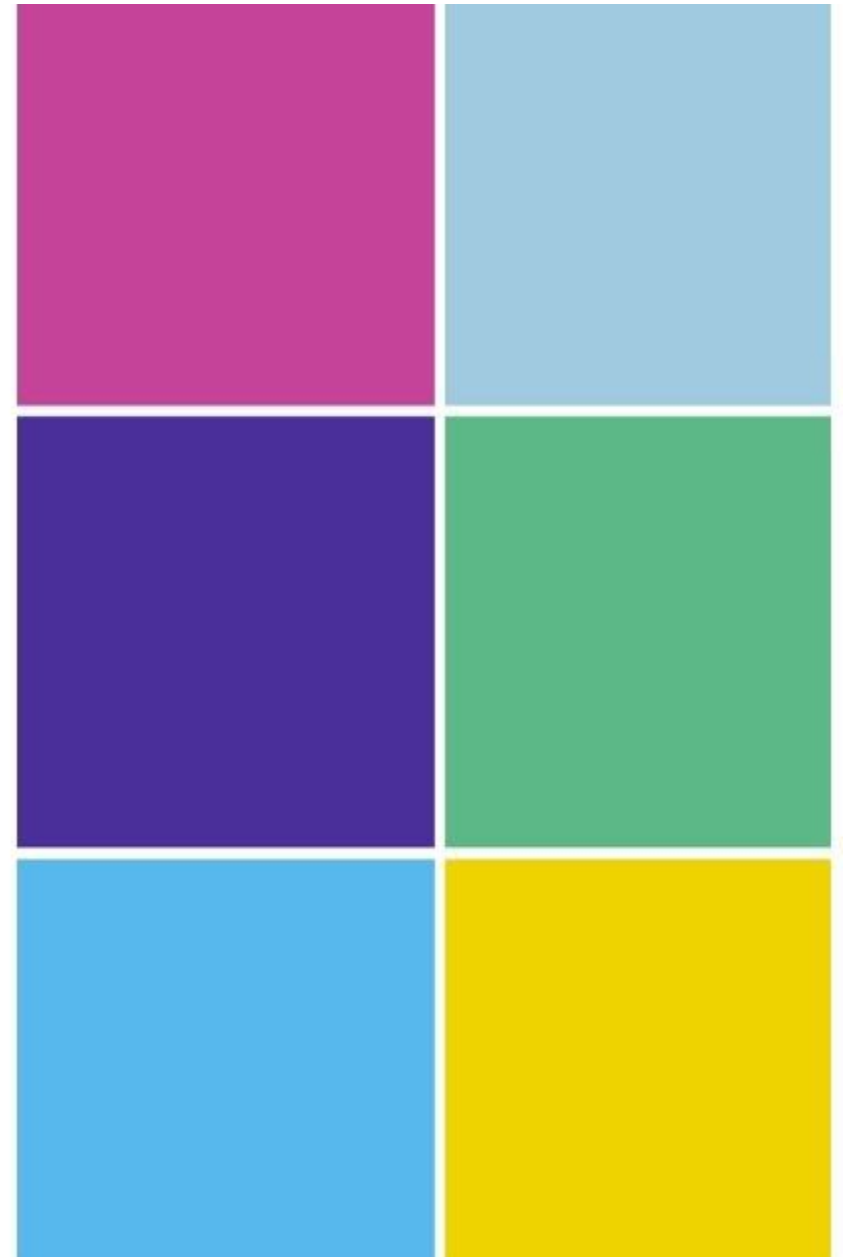


AMO x Apathy is Boring: Youth and Local Democracy

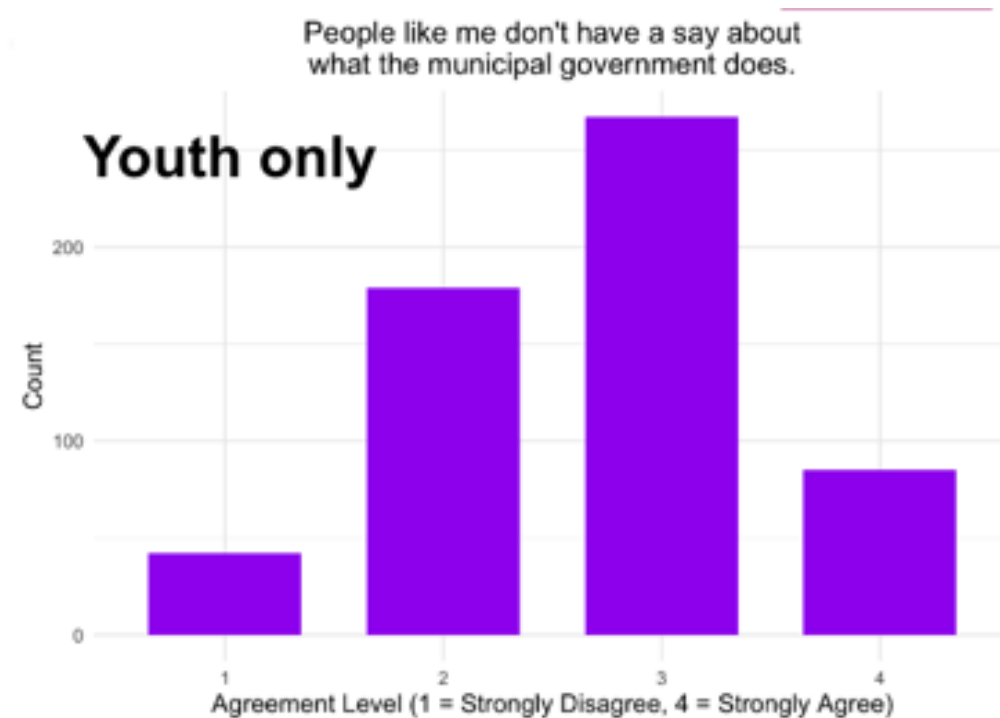


**YOUTH
FRIENDLY**
APATHY IS BORING™



Youth perceptions

When it comes to feeling like their voice is heard in local government, youth (and the entire sample) tend to land on the disagree – strongly disagree end of the scale more so than the other way.



Source: 2022
Municipal
Elections Data,
Dr. Michael
McGregor,
Toronto
Metropolitan
University

Youth perceptions

Youth are more likely than older age brackets (31 and up) to indicate that they feel like local government and local have less impact on their lives

PERCEIVED IMPACT OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT LOWER THAN PROVINCIAL, FEDERAL



Few say municipal government has no impact on their lives however the degree of impact is lower compared to other levels of government. Perception of impact does play a role in whether or not an individual votes municipally, but it has a much stronger relationship with awareness (meaning, those who can name their municipal representatives), and whether or not someone is actively involved at the municipal level.

Barriers

Youth don't feel heard.

Youth are unfamiliar with how municipal government works; find it complicated.

Municipal government is seen as having less impact than provincial and federal tiers.

1

**When it comes to
recruitment, do the work.**

2

**Create and communicate the
“Sandbox” for innovation.**

3

**Incorporate feedback and
be responsive to youth.**

4

**Empower youth in decision
making.**

5

Incorporate (culturally appropriate) mentorship opportunities for supplemental support.

6


Prioritize anti-oppression training and tools.

7

Reinforce the value of the skills, experience and power of young people.

Right now is the best time to act and start implementing positive changes to municipal engagement strategies for and with youth.

Municipalities have the power, resources, knowledge and interest to increase youth understanding and knowledge of local government.



**Let's talk:
How have you successfully
engaged youth in your
communities?**