

# SEYM Child Abuse Prevention

## Guidelines for Volunteers (Teen Programs)

The teen program will probably be planned and run by the teens to a large extent. As an adult volunteer, you will act as an advisor, resource person or leader of a specific activity, as requested by the teens.

### Requirements for adult presence:

- In an SEYM Event Youth Program session, at no time should a teen be alone with an adult who is not a Registered SEYM Youth Program Worker or the child's parent or sponsor at the event.
- At all times, two adults, at least one of whom is a Registered SEYM Youth Program Worker, shall be present with each youth program group.

### Acceptable touching:

- On the hand, shoulder or upper back
- In the company of other adults

### Unacceptable touching:

- Against a teen's will or verbally or non-verbally expressed discomfort
- When it would have the effect of over-stimulating a teen
- In a place on a teen's body that is normally covered by a bathing suit

### Do:

- Observe the conduct guidelines/rules which the teens establish for their group.

### Avoid:

- Teasing or embarrassing a teen about his or her body
- Asking a teen to sit on your lap or pulling him or her into your lap
- Asking a teen to touch you other than on the hand, shoulder or upper back; asking a teen for a hug or kiss
- Insisting that a teen trust you
- Telling stories or engaging in conversation that is lurid or over-stimulating
- Using physical punishment or humiliation
- Playing favorites