

# 6

## Pre-Task Activity #6: Survey: What are the most important issues in Toronto?

### Purpose

In this activity students discover how their communities feel about certain issues by completing a survey. Once the results have been collected in the form of a pictograph, students will learn how to identify which issues are important to most people. During this process students should understand that often communities share similar concerns and look to their local government to respond to their needs.

### Strand and Expectations

Canada and World Connections

### Overall Expectations

Students will:

- identify concrete examples of how government plays a role in contemporary society and of how the rights of groups and individuals and the responsibilities of citizenship apply to their own lives.

### Specific Expectations

Students will:

- formulate questions to develop a research focus (how can citizens have an influence on government decision making?)
- construct and read a variety of maps, graphs, diagrams, and/or models to display and interpret information (e.g. pictograph showing most important issues for members of a community).

**Time Required: One 40 min period**

## Teaching/Learning Strategies

1. Provide students with a list of four issues. Students will discover how their communities feel about certain issues by asking their family and friends (anyone over the age of 18 – eligible to vote) to choose one of the four issues that is most important to them.
  - Improve transportation
  - Increase green space – more parks and forests
  - Build a community centre – more recreational activities/programs
  - Make the neighbourhood more pedestrian friendly
2. The students may conduct a survey within the class and post the results.
3. The following day students will bring the survey results to class. As a class and with the help of the teacher students create a pictograph to record their results.

## Assessment

- Formative assessment: observe students to ensure they can interpret and analyse pictograph
- Exit Ticket: Which issue received the most votes? Why do you think people in your community believe this is an important issue?

## Accommodations/Modifications

- Provide students with sentence-starters: The issue that got the most votes..., this issue is important to the community because...
- Allow students to use personal dictionary or to work in pairs when completing the exit activity