

## Our Goals

The major goal of our project is to **identify and nurture factors that protect our youth from entering a gang-related violent lifestyle.** To this end, the project involves rigorous evidence-based research involving high school students, as well as careful examination of the community voices; teachers, parents, youth, ex-gang members, to be heard through forums, focus groups, and interviews. Once the relevant factors are identified, the CURA partners will work collaboratively to devise programs and action plans to foster these protective factors.



Kwantlen Student Researchers (from left): Sandy Alfonso, Karen Aujla, Sandra Lenore Gutierrez, Meiko Assoon, and William Szilveszter

# Acting Together

A **CURA** project

## CURA

CURA stands for Community University Research Alliance, an award granted by the federal agency *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council* (SSHRC). The \$1 million grant spans over 5 years and is one of the most competitive awards administered by SSHRC. It is a unique grant in that it mandates the academic experts and community groups to work in partnerships to address a social issue.

SSHRC CRSH



Social Sciences and Humanities  
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en  
sciences humaines du Canada

Canada

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## Youth & Gang violence concerns us all

**\*\* Your experiences matter \*\***

Would you be willing to join a one-hour discussion group if you have been impacted by youth violence and/or gang-related activity?

**You will receive \$10 & Refreshments**

Phone our Research Office: 604-599-3163

e-mail: catherine.parlee@kwantlen.ca

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*Acting Together* is a 5-year project created in response to community demand for a positive solution to youth involvement in violence and gang-related activity. It is a *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) funded Community-University Research Alliance (CURA)* project.

*Acting Together* will continually invite input from youth, parents, teachers, and the community at large. To this end a series of interviews and focus groups will be conducted with youth, parents of teenagers, teachers, service providers, and ex-gang members who have been impacted by gang and/or criminal activity. As well, high school students will participate in a 3-year long study.

The knowledge generated by *Acting Together* will be made public through radio and television talk shows, interactive theatre, training workshops and through the project's website, [www.actingtogether.ca](http://www.actingtogether.ca).

**To participate in Focus Groups/Interviews**  
**Phone our Research Office: 604-599-3163**

**Or e-mail: [catherine.parlee@kwantlen.ca](mailto:catherine.parlee@kwantlen.ca)**

For specific information on Focus Groups  
Contact [stephen.dooley@kwantlen.ca](mailto:stephen.dooley@kwantlen.ca)

You may also contact

Gary Thandi: [garythandi@yahoo.com](mailto:garythandi@yahoo.com) OR Kashmir Besla: 778-218-1180

For general project-related information: Contact [gira.bhatt@kwantlen.ca](mailto:gira.bhatt@kwantlen.ca)

For research-related information: Contact [roger.tweed@kwantlen.ca](mailto:roger.tweed@kwantlen.ca)

## Acting Together.....

**Our partnerships include 4 academic institutions  
and 11 community agencies.**

### Academic Partners

- \* Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- \* Simon Fraser University
- \* Langara College
- \* University of Victoria

### Community Partners

- \* City of Surrey
- \* Surrey School District #36
- \* RCMP
- \* South Asian Community Coalition Against Youth Violence
- \* Progressive Intercultural Community Services
- \* Diversecity
- \* South Asian Student Advocacy by Teachers
- \* Sikh Alliance Against Youth Violence
- \* Shaw Cable Systems
- \* The Indo-Canadian Voice



Please visit our project's information-rich, multimedia website, [www.actingtogether.ca](http://www.actingtogether.ca). This website is continually updated to provide you with important details about our CURA project activities, community information and events, project-related news, and online resources.