

Invitation to Join Our Youth Collaborative Board

Are you a young leader or road safety advocate? Do you have experience with cannabis? If so, this opportunity may be of interest!

We are looking for five young people (ages 15-24) to join the Youth Collaborative Board of our upcoming #DontDriveHigh research project, led by Dr. Liliana Alvarez (https://www.uwo.ca/fhs/ot/about/faculty/alvarez_l.html).

Did you know that motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among youth, and alcohol and/or drugs are involved in 55% of those crashes? Decades of educational campaigns and prevention strategies have contributed to reductions in drunk driving, yet cannabis-impaired driving is rising. Therefore, our 3-year research project will better understand young drivers' experiences of driving under the influence of cannabis and what affects their decisions to (or not to) engage in this behavior. We will conduct a Canada-wide online survey, followed by focus groups and interviews in provinces where cannabis use is most common.

The main purpose of the Youth Collaborative Board is to advise the research team throughout the project. Being a member provides you with a unique opportunity to:

- Provide input on how we collect data, make sense of it, and share it with others.
- Collaborate with several Canadian public health and road safety organizations
- Be involved in research that has the potential to improve road safety
- Share your voice and contribute to the success of the project

Involvement includes participating in approximately 12 online meetings spread over 3 years. Each meeting will last about two hours in duration. There may also be some follow-up questions and discussions by email. As a token of appreciation for your time, you will receive a \$900 honorarium. Requirements include being aged 15-24 years and committing to participating throughout the project period.

We thank you for your consideration. If you are interested in joining the Youth Collaborative Board or have any questions, please contact:

Robert Colonna

iMobile Driving Research Lab, Western University

Email: rcolonna@uwo.ca

