



BBYO in

# LAKE ONTARIO REGION



BBYO welcomes Jewish teens of all backgrounds, denominational affiliation, gender, race, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status, including those with a range of intellectual, emotional, and physical abilities. *Please contact us to learn more.*

BBYO is a network of hundreds of teen-led chapters in 60 countries throughout the world. For years, BBYO has played a significant role for Lake Ontario Region teens in developing leadership and social skills, strengthening their Jewish identity, and forming new friendships with Jewish teens around the world.



## BBYO 101

BBYO is the leading pluralistic teen movement aspiring to involve more Jewish teens in more meaningful Jewish experiences. Over the last century, BBYO has expanded into a dynamic, global organization that offers Jewish teens a safe space to explore their identity through activities such as community service, philanthropy, civic engagement, Israel education, Jewish heritage, and so much more. Since their founding in 1924 and 1944 respectively, the Aleph Zadik Aleph (AZA) and B'nai B'rith Girls (BBG) form the foundation of an international brotherhood, sisterhood, and siblinghood that has fun together, learns, grows, celebrates, and advocates for causes that matter most to them.

Teens are often drawn to join our Movement because of the social activities, such as dances, sports leagues, and movie screenings, that are hosted in each region year-round. Over the summer, BBYO also offers camp-based programs and travel opportunities—to Israel and more than 18 other countries—where teens can experience new things, gain independence, and build new relationships. At BBYO, one of our most important goals is to help our members gain a sense of leadership—which is why teens are in charge! Not only do they take part in the planning of our events, but teens also gain valuable experience in giving back to the community through activities such as advocacy campaigns, fundraisers, and social work for causes they choose. Alongside their peers, teens take the lead on planning the year's calendar, managing chapter boards, and communicating with families, all while forming lifelong connections and a strong Jewish identity.

**All Jewish teens in grades 8 through 12 are welcome in BBYO.**





## WHAT DOES BBYO LOOK LIKE IN LAKE ONTARIO REGION?

Lake Ontario Region (LOR) is one of five BBYO regions in Canada. The region spans the Greater Toronto Area, with chapters in Toronto at the Prosserman JCC, Thornhill at Dufferin Clark Community Centre, Vaughan at the Schwartz/Reisman Centre, and Richmond Hill at Elgin West Community Centre. By becoming a member of LOR, teens are afforded the opportunity to experience local programming in their communities, regional programming such as dances, community service days, sports events, and weekend-long conventions, and international programming at large scale conferences and BBYO Summer Experiences.

All of our chapter and regional events are planned by teens. Our weekly programs take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays in our cities' JCCs and local community centers. Chapter members develop and lead local programming every other week. Chapter events range from fun activities like camping and basketball, to more meaningful programming around leadership and social justice, fundraisers, Shabbat dinners, and overnights. All chapters participate in regional programs such as social events, community service days and weekend-long conventions.



### FUN FACT

Our Regional Gizborim (treasurers) have started working with other Canadian Gizborim to create a Canada-wide BBYO merch store!

### CONTACT US

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