

**DOLLARS & SENSE**

**MIDDLE  
School Module**

**ACTIVITY BOOKLET**

**6**



**BANKING THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU:  
WHAT ARE MY BANKING NEEDS?**



AFOA Canada acknowledges the generous support of the TD Bank Group in making this project possible.



All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording or information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher

Copyright AFOA Canada November 2014  
Printed in Canada

**PUBLISHED BY**

AFOA Canada  
1066 Somerset Street West  
Suite 301  
Ottawa, ON K1Y 4T3

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We would like to thank those individuals who made this publication possible. The principal authors of this report were, Simon Brascoupe, Kiera Brant and Dr. Paulette Tremblay.



We would also like to acknowledge the generous support of the TD Bank Group in making this project possible.



## **ACTIVITY 6 - BANKING THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU: WHAT ARE MY BANKING NEEDS?**

### **MATERIALS REQUIRED**

Dollars and Sense Middle School Module

Activity Booklet - Provide Activity Booklet 6 to each student.

### **AGENDA MAP**

<b>Time (Minutes)</b>	<b>Activity 6 - Banking That's Right for You Agenda Items</b>	<b>Page</b>
10	1. Notes	3
50	2. Banking That is Right for You Directions	7
60	<b>TOTAL TIME for Activity 6</b>	



## **NOTES: ACTIVITY 6 - BANKING THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU: WHAT ARE MY BANKING NEEDS?**



TD, the Munsee-Delaware First Nation and Tree Canada teamed up to bring the very first carbon forest to First Nations land in southwestern Ontario.

Congratulations, you have decided to switch the savings from your piggy bank to a savings account. You have many options: a bank, trust company, co-op, credit union, etc. Some banks have special youth accounts for youth with benefits. For example, no monthly fees, no minimum balance, interest on your savings, etc. Financial service

organizations are interested in your business because they want you to become an informed, long-term customer.

Many First Nations have financial institutions in the community, but, many do not. However, with online banking, debit cards and bank machines, some of the problems of distance can be overcome.

## **BANKING THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU: WHAT ARE MY BANKING NEEDS?**

### **BENEFITS OF OPENING AN ACCOUNT**

There are many benefits of opening a bank account even as a youth. Here are five reasons:

1. **Safety** – Your money is safe from loss, theft and fires. Your money is insured in a bank or other financial institutions.
2. **Convenience** – It's cheaper to pay by cheque than purchasing a money order. A debit card for your account makes it easy to withdraw money or make payments at stores. Most places that accept credit cards also accept debit cards.
3. **Easy** – Banks and financial institutions offer a small interest rate on your savings account. This helps your money grow over time.
4. **Cheaper** – Banks, credit unions and financial institutions offer free or low-cost services compared to the cost of cashing cheques at one of those cash or money stores.
5. **Credit** – Your chances of buying a home, car, student or personal loan improve when you have a good relationship with a financial institution.

### **HOW TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT**

Before opening an account, you need to think about what you need and what institution suits your needs. Here are a few things to think about.

**My needs;** Many financial institutions provide services to youth that include no minimum balances, no services charges etc. Here are a few things you should be aware of:

- Minimum balances
- Services charges
- ATM services
- Online banking

## BANKING THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU: WHAT ARE MY BANKING NEEDS?

**Choose the right financial institution;** there are various types of financial institutions – banks, trusts, credit unions, etc. You might choose a financial institution that is close to you, particularly if you live in a small community. Proximity and reputation are two good factors for selecting what's right for you.

- Convenience and reputation to you and your community
- Proximity of institution and ATMs for deposits and transactions
- Online banking
- Special programs; such as youth banking services

**Pick the type of account you need;** there are different types and confusing terms like “overdraft protection.” You likely want a simple account, like savings and chequing with a debit card, or if you are just starting to save - a savings account.

- Savings accounts have the highest interest.
- Chequing account
- There are various types of savings and chequing accounts.

**Linking accounts;** you can link your savings and chequing account so you can move money from one account to another.

- If you have money in your chequing account you can move it to your savings.
- Joint accounts with another person like you parents are called a joint account.



## **BANKING THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU: WHAT ARE MY BANKING NEEDS? (CONTINUED)**

**Opening a bank account;** there are various options on opening a bank account. You will have to check with the institution you select on what you need as identification and what the process is.

This information will be on the website of the institution and you might want to give them a call if you still have questions.

- Over the phone
- Online services
- In person

**Questions to ask;** you might want to ask the following questions before you open your account.

- Is there monthly or annual fees?
- Is there a minimum balance required?
- Do I have to pay for printing of my personal cheques?
- What is the interest rate of my savings account?
- Is my money insured?
- How many transactions can I have in a month? Are there fees for using the ATM if the machine does not belong to the bank?
- You may have other questions, do not be shy.

**Final advice;** find a nice person in your bank, get to know that person's name and always ask for that person. They are trained to give you financial advice and help you.



## **ACTIVITY 6 DIRECTIONS - BANKING THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU: WHAT ARE MY BANKING NEEDS?**

**Time  
(Minutes)**

### **ACTIVITY 6 DIRECTIONS**

1. You will work in a group of 4-6 students to complete this task.
- 10 2. Review and discuss the "Questions for Discussion."
- 20 3. Work individually to complete the Activity 6 - Banking that is Right for You Worksheet based on your banking needs.
- 20 4. Work in pairs to role play the scenario, using your completed worksheets.
- 50 **TOTAL Activity Time**



## ACTIVITY 6– BANKING THAT’S RIGHT FOR YOU WORKSHEET

Based on your small group discussion; complete the worksheet provided to help you decide if opening an account works for you and what financial institution is best for you.

See the Example Table on the next page for help!

What’s right for me?	Your Needs	Write down your needs:
Can this institution provide you services?	Location (urban, remote, northern, isolated) or online	
What financial products and services do you need?	Services: online banking, debit, savings, etc.	
What are the fees for products and services?	Monthly and other costs. Remember some institutions offer youth incentives, such as no or low fees.	



## ACTIVITY 6 – BANKING THAT’S RIGHT FOR YOU SOLUTION SHEET

### EXAMPLE TABLE

What’s right for me?	Your Needs	Write down your needs:
Can this institution provide you services?	Location (urban, remote, northern, isolated) or online	<b>I live in a rural First Nations community with one bank and I have access to a computer at home.</b>
What financial products and services do you need?	Services: online banking, debit, savings, etc.	<b>I just started saving for a laptop computer and would like to open a savings account with a debit card for when I purchase a laptop in one year. I can pay by a debit card.</b>
What are the fees for products and services?	Monthly and other costs. Remember some institutions offer youth incentives, such as no or low fees.	<b>There are no fees for youth under 19 to open an account and use other services.</b>



## ACTIVITY 6: BANKING THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU ROLE PLAY SCENARIO

Now, get a partner and role play the following scenario using the Activity 6 worksheet you completed. One student will play the banker and the other the consumer – then, switch roles!

- Banker:** "Hello how may I help you?"  
**Consumer:** "I would like to open a bank account"  
**Banker:** "What kind of services do you need?"  
**Consumer:** "I would like the following service... [use completed worksheet]."  
**Banker:** "That's good, we have the following service... ."



**AFOA CANADA**

[www.afoa.ca](http://www.afoa.ca)