

Minutes

Youth Council Meeting
Monday 1 July 2024 at 6pm

Conference Room 2 at Civic Centre,
25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang

Youth Councillors

Zachary Melvaine	Youth Mayor
Kaynat Virk	Deputy Youth Mayor
Angelica Banquil	
Dean Connelly-Carpenter	
Bavleen Kaur	
Mustafa Khraim	
Angela Rolevska	
Esha Serai	
Tanya Sharma	
Sandy Tran	
Emily Tricarico	
Elly Watson	
Sophie Winter	

Officers

Jacinta Stevens	Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO
Bobbie-Lea Bright	Unit Manager Governance

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1 Opening

1.1 Meeting Opening and Introductions

The Youth Mayor opened the meeting at 6pm.

“Welcome to this Youth Council Meeting of 1 July 2024 which is being held in person in Conference Room 2 at the Civic Centre, 25 Ferres Boulevard, South Morang.

I am Zachary Melvaine, Youth Mayor and I would like to introduce the Youth Councillors in attendance tonight:

Kaynat Virk, Deputy Youth Mayor
Angelica Banquil
Bavleen Kaur
Mustafa Khraim
Angela Rolevska
Tanya Sharma
Sandy Tran
Emily Tricarico
Elly Watson
Sophie Winter

We also have in attendance Jacinta Stevens, Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO.”

1.2 Apologies

I note we have an apology from Youth Councillor Esha Serai.

Absent

Youth Councillor Dean Connelly-Carpenter

1.3 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Statement

The Youth Mayor read the following statement:

“On behalf of Council, I recognise the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledge the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People as the Traditional Owners of lands within the City of Whittlesea.

I would also like to personally acknowledge Elders past, present and emerging.”

1.4 Youth Council Charter

The Youth Mayor read the following Youth Council Charter:

“We, the members of the City of Whittlesea Youth Council, commit to advocating for and being the voice of the youth within our municipality. We ensure a safe space for all, to engage in constructive collaboration on matters affecting young people. We aim to empower and foster community connectedness in our youth so they feel valued and supported to achieve their aspirations.”

1.5 Acknowledgements

The Youth Mayor made the following acknowledgements:

Welcome Elly Watson

I'd like to formally welcome Elly Watson to the City of Whittlesea Youth Council. Elly has a passion for well-being and physical fitness and is keen to encourage participation in council events and activities, foster community interaction and actively contribute to the council's decision-making process. We look forward to having you on the Youth Council Elly. I'd like also thank outgoing Youth Council member Masina for her contribution.

WCC Youth Voice Awards

Last week I was pleased to attend the Whittlesea Community Connections Youth Voice Awards and present the Group Award. This award was for a group of young people between age 12 – 15 who have made an outstanding contribution to their community through their group work in youth advisory, advocacy or consultancy, in identifying youth needs, barriers and issues for young people and working towards creating solutions and measures to assist in meeting those needs. Congratulations to the Leaders of Tomorrow who took out the award. The LOT youth advisory group was first established in 2018 to be a youth voice to the board and organisation of Whittlesea Community Connections.

It has since evolved into a working group and advocacy group tackling various social issues that affect the young people in the City of Whittlesea. Some of that important work includes: taking part in 16 days of activism to address gender based violence, developing a cultural youth music night, undertook advocacy work for dedicated youth spaces in the City of Whittlesea, took part in leadership and mental health training, hosted a movie night that facilitated conversations around mental health and so much more. Their current focus has shifted to addressing racial bias in the media and they are working toward creating a workshop that will build young people's ability to identify mis and disinformation, and how to form their own opinions based on unbiased information sources.

I would also like to acknowledge previous Youth Advisory Council member Hansikaa who took out the Youth Environmentalist Lead Award.

2 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

No declarations.

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting/s

Due to an administrative error, there was no minutes to confirm.

4 Officers' Reports

4.1 Grants Process

Director/Executive Manager: Director Customer & Corporate Services

Report Author: Grants Coordinator

In Attendance: Acting Manager ePMO & Change
Grants Coordinator

Executive Summary

In June 2022, all Council grants offered to the Community were centralised to the ePMO following recommendations of two audits, one completed by internal auditors and the other completed through Spark Strategy, an external auditor.

A new team was formed in the ePMO to oversee the Community Grants and develop and implement a new Community Grant Program. In July 2023, the new Community Grants program was adopted by Council. In addition, Council increased its commitment to community through grants by 33% with an allocation of \$2.6 million for the 2023-2024 financial period.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Note the Quarter 3 Report that was presented to Council on Tuesday 18 June 2024 at Attachment 1.
2. Note the Grants approval process and current number of grant applications received specifically for Youth at Attachment 2.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Youth Councillor Angelica Banquil</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Sophie Winter</i>

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Note the Quarter 3 Report that was presented to Council on Tuesday 18 June 2024 at Attachment 1.
2. Note the Grants approval process and current number of grant applications received specifically for Youth at Attachment 2.

ARRIED

YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

Nil

VOTING

UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
<i>YES</i>			

4.2 Youth Council Vaping Awareness Project

Director/Executive Manager: Director Community Wellbeing
Executive Manager Office of Council & CEO

Report Author: Youth Development Coordinator

In Attendance: Youth Development Coordinator

Executive Summary

Following the meeting of the Vaping Project Working Group (VPWG) on Tuesday 25 July 2024, VPWG members will share recommended edits to all Youth Councillors.

Discussion will take place at the 1 July 2024 Youth Council Meeting to finalise edits prior to the commencement of filming in the month of July 2024.

Officers' Recommendation

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Agree on three finalised scripts and storyboards for three Vaping Awareness Videos developed by the VPWG.
2. Confirm which Youth Councillors will be involved in the filming of the three videos.
3. Confirm the date and time of the filming of the three videos.

Deputy Youth Mayor Kaynat Virk moved the following motion which became the Youth Council Resolution.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved:	<i>Deputy Youth Mayor Kaynat Virk</i>
Seconded:	<i>Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska</i>

THAT the Youth Council:

1. Agree on the slogan “Sweet taste, bitter truth” for all three videos.
2. Agree on the scripts and storyboards for the first two Vaping Awareness Videos developed by the VPWG, and make the following change to video three allowing for multiple Youth Councillors to play a role in handing out items and other minor amendments made and captured by Officer Alberto.
3. Note Alberto will circulate the updates to video three.
4. Confirm Deputy Youth Mayor Kaynat Virk, Youth Councillor Angela Banquil, Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim, Youth Councillor Emily Tricarico, Youth Councillor Sandy Tran, Youth Councillor Tania Sharma, Youth Councillor Elly Watson and Youth Councillor Sophie Winter will be involved in the filming of the three videos.
5. Agree on 10 July 2024 from 10am to 2pm for the filming of the three videos.

CARRIED

YOUTH COUNCILLOR/S WHO SPOKE TO MOTION

Youth Councillor Angela Rolevska

Youth Councillor Mustafa Khraim

VOTING

UNANIMOUS	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAINED
YES			

5 Notices of Motion

No Notices of Motion

6 General / Urgent Business

No Urgent Business

7 Closure

There being no further business the Youth Mayor formally closed the meeting at 6:46pm.

Confirmed this 5th day of August 2024.

Zachary Melvaine

Youth Mayor