

**Minutes of Young Leaders Reference Group Meeting**  
**23 October 2017**  
**Inner West Council – Petersham Service Centre**

The meeting commenced at 6:35pm

**Attendance (Members)**

1. Aiden Macreadie
2. Alan Huynh (Chairperson)
3. Alexander Macdonald
4. Annika Broadbent
5. Lisa Huynh

**Attendance (Other Attendees)**

1. Joe Banno, Inner West Council (Minute Taker)
2. Matthew Balane, Inner West Council
3. Hasmukh Chand, WWF Australia

**Apologies**

1. Annika Rees
2. Antoinette El-Alam
3. Eleanor Lofts
4. Elizabeth Kim
5. Georgia Cooper
6. Katherine Guan
7. Leslie Verrell
8. Lewis Verrell
9. Taliesin Heyman-Griffiths
10. Sandra El-Alam
11. Yvette Quinn
12. Councillor Tom Kiat

A quorum for this meeting was not achieved. The meeting proceeded without recommendations being made.

**1. Welcome**

Akan Huynh welcomed Reference Group members, staff and other meeting attendees to the Young Leaders Reference Group meeting.

**2. Acknowledgement of Country**

Akan Huynh performed an Acknowledgement of Country in his capacity as meeting chairperson.

**3. Disclosures of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

#### **4. Presentation – Earth Hour**

##### **Hasmukh Chand – Earth Hour Engagement Coordinator, WWF Australia**

Hasmukh Chand from WWF Australia provided the meeting with information regarding the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Earth Hour.

Earth Hour is the world's largest grassroots movement for climate change action. It is organised by WWF. The event, which started in Sydney in 2007, is held annually and encourages individuals, communities, and businesses to turn off non-essential electric lights for one hour, from 8:30pm to 9:30pm on a specific day in March.

In 2018, Earth Hour will take place on 24 March 2018.

#### **5. Status of Recommendations from Previous Reference Group Meetings**

The meeting agreed:

1. That the information regarding the status of recommendations from the previous meetings of the Young Leaders Reference Group be received and noted by the Young Leaders Reference Group.

#### **6. Make It Happen NSW Youth Council Conference 2017**

Make It Happen is the 2017 NSW Youth Council Conference. The conference was presented by Ryde Youth Council and City of Ryde and took place from 22 – 24 September at Macquarie University.

The aim of the conference was to give young people the knowledge and skills necessary to utilise emerging technologies and make change in their local communities.

Alan Huynh, Annika Rees, Georgia Cooper and Lisa Huynh from the Young Leaders Reference Group attended the conference.

The meeting agreed:

1. That the Young Leaders Reference Group members who attended the 2017 NSW Youth Council Conference provide a verbal report on the conference outcomes at the Young Leaders Reference Group meeting on 23 October 2017.

Alan and Lisa provided a verbal report on the conference outcomes including the following ideas and opportunities from the conference for Inner West Council to engage with young people:

- Connecting with the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People to keep abreast of legislation, reports, policies, practices and services affecting children and young people.
- Engaging with universities.
- Collaborating across Council departments to engage children and young people in art projects.
- Incorporating technology and technology based activities into programs, events and venues / facilities for children and young people.

## **7. White Ribbon Day 2017**

The meeting agreed:

1. That information regarding White Ribbon Day 2017 be received and noted by the Young Leaders Reference Group.
2. That Young Leaders Reference Group members be invited to participate in the flagship Inner West White Ribbon Day event at Bridgewater Park, Rozelle on Thursday 23 November 2017.
3. That the Young Leaders Reference Group provides Council with advice and feedback regarding the engagement of children and young people at the flagship White Ribbon Day event at Bridgewater Park, Rozelle on Thursday 23 November 2017.
4. That the Young Leaders Reference Group notes the opportunities for children and young people to participate in the White Ribbon Day event at Bridgewater Park, Rozelle on Thursday 23 November 2017 and promote the event to their networks of friends, family and peers.

Reference Group members interested in assisting and getting involved in the White Ribbon Day event at Bridgewater Park, Rozelle should contact Matthew Balane at Inner West Council ([matthew.balane@innerwest.nsw.gov.au](mailto:matthew.balane@innerwest.nsw.gov.au)).

Reference Group members provided the following advice and feedback regarding the White Ribbon Day event at Bridgewater Park, Rozelle:

- Target and encourage university students to participate. Many university students would have completed their studies and exams for the year and would be available and interested in attending.
- Promote the event to university students via social media (Facebook).
- Young Leaders Reference Group members will promote the event, particularly to their networks of secondary and university students.

## **8. Other Business – Inner West Council Youth Services Update**

### **8.1. Spark Youth Theatre**

Alexander Macdonald provided an update regarding Spark Youth Theatre.

Claim The Stage and More is Spark Youth Theatre's short performance festival where young people from Sydney's Inner West pitch, develop and present their own short works with the support of professional artists. Weekly workshops are currently underway at Ashfield Civic Centre and are fully booked. Final performance dates will be announced soon.

Alexander and Alan Huynh are volunteering with Spark Youth Theatre to plan and deliver the festival.

### **8.2 Pics in the Park – Summer Outdoor Movie Program**

Matthew Balane and Joe Banno provided the meeting with information regarding Pics in the Park.

Pics in the Park is Council's free summer outdoor movie program that takes place in Pioneers Memorial Park, Leichhardt and Mort Bay Park, Balmain from January to March.

The program includes a series of short films for children and families, followed by a feature film to engage young people as well as the wider community.

Council's Youth Services Team is seeking input and assistance from the Young Leaders Reference Group with regard to the selection of films and the planning of the event. Reference Group members interested in assisting and getting involved should contact Matthew Balane at Inner West Council ([matthew.balane@innerwest.nsw.gov.au](mailto:matthew.balane@innerwest.nsw.gov.au)).

### **8.3 Summer 2018 School Holiday Program**

Matthew Balane and Joe Banno provided the meeting with information regarding Council's Summer 2018 School Holiday Program.

Council's Youth Services Team is currently planning the Summer 2018 School Holiday Program.

The program will include a range of free and low cost activities and outings for young people aged 12 - 18 years (including 'after dark' activities on Friday nights), providing social, recreational, cultural and educational engagement opportunities for local young people.

There is an opportunity for Young Leaders Reference Group members to work with the Youth Services Team to plan and deliver a School Holiday Program activity.

Reference Group members interested in assisting and getting involved should contact Joe Banno ([joe.banno@innerwest.nsw.gov.au](mailto:joe.banno@innerwest.nsw.gov.au)) or Matthew Balane ([matthew.balane@innerwest.nsw.gov.au](mailto:matthew.balane@innerwest.nsw.gov.au)) at Inner West Council to attend a planning meeting.

### **8.4 Closure of Inner West Bus Stops**

The meeting discussed the recent closure of bus stops across the Inner West, specifically notices advising the community of the closures.

Yvette Quinn has advised that some stops did not have official closure notices and that other stops had notices placed in poor places only one or two days before closing.

The meeting agreed:

1. That the communication of information regarding recent bus stops closures across the Inner West was not adequate or accessible, noting that signage was small, difficult to read (small font) and did not appear to be official (no Transport for NSW branding).
2. That the Young Leaders Reference Group seeks advice from the relevant Council officers / department to determine what can be done to address / improve how local residents are informed of changes to Inner West bus services, in particular bus stops closures, with consideration given to Council utilising social media to promote / share relevant information.

**9. Other Business – Nomination of Chairperson for Next Meeting (27 November 2017)**

The meeting agreed:

1. That Aiden Macreadie chair the Young Leaders Reference Group meeting on 27 November 2017.

**The meeting concluded at 8:25pm.**