

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

The meeting commenced at 6:35pm

Attendance (Members)

1. Aiden Macreadie
2. Alan Huynh
3. Alexander Macdonald (Chairperson)
4. Annika Broadbent
5. Annika Rees
6. Antoinette El-Alam
7. Georgia Cooper
8. Sandra El-Alam
9. Taliesin Heyman-Griffiths
10. Yvette Quinn

Attendance (Other Attendees)

11. Joe Banno, Inner West Council
12. Matthew Balane, Inner West Council (Minute Taker)
13. Chris Dustan, Inner West Council

Apologies

1. Eleanor Lofts
2. Elizabeth Kim
3. Katherine Guan
4. Lisa Huynh
5. Lewis Verrell

1. Welcome

Alexander Macdonald welcomed all Reference Group members and staff to the Young Leaders Reference Group meeting.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

Alexander Macdonald performed an Acknowledgement of Country in his capacity as meeting chairperson.

3. Disclosures of Interest

Alan Huynh disclosed that he will be working on polling day for the local government elections.

4. Status of Recommendations from Previous Reference Group Meetings

RECOMMENDATION (YLRG – 17/13)

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.

5. Spark Youth Theatre

Chris Dunstan (Artistic Director, Spark Youth Theatre) provided the Young Leaders Reference Group with an update regarding Spark Youth Theatre.

RECOMMENDATION (YLRG – 17/14)

1. That information regarding Spark Youth Theatre be received and noted by the Young Leaders Reference Group.
2. That the Young Leaders Reference Group provides the Spark Youth Theatre Artistic Director with advice and feedback regarding the engagement of young people.
3. That the Young Leaders Reference Group promote, support and inform Spark Youth Theatre initiatives.

6. Make It Happen NSW Youth Council Conference 2017

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

RECOMMENDATION (YLRG – 17/15)

1. That the Young Leaders Reference Group notes that Alan Huynh, Annika Rees, Georgia Cooper and Lisa Huynh will attend the 2017 NSW Youth Council Conference.
2. That the Young Leaders Reference Group members attending the 2017 NSW Youth Council Conference report back on the conference outcomes at the next Young Leaders Reference Group meeting on 23 October 2017.
3. That the Young Leaders Reference Group prepare up to five questions to present to the 2017 NSW Youth Council Conference panel of political and community leaders.

7. Other Business – Inner West Council Youth Services Update**7.1. Spring 2017 School Holiday Program**

Matthew Balane and Joe Banno provided the meeting with information regarding Council's Spring 2017 School Holiday Program.

The program will include a range of free and low cost activities and outings for young people aged 12 - 18 years, providing social, recreational, cultural and educational engagement opportunities for local young people.

The program will be released soon and available to view at www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/shp

7.2 Mental Health Month

October is Mental Health Month in New South Wales.

Mental Health Month promotes mental health awareness, encouraging everyone to think about their mental health and wellbeing. Mental Health Month also provides opportunities to

understand the importance of mental health in our everyday lives and encourages help seeking behaviours when needed.

Inner West Council will mark Mental Health Month with a series of programs, events and workshops throughout October, including an open day at Headspace Ashfield on 3 October, a Youth Mental Health First Aid Course on 3 and 4 October, skating workshops at Jack Shanahan Park, Dulwich Hill on 7 October, an autism spectrum disorder training workshop on 9 October and a series of youth activities at Marrickville Festival on 22 October.

Young Leaders Reference Group members interested in assisting with, or getting involved in local Mental Health Month initiatives should contact Matthew Balane at Inner West Council (matthew.balane@innerwest.nsw.gov.au)

7.3 Ashfield Police Local Area Command Principals Forum

Ashfield Police Local Area Command and Inner West Council will host a forum for school principals from Ashbury, Ashfield, Canterbury, Croydon, Croydon Park, Earlwood, Haberfield, Hurlstone Park and Summer Hill at Ashfield Civic Centre on Tuesday 19 September from 10am – 12:30pm. The forum will include a number of presentations regarding local police initiatives and local youth programs and events.

All Young Leaders Reference Group members are invited to attend the forum to share information about local needs and issues and to hear from forum presenters. Reference Group members who would like to attend should contact Joshua Staines at Inner West Council (joshua.staines@innerwest.nsw.gov.au). Reference Group members are encouraged to report back on the forum content and outcomes at the next Young Leaders Reference Group meeting on 23 October 2017.

7.4 Multicultural Youth Ambassador Program

The Multicultural Youth Affairs Network (MYAN) Multicultural Youth Ambassador Program mentors and supports young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds to build knowledge, skills and confidence so that they can represent the issues that are important to them. The program provides young people with the tools and techniques to create social change.

MYAN will host a Multicultural Youth Ambassador workshop on Wednesday 4 October at Ashfield Civic Centre from 9am – 3pm.

For further information, or to get involved, contact Hannah Lai at MYAN (hannah@myannsw.org.au)

7.5 National Child Protection Week / Play Your Part Awards

National Child Protection Week 2017 will take place from 3 – 9 September.

National Child Protection Week promotes opportunities for everyone in the community to think about how they can work together to keep all children safe.

Inner West Council and NAPCAN will mark National Child Protection Week on Thursday 7 September at 5pm with a function at The Hannaford Centre in Rozelle.

All Young Leaders Reference Group members are invited to attend.

Andrew Johnson, the Advocate for Children and Young People will be in attendance to announce the NSW winner of the Play Your Part Awards. The Play Your Part Awards recognise initiatives that promote the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. The function will also highlight Council's Inner West Respectful Relationships Project and the Loves Bites Program. Love Bites is a school based domestic and family violence and sexual assault prevention program. Lights refreshments will be served.

8. Other Business – Young Leaders Reference Group Facebook Group

Alexander reminded and encouraged Young Leaders Reference Group members to join and interact with the Young Leaders Reference Group Facebook Group. Search for "Inner West Young Leaders Reference Group".

9. Other Business – Nomination of Chairperson for Next Meeting (23 October 2017)

RECOMMENDATION (YLRG – 17/16)

1. That Alan Huynh chair the Young Leaders Reference Group meeting on 23 October 2017.

The meeting concluded at 8:35pm