

# Youth Affairs Council of WA 2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes

5.30pm, Thursday 1 December 2022  
1 City Farm Pl, East Perth WA 6004



**Chair:** Georgie Carey (Chair)

**Minutes:** Sonya Gozuacik

## Member & Member Representatives

Andrew Hall (on behalf of PICYS) and Life Member, Arbie Pattiselanno (Education / Holyoake), Ayden Mackenzie (Town of Bassendean), Celeste Stephens (WACOSS), Chrissie Fearon (Carers WA), Clare Grealy (YACWA Board), Hon. Dave Kelly MLA, Donna Quinn, Elise Jorgensen (Mission Australia), Gabriel Osborne, Georgie Carey (YACWA Board), Jordan Wright (City of Wanneroo), Katherine Browne (YACWA Board), Locket Lee (YACWA), Naomi Blitz (YACWA), Omar Macintyre, Sal Cleveray (YACWA Board), Sharon Gough (YACWA Board), Vik Jeyakumar (Anglicare), Mark Waite (Youth Futures).

## Guests

Sandy McKiernan (YACWA), Olivia Knowles (YACWA), Bella Jia (YACWA), Sonya, Gozuacik (YACWA), Stefaan Bruce-Truglio, (YACWA), Raj Suares (YACWA), Fatema Shalemie (YACWA), Cheyanne Henderson-Watkins (YACWA), Mason Rothwell (YACWA/ SRWA), Jessica Graham (Dept. of Communities), Kim Robinson, Natalie Duthie (State Government PH), Priscilla Bignoux (Dept. of Communities), Raj Thethy, Rebecca McLevie, Zach Gibson.

## Apologies

Hon Mia Davies MLA, Jacqueline McGowan-Jones – Commissioner for Children and Young People, Mr David Scaife MLA, Ms Jessica Shaw MLA, Mr Mike Rowe Director General at Department of Communities, Hon Donna Faragher JP MLC, Dr Anne Aly MP, Hon Samantha Rowe MLC, Dr Katrina Stratton MLA, Labor Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Nedlands Electorate, Phillipa Boldy Life Member of YACWA.

Item	Time	Details	Speaker
	5.47	The Chairperson Georgie opened the meeting at 5.47pm, which was originally scheduled to begin at 5.30pm.	
1	5.48	<b>Welcome to Country</b> Ingrid provided a Welcome to Country, in Noongar language and song. Ingrid reflected on her connections with YACWA and how important the work of the organisation is to all young people	<b>Ingrid Cumming</b>
2	5.53	<b>Acknowledgement, Welcome and Overview of AGM</b> Georgie thanked Ingrid for her Welcome and opened the formal proceedings of the AGM.	<b>Georgie Carey</b> YACWA Chair
3	5.54pm	<b>Acknowledgements and Apologies Received</b>	<b>Georgie Carey</b>

		<p><b>Acknowledgements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hon. Dave Kelly, Minister for Youth</li> <li>• Priscilla Bignoux and Jessica Graham from the Dept. Of Communities Youth Team on behalf of Mr Chad Stewart - A/Executive Director   Strategic Policy Strategy and Partnerships Division</li> <li>• <b>Life Members:</b></li> <li>• Elise Jorgensen, Andrew Hall</li> <li>• <b>Board Members:</b> Katherine Browne, Sharon Gough, Locket Lee, Arbie Pattiselanno, Celeste Stephens, Clare Grealy, Sal Cleveray, Naomi Blitz</li> </ul> <p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p><b>Life Members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Louise Giolitto (Life Member)</li> <li>• Ross Wortham (Life Member)</li> <li>• Phillipa Boldy (Life Member)</li> </ul> <p><b>Dignitaries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hon Mia Davies MLA</li> <li>• Jacqueline McGowan-Jones – Commissioner for Children and Young People</li> <li>• Mr David Scaife MLA</li> <li>• Ms Jessica Shaw MLA</li> <li>• Mr Mike Rowe Director General at Department of Communities</li> <li>• Hon Donna Faragher JP MLC</li> <li>• Dr Anne Aly MP</li> <li>• Hon Samantha Rowe MLC</li> <li>• Dr Katrina Stratton MLA, Labor Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Nedlands Electorate</li> </ul>	
4	5.55pm	<p><b>Confirmation of 2021 AGM and SGM 2022 Minutes</b></p> <p>The minutes from the previous AGM, held on Thursday, 9 December 2021, have been provided to members and were available at the registration table.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> That the minutes of YACWA's 2021 AGM be accepted as true and correct by those who attended.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Locket Lee  <b>Seconded:</b> Vic Jeyakumar</p>	Georgie Carey

		<p>In September this year the Board called a Special General Meeting to discuss and take to the members changes to our constitution in relation to appointment of board members.</p> <p>The minutes from the SGM, held on Friday 28 September, have been provided to members and are available at the registration table.</p> <p>The SGM unanimously supported changes to the constitution to move towards a 1/3 direct appointment of board members and the ensuing changes to the constitution has been accepted by Department Mines, Industry and Regulation.</p> <p>The Board was given a question on notice and recorded as an action item which has been completed.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> That the minutes of YACWA's 2022 SGM be accepted as true and correct by those who attended.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Andrew Hall  <b>Seconded:</b> Katherine Browne</p>	
5	5.56pm	<p><b>Chairperson's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted the appointment of the current YACWA CEO, Sandy McKiernan in Dec 2021 after Ross Wortham's resignation, and acknowledged Sandy's unique background and strong leadership to continue to guide YACWA through another period of growth and development in 2021-22.</li> <li>• With so many areas of focus, we took the time to realign resources and strategy and moved to establish key priority areas to focus our efforts to achieve change:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Housing and Homelessness</b></li> <li>2. <b>Youth Justice</b></li> <li>3. <b>Mental Health</b></li> </ol> </li> <li>• Within each of these priority areas there have been significant wins in ensuring the voices of young people and the sector were at the centre of decision-making.</li> <li>• This includes the co-hosting of a Director-General Roundtable on Youth homelessness, thanks to the leadership of Mike Rowe from the Department of Communities.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• YACWA also led a youth consultation project to inform the Youth Justice Services Strategy through Nous Group, as well as leading the Young People’s Priorities for Action co-design project in partnership with Connection and Wellbeing Australia and the Mental Health Commission.</li><li>• Thanks to the generous support of Lotterywest, this past year saw YACWA’s expansion into the regions through Regional YACWA, allowing a renewed focus for the organisation to embed regional voices and expand our reach. Highlights include the hosting of a Midwest Youth Sector Forum in Geraldton and building sector engagement in the Great Southern ready for its forum later in 2022.</li><li>• A major sector capacity activity this year saw YACWA distribute \$350,000 (in partnership with Lotterywest) into the sector through our inaugural Small Grants Scheme. Projects were metro, regional, remote and provided much needed funds to support our sector to build sustainable futures for some of our most vulnerable young people.</li><li>• Lotterywest has recently confirmed funding for 2023 to continue this great project.</li><li>• YACWA’s youth consultancy continued to partner with organisations to create impactful outcomes for young people across WA. Of note is YACWA’s highly successful Voting Party project run in partnership with the Australian Electoral Commission to engage young people in the lead up to the 2022 Federal Election.</li><li>• These achievements would not be possible without the tireless efforts of all those who contribute to YACWA’s mission. To our wonderful staff, volunteers, Board and members, thank you for your deep commitment and dedication towards achieving our vision of “A society where all young people feel valued and are supported to develop, thrive and reach their greatest potential”.</li></ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> that the Chairperson’s Report be accepted by the membership.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Naomi Blitz <b>Seconded:</b> Vic Jeyakumar</p>	
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## YACWA 2021 AGM Agenda

6	6.00pm	<p><b>CEO's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sandy reflected on the financial year and the hidden work of the organisation, including updating internal systems and policies.</li> <li>Sandy thanked the Chairs and the Board and staff for their continued support and efforts for the successful year</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> That the CEO's Report be accepted by the membership.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Katherine Browne <b>Seconded:</b> Elise Jorgensen</p>	<p><b>Sandy McKiernan</b> YACWA CEO</p>
7	6.05pm	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is with pleasure that I present the financial statements for YACWA for the period ending June 2022. You should have received a copy at the registration desk.</li> <li>YACWA's financial position has continued to strengthen, with increased income from \$1,682,550 in the previous 2021 financial year to 2,152,608 in this financial reporting period.</li> <li>YACWA's main source of income included Department of Communities, Department of Health and Lotterywest funding, whilst membership income saw a marginal increase.</li> <li>The Lotterywest support of YACWA's expansion to regional WA and Youth Sector Small Grants Scheme have generated opportunities for state-wide advocacy and organisational growth.</li> <li>Expenditure for the 2022-2022 financial year was \$2,125,187 with the majority of expenditure spent on employee costs, sector-wide events and activities.</li> <li>YACWA's consultancy work has continued to expand beyond Board expectations and generated income on projects that continue to bring together the voice of lived experience and the sector.</li> <li>YACWA's Statement of Profit and Loss denotes finishing the 2022-2022 financial year with a surplus of \$27,421 compared to the previous financial year of a surplus of \$67,723.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sharon Gough</b> YACWA Treasurer</p>

## YACWA 2021 AGM Agenda

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I would like to extend thanks to YACWA CEO Sandy McKiernan, Finance Officer Gaurav Singh and the Finance Committee for their diligent management of the YACWA finances.</li> <li>• This has supported the organisation to grow from strength to strength.</li> <li>• I would like to extend special thanks to the staff and YACWA team. It's their dedication and ongoing commitment to young people that drives new opportunities and supports YACWA to continue to do the important work it undertakes every day.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> that the Treasurer's Report be moved and seconded.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Jordan Wright <b>Seconded:</b> Naomi Blitz</p>	
8	6.08pm	<p><b>Confirmation and Adoption of Audited Financial Statements</b></p> <p><b>Motion:</b> that the Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ending 30 June 2022 be accepted as true and correct.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Andrew Hall <b>Seconded:</b> Vic Jeyakumar</p>	Georgie Carey
9	6.09pm	<p><b>Appointment of Auditors</b></p> <p>Each year it is a requirement that we formally appoint auditors for the coming financial year. This FY we worked for the second year with the team Marius van der Merwe and his team at Dry Kirkness (formerly Butler Settineri)</p> <p>On behalf of the Board, we are happy to continue to work with Dry Kirkness Pty Ltd to be our auditors in the next financial year.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> That Dry Kirkness Pty Ltd be re-appointed as auditors for the 2022-23 financial year.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Katherine Browne <b>Seconded:</b> Locket Lee</p>	Georgie Carey
10	6.10pm	<b>Life Members</b>	Georgie Carey/ Katherine

## YACWA 2021 AGM Agenda

		<p>YACWA is privileged to honour a number of dedicated youth workers and youth sector professionals with honorary Life Membership.</p> <p>Life Membership is a process voted on by the YACWA Board and recognises the enormous contributions that these individuals have had to the mission of YACWA and the lives of young people and their fellow youth sector professionals over the years.</p> <p>This nominee has more than 20 years connection with YACWA.</p> <p>In 1998 as a new youth worker in Justice they were introduced to the work of YACWA and the work of the Board with an interest in policy work and sharing their frontline perspectives. They were involved in consultations and became an individual member around this time.</p> <p>They have held every position except Secretary with their first term on the Board in 2002 – 2005, becoming vice Chair in 2005-6.</p> <p>In 2012 – 13 they took on a Deputy CEO role at a time of growth and change for the organisation and in 2013-2015 was the Chair of MYAN WA – they were instrumental in the Auspice of MYAN WA to YACWA.</p> <p>In recent years they re-joined the Board in 2016 – 19, holding Treasurer in 2018-19 and then appointed Chairperson in 2019-21. They oversaw the process of the new CEO recruitment ensuring a transparent and open process in doing so.</p> <p>Throughout all these years they have always leaned on YACWA to help connect them to the voice of young people and the sector, to deeply listen and understand ...to help decision makers understand what is possible to deliver more relevant services for young people and our sector.</p> <p>It is our delight to induct <b>Vik Jeyakumar</b> as a Life Member to the Youth Affairs Council of WA.</p>	<b>Browne</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>6.16pm</b>	<p><b>Announcing Board Members for 2022</b></p> <p>Ayden Mackenzie, the Returning Officer, ran through the election process for new board members.</p>	<b>Ayden Mackenzie</b> Returning Officer

## YACWA 2021 AGM Agenda

		<p>The YACWA Board election was conducted online between November 18 and 24.</p> <p>There were 8 nominations, 67 votes, and two available positions.</p> <p>The votes were counted using a proportional voting single transferrable vote system, in accordance with the YACWA Constitution.</p> <p>The two successful candidates are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Katherine Browne</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Omar Ali MacIntyre</a></li> </ul> <p>Both successful candidates have been elected to serve three-year terms.</p>	
12	6.19pm	<p><b>Other Business</b></p> <p><b>Board Appointed Director</b> Georgie gave an overview of the new process of Board Appointed Director</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the changes to our constitution earlier this year and with the results of this year's election known, the YACWA Nominations Committee met earlier this week to review candidates for board appointment. This process includes review of our skills matrix, board continuity requirements and future work. After completing her first term as an elected Director, the board has endorsed the appointment of Sharon Gough for a second, three-year term.</li> </ul>	<b>Georgie Carey</b>
13	6.21pm	<b>YACWA AGM concludes</b>	<b>YACWA</b>
14	6.37pm - 6.46pm	<p><b>An Address from the Minister</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Minister thanked both YACWA and YouthWork WA for another great year, an enjoyable year and that he was proud of the great work we had done together.</li> </ul> <p>The Minister spoke of the funding opportunities his office has provided which included funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TransFolk of WA this year for the work they do for young people.</li> <li>• The original youth funding agreement for YPN was due to end in 2023, but because of all the good work that the team have so</li> </ul>	<b>Minister Kelly</b>



## YACWA 2021 AGM Agenda

		<p>far done, the Minister had decided to extend it to 2025, a year earlier than the agreement end date and to increase funding to be able to increase the reach of the YPN including regional engagements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A press release by the Attorney General and Minister Kelly about new legislation in 2023 to be introduced on banning Conversion Practices.</li><li>• Very happy to announce money for the YouthWork WA at their awards night, the other night.</li><li>• The Minister made sincere comments on the challenges of Banksia Hill Youth Detention Centre, recognising there were big challenges ahead and that he hopes to continue to support working towards improved outcomes for young people, with not having them in detention to begin with</li><li>• Finally, thanks to YACWA and the incredible team for their work. The people working at YACWA; Sandy and team are very well regarded, and YACWA is a growing and very self-sustainable organisation.</li></ul>	
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