

# Youth Affairs Council of WA 2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes



Wednesday November 29, 5.45pm  
The Panorama Club, Leederville

Item	Time	Details	
	5.45pm	Sal Cleveray opened the AGM and welcomed all attendees to the event. Confirmed all attendees received documents and minutes for last year's meeting.	<b>Sal Cleveray</b> YACWA Chair
1	5.50pm	<b>Welcome to Country</b>  Ingrid Cumming presented a Welcome to Country.	<b>Ingrid Cumming</b>
2	6.00pm	<b>Acknowledgement, Welcome and Overview of AGM</b>  Sal Cleveray provided a brief welcome to guests of the AGM and thanked Ingrid Cumming for their Welcome to Country.  Sal then Introduced Chad Steward - Acting Assistant Director General Department of Communities to give attendees an opening address on behalf of Minster McGurk who couldn't attend the AGM.	<b>Sal Cleveray</b> YACWA Chair
2	6.02pm	<b>Opening Address</b>  Chad Stewart presented the opening address and spoke about key priorities from State and Commonwealth Government.  Some key points included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beyond 2020 Youth Action Plan</li> <li>• Youth Training, Employment, and Engagement</li> <li>• Disability Royal Commission</li> <li>• Homelessness Strategy; Youth Homelessness; Youth Justice and Closing the Gap</li> <li>• Climate Change</li> <li>• Mental Health</li> <li>• Life Skills Programs- Financial Literacy</li> </ul>	<b>Chad Stewart</b> Acting Assistant Director General Department of Communities

		<p>Congratulated YACWA and its strength as a peak body. Also noted support for the Youth Pride Network as well as YACWA's Sector Grants Program.</p> <p>Challenges and opportunities highlighted include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low availability of services for under 14-year-olds</li> <li>• Environment - how to show meaningful progress in relation to climate change.</li> <li>• LGBTQIA+: WA behind in terms of change in equal opportunity</li> <li>• Working with Local Governments</li> <li>• How to support young carers</li> <li>• Sexual harassment and coercive control</li> </ul> <p>Chad expressed being thankful being part of the development of YACWA's new strategic plan.</p>	
3	6.20pm pm	<p><b>Acknowledgements and Apologies Received</b></p> <p><b>Acknowledgements: Sal Cleveray acknowledged the following people</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chad Stewart - Acting Assistant Director General, Department of Communities</li> </ul> <p><b>Life Members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vik Jeyakumar</li> </ul> <p><b>Board Members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Georgie Carey (past Board Member and previous Chairperson)</li> <li>• Katherine Browne</li> <li>• Arbie Pattiselanno</li> <li>• Celeste Stephens</li> <li>• Clare Grealy</li> <li>• Naomi Blitz</li> <li>• Omar Ali Mclintyre</li> </ul> <p><b>Apologies were acknowledged from the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elise Jorgensen (Life Member)</li> <li>• Andrew Hall (Life Member)</li> <li>• Jude Bridgland</li> <li>• Derry Simpson</li> <li>• Sharon Gough</li> <li>• John Sutcliffe</li> <li>• Amanda Hunt</li> </ul>	Sal Cleveray

## YACWA 2023 AGM Agenda

4	6.25pm	<p><b>Confirmation of 2022 AGM Minutes</b></p> <p>The minutes from the previous AGM, held on Thursday 1 December 2022, have been provided to members and were available at the registration table.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> That the minutes of YACWA's 2022 AGM be accepted as true and correct by those who attended.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Arbie Pattiselanno</p> <p><b>Seconded:</b> Trudy Cooper</p> <p><b><i>Motion Passed</i></b></p>	Sal Cleveray
5	6.30pm	<p><b>Chairperson's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledged the growth of YACWA. Noting significant milestones including the Co-launch of the At Risk Youth Strategy and auspicing of the Youth at Risk Network (YARN).</li> <li>• YACWA gained 3 years of funding to relaunch The Youth Homelessness Advisory Council (YHAC). YACWA worked with the WA Alliance to End Homelessness. Highlighted unique services and engagement with government.</li> <li>• YACWA's funding for the regional component ended however two Youth Sector Forums were hosted in 2023. Undertook Midwest Listening Tours and invested in young people in the region. Hoping to secure more funding in the future.</li> <li>• YACWA's Advisory Service also engaged with regional areas and provided several workshops in different regions.</li> <li>• YACWA rolled out the Seat at the Table program to multicultural spaces as well as doing some consulting for MYANWA. YACWA also visited both Christmas and Cocos Islands.</li> <li>• fair.ground. returned this year bringing 239 delegates over two days. Great feedback was received.</li> </ul>	Sal Cleveray

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encouraged attendees to view the Annual Report as well as acknowledged the work of staff and volunteers who have helped YACWA do its work. Thanked Board members and thanked Georgie Carey for her work as previous YACWA Chairperson.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> That the Chairperson’s Report be accepted by the membership.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Clare Grealy</p> <p><b>Seconded:</b> Trudy Cooper</p> <p><b>Motion Passed</b></p>	
6	6.40pm	<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 Chairperson, Board and Staff for their continued support and efforts for the successful year.</li> </ul> <p>Key Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fair.ground. 23 - an opportunity to showcase YACWA’s capabilities. Young youth workers who had never experienced fair.ground attended showing a new generation of youth workers.</li> <li>Regional work opened doors and enabled YACWA to have a presence that it had not had in a long time. YACWA working to keep engaged and stay connected with regional areas. Looking to find ways to enable YACWA to do regional work.</li> <li>Youth Awards:</li> </ul> <p>Noted WA Young Person(s) of the Year; Zahra Al Hilaly (2022) and Isobella Choate (2023) . The Youth Awards are an opportunity to celebrate and showcase some amazing young people. They are cemented into the work that YACWA does.</p>	<p><b>Sandy McKiernan</b> YACWA CEO</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant changes to staff:</li> </ul> <p>Said goodbye to Matthew Tomich and Mason Rothwell. Sandy expressed her joy with working with both who had been a great support when she started at YACWA. Sandy also mentioned welcoming new staff in the Policy and Sector Engagement area of YACWA. Acknowledged the work of previous staff members. Farewelled two regional staff members who spent time growing connections and relationships in the sector and Government in the regional areas. Proud of the work done and looking forward to a few new projects in the regional space.</p> <p>New opportunities brought up by changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital Communications and Events Officer (have streamlined a lot of internal services)</li> <li>• Noted name change of YACWA's Consultancy service to Advisory Service. The Advisory arm will give advice to whoever needs support to engage young people. The Advisory Team has done incredible projects including regional work and Local Government work. They have been integral in broadening the understanding of working with young people outside the sector.</li> <li>• YACWA has seen significant growth with 50 staff members on its payroll this year.</li> <li>• YACWA 2024 office relocation was also noted. Thanked the Board for their support in making this leap. Noted this as an investment into YACWA's future.</li> <li>• Thanked Georgie Carey, Katherine Browne, and Sharon Gough for their support in her role as CEO.</li> <li>• Farewelled Georgie Carey as previous YACWA Chairperson and excited for continued leadership of the board with the appointment of Sal Cleveray as YACWA's new Chairperson.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> That the CEO's Report be accepted by the membership.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Arbie Pattiselanno</p> <p><b>Seconded:</b> Georgie Carey</p> <p><b>Motion Passed</b></p>	
--	--	---	--

7	6.50pm	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p><b>Clare Grealy presented the Treasurer's Report.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clare presented the Financial Statements for YACWA for the period ending June 2023. A copy of the report was made available at the registration desk.</li> <li>• YACWA's financial position continues to strengthen, with increased income from \$2,152,608 in the previous 2022 financial year to \$2,787,096 in this financial reporting period.</li> <li>• YACWA's main source of income was consistent with the prior year, being the Department of Communities, Department of Health and Lotterywest funding with a significant boost from the fair.ground. Conference which had an income of \$249,568.</li> <li>• Lotterywest support of YACWA's expansion to regional WA and Youth Sector Small Grants Scheme had generated opportunities for State-wide advocacy and organisational growth.</li> <li>• Expenditure for the 2022-2023 financial year was \$2,686,811 with most of the expenditure spent on employee costs, sector-wide events and activities. YACWA's Advisory arm continues to provide valuable services to organisations including Carers WA, Ruah Services, MercyCare and continues to provide advice to Local Governments across the State.</li> <li>• YACWA's Statement of Profit and Loss denotes finishing the 2023-2023 financial year with a surplus of \$100,285.</li> <li>• Extended thanks to YACWA's CEO Sandy McKiernan, Finance Manager Gaurav Singh and the Finance Committee for their diligent management of YACWA's finances.</li> <li>• Extended special thanks to the staff and YACWA team. It's their dedication and ongoing commitment to young people that drives new opportunities and supports</li> </ul>	<p><b>Clare Grealy</b> YACWA Treasurer</p>
---	--------	--	--

## YACWA 2023 AGM Agenda

		<p>YACWA to continue to do the important work it undertakes every day.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> That the Treasurer's Report be moved and seconded.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Naomi Blitz</p> <p><b>Seconded:</b> Vik Jeyakumar</p> <p><b><i>Motion Passed</i></b></p>	
8	6.55pm	<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 2023 be accepted as true and correct.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Katherine Browne</p> <p><b>Seconded:</b> Vik Jeyakumar</p> <p><b><i>Motion Passed</i></b></p>	Clare Grealy
9	6.57pm	<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 financial year we have worked three years in a row with 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 2023-24 financial year.</p> <p><b>Moved:</b> Trudy Cooper</p> <p><b>Seconded:</b> Celeste Stephens</p> <p><b><i>Motion Passed</i></b></p>	Clare Grealy

<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>7.00pm</b></p>	<p><b>Life Members</b></p> <p>This nominee has more than 20 years' experience working in the multicultural youth space in the education sector, and is a steadfast champion of refugee and migrant young people's rights. They have a decade of connection with YACWA and the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network of WA (MYAN WA), which has been auspiced by YACWA since 2014.</p> <p>They have advocated for young people's experiences and showing up at every opportunity to do so; across local and national consultations, events such as Catalyst Multicultural Youth Summits and regular MYAN WA networking and advocacy forums. They have given their time to attend and represent MYAN WA in their capacity as Chair at networking, reference and advisory group settings. Ensuring refugee and migrant young people are always on the agenda.</p> <p>This nominee is a really strong advocate, and a consistent one, for refugee and migrant young people. Going above and beyond, and balancing the demands of their frontline role to do this work and try and to achieve positive outcomes for young people. They are always open to working in collaboration and partnering with others. Their advocacy for refugee and migrant young people and their various challenges in the education system, as a frontline worker with a wealth of experience (including making shifts and changes at a systemic level) has added considerable depth and value to the advocacy work of MYAN WA and YACWA.</p> <p>YACWA inducted <b>Craig Webster</b> as a Life Member.</p>	<p><b>Sal Cleveray</b></p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>7.10pm</b></p>	<p><b>Announcing Board Members for 2022</b></p> <p>Presented by Toritse Mojuetan</p> <p>The YACWA Board election was conducted online between November 2 – 20, 2023.</p> <p>Toritse Mojuetan presented the results of the election, being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 6 candidates</li> <li>- 60 votes</li> <li>- With 2 Board positions available</li> </ul>	<p><b>Toritse Mojuetan</b> Returning Officer</p>



		<p>The two successful candidates are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clare Grealy</li> <li>• Celeste Stephens</li> </ul> <p>Toritse congratulated the appointment of Clare and Celeste. Board to convene in the upcoming weeks to determine the Board elected candidate.</p>	
12	7.20pm	<p><b>Other Business</b></p> <p><b>Constitutional Updates</b></p> <p>After lodging last year's (2022) approved changes to the constitution, the Department of Mines, Infrastructure, Resources and Safety (DMIRS) advised that minor changes were recommended to other clauses of the YACWA constitution. The below changes were proposed as per the summary document provided to attendees:</p> <p><a href="#">2023 YACWA Constitution Proposed Changes Summary.docx</a></p> <p>Constitutional changes need approval of 75% of voting members present and can include proxys.</p> <p>YACWA received proxies from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Andrew Hall</li> <li>- Elise Jorgensen</li> <li>- Sharon Gough</li> <li>- Amanda Hunt</li> </ul> <p>Sal explained rationale behind each change.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> That the amendments to the YACWA constitution be supported by the members and call for a vote by the raising of hands</p> <p>All in Favour: - "count hands" = 23</p> <p>Any Against: - "count hands" = 0</p> <p><b>Motion Passed</b></p> <p><b>Presentation of YACWA's new Strategic Plan</b></p> <p>YACWA Strategic Plan (2024 – 2029) was presented. The challenges young people face now are different to those from the old Strategic Plan</p>	Sal Cleveray

## YACWA 2023 AGM Agenda

		<p>developed in 2019.</p> <p>Stakeholders were consulted to come up with a new Strategic Plan for the next 5 years. Collectively YACWA reworked their vision and purpose based on the results from the consultation. The new plan truly values young people in all spaces at all tables.</p> <p>Noted that Staff, Board and Sector were on board with the new changes.</p> <p>Noted key pillars of Strategic Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Amplify</li> <li>- Engage</li> <li>- Build</li> <li>- Nurture</li> </ul>	
<b>13</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>YACWA AGM concludes</b>	<b>YACWA</b>