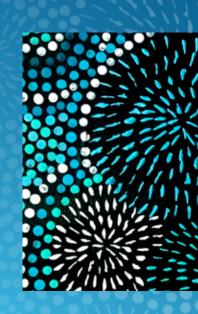


Kaya Wanju Hello Welcome

YACWA acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People as the traditional owners and custodians of this land and its waters. We wish to pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extend this to all Aboriginal people seeing this message.







Phone: 08 9227 5440 Email: yacwa@yacwa.org.au Address: Level 2, 196 Oxford Street, Leederville 6007 Postal Address: Po Box 334, Leederville WA, 6903 Web: www.yacwa.org.au Facebook: www.facebook.com/yacwa Twitter: twitter.com/yacwa Instagram: Instagram.com/yacwa

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For an extended copy of our financial statements please contact the YACWA office.

Why we exist

The Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia (YACWA) is the peak nongovernment youth organisation in Western Australia. We operate primarily as a human rights organisation that seeks to address the exclusion of young people in a rapidly changing society. Our continued vision for Western Australia is one that celebrates, respects and engages young people and their voice in all aspects of community and governance. Our role is to strengthen the trust, cooperation, collaboration, professionalism and voice of the non-government youth sector to better serve the young people of Western Australia.

YACWA aims to be a united, independent and active advocate for the nongovernment youth sector and young people that is both supported and respected by the sector and the wider community. Focusing on young people's varied needs at local, State and Federal Government level, YACWA works to engender and enhance positive community attitudes towards young people. We provide a voice and act as a role model for the definition and demonstration of youth participation. Our work is governed by four guiding principles – respect, equity, integrity and the celebration of diversity.

What we do

YACWA carries out a number of activities which seek to promote positive community attitudes towards young people and to assist and advocate for the sector that supports them.

These activities fall under four key focus areas:

- Sector Support
- Youth Leadership
- Policy and Research
- Advocacy and Action





Artwork acknowledgement: **Kamsani Bin Salleh** 2018 WA Young Person of the Year

Message from our CEO



This annual report marks the completion of the 39th year of the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia.

Over the year, it has been important to reflect on our history and those who founded our organisation to enable us to plan for our future. In 1978, a group of youth workers and youth focused organisations established what would become the Youth Affairs Council of WA. At that time. they established three forums - a forum for youth workers, a forum for youth organisations and a forum for young people, and those are still our three membership categories today. True to form, ending our 39th year has seen great successes in how YACWA has influenced government and the community through these three avenues. Whilst Western Australia has seen continued change both politically and economically under a Labor government facing times of austerity, we have been able to achieve some great successes.

YACWA continues to go from strength to strength, in 2017/18 financial year we saw the strongest response to YACWA membership in our 39-year history topping over 90 organisations and reaching nearly 600 direct members, our social media reach and online platforms continue to grow, reaching nearly 12,000 followers on a regular basis. Additionally, the great team at YACWA have enabled us to influence policy in greater ways than before, including sitting on critical government committees, legislative reviews and producing high quality policy work including our budget analysis and pre-budget submissions. We have also seen the significant growth of youth-led initiatives like the Youth Disability Advocacy Network, the Youth Pride Network and the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network of Western Australia.

Some key highlights from the year included:

- Our strongest membership drive in YACWA's history
- Critical Sector driven events including: the YEP Every Body Every Mind Youth Sector Summit, Trauma-Informed Practice Symposium, the Alternatives to Suicide Forum, Youth Homelessness Matters Day Forum, and the inaugural State of the Youth Sector Forum

- Hosting the 2017 WA Youth Awards an annual opportunity for us to recognise and celebrate the achievements of young people and the youth sector across WA. This year's Awards saw Matt Bill appointed as the WA Young Person of the Year, and in this capacity Matt travelled across the state and visited more than 20 communities, hearing from young people and communities on key issues impacting on them.
- YACWA's CEO was appointed to the WA Supporting Communities Forum
- Establishment of the Youth Pride Network, by young people for young people
- Growth of the Youth Disability Advocacy
 Network
- Growth of YACWA's consulting services, enabling us to reach more young people and support both local government and non-government organisations to improve practice, beyond our core funding capacity.

All of this would not have been possible without a strong membership base and without the collective effort of hundreds of young people across WA. YACWA's membership continues to grow and diversify and we aim to continually create new and exciting ways to engage our members throughout the year to ensure our work is driven by the experiences of youth workers on the ground, and informed by young people themselves. I would like to thank all our members for their commitment and support of YACWA's mission.

I would like to acknowledge the incredible dedicated and hard work provided by the YACWA staff who work tirelessly to support and advocate for young people across Western Australia. Each member of staff has contributed to the good work YACWA has done over the past year, and are a core part of the reputation for excellence YACWA holds.

I would also like to thank the YACWA Board for their commitment to the organisation, and the invaluable leadership and governance they provided throughout the year.

Funding, policy and legislative challenges will continue to face the youth sector over the next year, but with these challenges will come opportunities. I look forward to working with all members, sponsors, organisations and government departments to achieve better outcomes for young people, and ensure their voices remain at the centre of what we do.

Regards,

Ross Wortham CEO

Message from our Chairperson



It has been a pleasure to be the Chairperson for the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia (YACWA) in its 39th year, working with the Vice Chairperson, Karina Chicote; Treasurer, Katie Liew; and through our Board Sub-Committees. We have a very capable, connected and committed Board.

It has been an inspiring and 'relentless year of work' for YACWA, led by our CEO, Ross Wortham along with a passionate, skillful and capable staff team. Thank you.

As you will observe in the following pages, YACWA has continued to punch above its resourcedweight in advocacy for young people, sector support, events and development for our member organisations, response and collaboration with government on behalf of the sector through policy and advocacy, awareness campaigns, regional engagement and national engagement. I reiterate – 'relentless year of work'.

Our membership base has grown this year, yet more importantly we have seen a growing

involvement of young people in our work at YACWA through participation in such opportunities as the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network of Western Australia (MYAN WA), Youth Disability Advocacy Network, Youth Pride Network, 2017 WA Youth Awards, YACWA Round-Tables, and our many campaigns, events and member gatherings. It makes the role of an organisation like YACWA so much easier when a sector is involved and dedicated to providing a progressive, quality service for those who need it the most.

The government architecture has continued to shuffle a little over the year which fuels both uncertainty and possibility for our sector, yet our hope moving forward is that government continues to ensure that those wicked problems lead to a greater collaborative effort between our young people, the sector that supports them and the critical role of YACWA. May young people never have to carry the burden of changing economic and social conditions and government restructures, but rather be the recipients of sustainable support, provision and hope for a fair and better future.

We look forward to supporting you and your work again next year as we launch into our 40th year.

Regards

Penny Webb Chairperson

Who we are

Board of Directors

Chairperson: Penny Webb Vice Chairperson: Karina Chicote Treasurer: Katie Liew Vik Jeyakumar John Thomson Brooke Draper Georgie Carey Naomi Lorkin Katherine Brown Sandra Spadanuda Ross Wortham (ex-officio)

Subcommittees

Finance Sub-Committee Katie Liew John Thomson Penny Webb Ross Wortham (ex-officio)

Regional Engagement Karina Chicote Sandra Spadanuda Brooke Draper Ross Wortham (ex-officio)

Governance Penny Webb Naomi Lorkin Ayden MacKenzie (co-opted) Ross Wortham (ex-officio)

Sustainability Katherine Browne Brooke Draper Ross Wortham (ex-officio)

Staff (Current as of June 2018)

Ross Wortham (CEO) Lianda Gibson (Project Manager) Gaurav Singh (Finance and Admin Manager) Mason Rothwell (Senior Policy and Advocacy Stefaan Bruce-Truglio (Policy and Advocacy Katie Cameron (Manager, Member and Community Engagement) Tamkin Essa (MYAN WA Project Support Sara Shengeb (MYAN WA Project Support Lewis Price (YDAN Project Officer) **Anania Tagaro** (YEP Project Coordinator) Kelly Clark (Project Officer) Darci Miller (YEP Peer Educator and SYA Vithan Thillairajah (YEP Peer Educator) Amelia Murray (YEP Peer Educator) Kai Schweizer (YEP Peer Educator) Julia Morgan (YEP Peer Educator) Fatema Shalemie (YEP Peer Educator) Julian Ming (YEP Peer Educator) Aksh Handa (YEP Peer Educator) Habiba Asim (YEP Peer Educator) Matthew Bacon (YEP Peer Educator) Susan Theseira (YEP Peer Educator) **Golda Signal** (YEP Peer Educator) Shaina Thomas (YEP Peer Educator) Jordina Rose Quain (YEP Peer Educator) **Darci Miller** (YEP Peer Educator) **Claire Foster** (YEP Peer Educator) **Emily Wilding** (YEP Peer Educator) Habiba Asim (YEP Peer Educator and PVE Sadie Ward (PVE Youth Consultant) **Ish Caroopanen** (PVE Youth Consultant) Austin Bantock (PVE Youth Consultant) Ryan Beckmand (PVE Youth Consultant)

Past Staff

Joshua Cunniffe (Senior Policy Officer) Charlotte Clance (YDAN Project Officer) Carla Ormsby (Events and Communications Manager) Ashley Mcphail (Music Feedback Project Officer)

Interns/Volunteer

Elsa Silberstein Eugene Chua Yu Hui Jeewani Ponsuge Jesse Altham Emma Vieira Andre May-Dessmann Nessa Vlajkovic

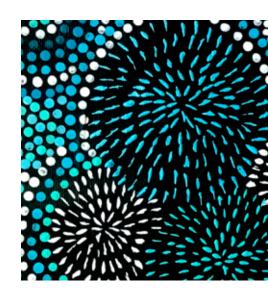
Life Members

George Davies Nic Hasting-James Mark Goerke Brian Wooller Philippa Boldy Louise Giolitto Jude Bridgland Sorenson Kerstin Stender Audrey Turner

We are stronger because of our members

Our work is driven by our 500+ members and is made up of diverse organisations, local governments, individuals, and young people. In the 2017/18 financial year, YACWA implemented a new membership campaign called "Join the Movement", which has resulted in the largest turnout of organisational members in YACWA's history.

We would like to thank and acknowledge YACWA's diverse membership as well as the people and organisations that support YACWA in our work with youth sector workers, youth organisations and young people across Western Australia.







Organisational Members

Aboriginal Health Council of WA Accordwest Albany Youth Support Association Altone Youth Services Anglicare WA Australian Association of Social Work -WA Branch Australian Red Cross - WA Branch Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC) **Bunbury Youth Advisory Council** Centrecare Inc Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA City of Armadale City of Albany City of Bunbury City of Canning City of Cockburn City of Gosnells **City of Fremantle** City of Joondalup City of Kwinana City of Mandurah City of Rockingham City of Swan City of Vincent City of Wanneroo Consumers of Mental Health WA Edmund Rice Centre WA **Escare Family Support Service & Youth** Service

Ethnic Communities Council of WA (ECCWA) Fogarty Foundation Youth Leadership Program Foundation Housing Ltd Foyer Oxford (Anglicare WA) Freedom Centre **Fusion Youth Service** Geraldton Youth and Family Support Service (Ngala) Goldfields Women's Health Care Association Headspace Albany Headspace Pilbara Hope Community Services Indigo Junction Jacaranda Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre (KALACC) Kira Community Services Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation Life Without Barriers State Office MercyCare Millenium Kids Mission Australia Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network -Australia National Disability Services WA Ngala - Midwest and Gascoyne Nyoongar Outreach Services Outcare Inc Passages Resource Centre PCYC Peel Youth Services Incorporated Perth Inner City Youth Service

Reconciliation WA Richmond Wellbeing Rise Community Network Ruah Community Services Save the Children Scouts WA Sexual Health Quarters Shelter WA Shire of Gingin Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire of Waroona South Coastal Health and Community Services St John of God Health Care St Patrick's Community Support Centre St. Vincent De Paul Society Swan Alliance **Telethon Kids Institute** Town of Bassendean Town of Cambridge Unitingcare West WANSLEA Whitelion Wirrapunda Foundation Yaandina Community Services YMCA Yorganop Youth Action Youth Affairs Council of Victoria (YACVIC) Youth Affairs Network of Qld Inc (YANQ) Youth Focus Inc. **Youth Futures** Youth Involvement Council Inc. YouthLink Zero to Hero

Our Funders and Supporters

Core Funding

Department of Communities

Funders and Supporters

Bankwest Centre for Multicultural Youth City of Bayswater **City of Belmont** City of Canning City of Cockburn **City of Fremantle** City of Joondalup City of Karratha **Commissioner for Children and Young** People **CREATE** Foundation **Department of Finance Department of Health** Edith Cowan University **Equal Opportunity Commission**

Hope Community Services Kira Loaded Communications Lotterywest McCusker Centre for Citizenship Melbourne University MercyCare Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN) Australia Office of Multicultural Interests (OMI) Perth Theatre Trust RAC WA **Rise Network Ruah Community Services** Sage Foundation Save the Children Australia Shire of Kalamunda University of Western Australia VisAbility WA Council of Social Services (WACOSS) **Youth Futures** Youth Work WA



Communications and Social Media

Digital platforms play an essential role in the way we communicate and interact with young people and the sector. In early 2018 YACWA joined the world of Instagram which has proven to be a great way to interact with our younger YACWA members. YACWA continues to deliver fortnightly e-newsletters to update more than 2000 people made up of members and subscribers. YACWA's widest audience continues to be reached through Facebook, with our top post for the 2017/18 financial year reaching more than 10k unique users.

Top reaching Facebook posts

Youth Pride Network committee registration

Shout Out 2.0 applications

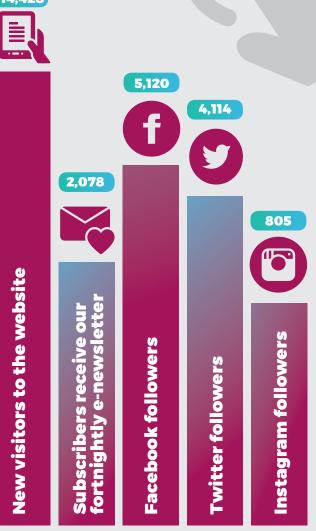
6.9k

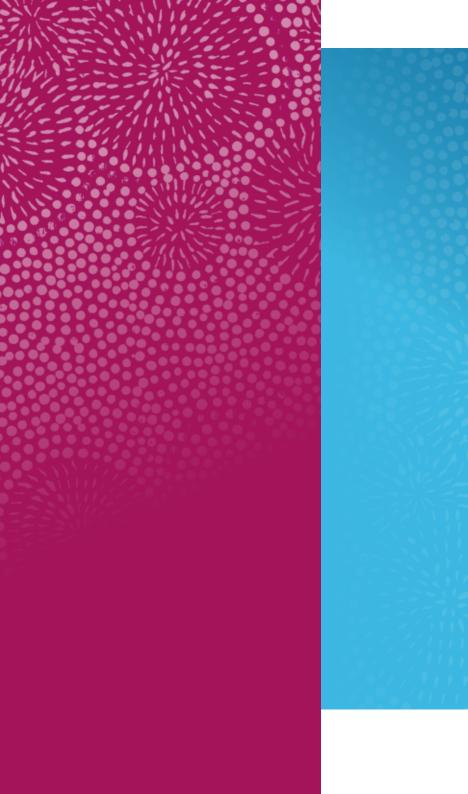
International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT)

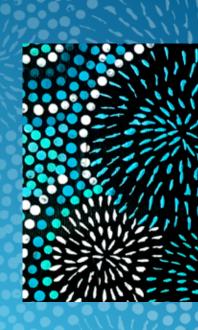
Young people enroll to vote

Fast Facts

Total visits to the YACWA website







Youth Leadership



Youth Leadership

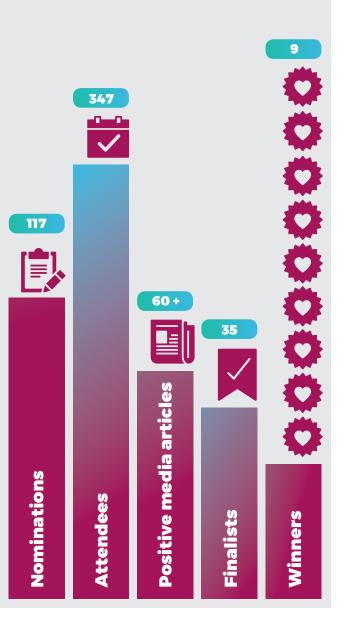
The 2017 WA Youth Awards

The WA Youth Awards were established in 1999 to provide a platform to recognise our most amazing, inspirational and dedicated young people aged 12 to 25. These are young people committed to their community, helping others and thinking outside of the box. The awards also recognise outstanding youth groups and organisations that serve and support the state's young people.

We know that young people don't often get recognised for the contributions they make to the community, and our community often falls back into the stereotype that young people are disengaged and disinterested. This event, and the young people that are recognised at it, prove that stereotype to be very wrong.

The 2017 WA Youth Awards was held at the State Theatre Centre of WA on Friday the 25th of November and gathered together more than 300 people to celebrate young people and service providers across the state. The 2017 WA Young Person of the Year was the unstoppable Matthew Bill, a 22-year-old Aboriginal Youth Outreach Worker who is passionate, driven, and enthusiastic about the community he works and lives in.

We would like to again congratulate all the fantastic winners of their categories, and all the nominees and finalists. As with every year of the WA Youth Awards, the event was only made possible by the generous contributions and timecommitments of our partners, sponsors, organisers, nominators and attendees.



Fast Facts



Matt's Drive for Change

In July, the 2017 WA Young Person of the Year, Matt Bill utilised his \$10,000 travel bursary to embark on a one-month drive around Western Australia collecting the stories of young people, giving them a voice and capturing footage to raise awareness on the collective issues young people experience in regional WA.

A Facebook campaign was started using the hashtag #MD4C to track Mett's journey which saw him covering 22 regional areas in WA over the course of a four-week period.

Fast Facts

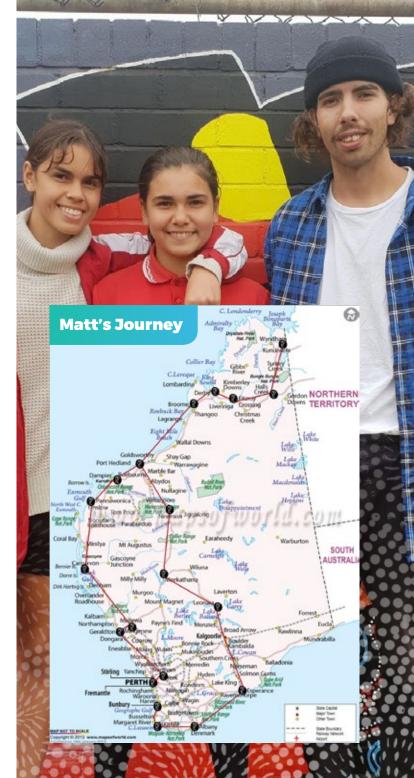
7 followers on Facebook

5.6 reach on top Facebook post

towns visited

Regional coverage included: Northam, Geraldton, Mullewa, Canarvon, Onslow, Karratha, Roebourne, Port Headland, Broome, Derby, Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek, Kununurra Newman, Meekatharra, Leonara, Kalgoorlie, Esperance, Albany, Augusta, Busselton, Bunbury.

Matt's journey to listen to the voices of young people in regional WA highlights his incredible dedication to young people as a youth worker, and raises awareness on the collective issues young people face in regional Western Australia.



The YEP Crew

Fast Facts

1	

83	youth workshops
2k +	young people reached
30	blog posts
9	presentations at events
1	Youth Forum

YACWA's Youth Educating Peers (YEP) Project exists to support and educate young people on relationships, sexual health and blood-borne virus (SHBBV) issues. We do this by working in partnership with the WA youth sector and through the use of peer education (the YEP Crew) as a youth participation and health promotion strategy.

The YEP Crew were very busy in 2017/18. The Crew is comprised of 15 young people from different backgrounds and cultures, all passionate about ensuring that young people in WA are educated and informed about key SHBBV issues.



This year the YEP Crew:

- Delivered 83 youth workshops, attended by approximately 2,000 young people
- Wrote and published 30 blog posts for the YEP website www.theyepproject.org.au
- Presented at nine conferences, forums and networking events
- Held a youth forum in conjunction with headspace WA on The Link between Sexual Health and Mental Health
- Produced two How to Get an STI Test videos for young people in partnership with SHQ and M Clinic, getting a Facebook reach of over 8,000
- Ran a social media campaign called
 #andTHATSaFact, which consisted of sexpositive, harm minimisation and inclusive fun
 graphics



MYAN WA Youth Leadership





attendees at the Catalyst 62 Youth Summit 2,854 people reached through the Shout Out program

50+

Shout Out bookings

Youth leadership lies at the core of all of MYAN WA's work which seeks to encourage young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds to be active citizens in Australian society. Through projects including Catalyst Youth Group and Shout Out, MYAN WA works to create opportunities for young people through the ongoing development of leadership and advocacy skills. 2017/18 MYAN WA achieved the following leadership and participation from young people:

- **Delivering the Catalyst Youth Summit with** participation of 62 multicultural young people taking part
- Supporting 17 young people in the Shout Out program
- Training 14 new Shout Out speakers
- A film screening with the involvement of **8 young people who set out to interview** WA Politicians and leaders on the topic of Harmony Week



Youth Disability Advocacy Network (YDAN)



The Youth Disability Advocacy Network Inc. (YDAN) was established in late 2015 to provide a forgotten, ignored and underrepresented demographic of the disability sector in WA with an opportunity to be included and consulted. YDAN is a representative systemic advocacy organisation, governed solely by and for young people with disabilities. It liaises with other peak and sector organisations to ensure a voice for young people with disabilities is always present in decision making and seeks opportunities to advance the interests of its members. YACWA continues to provide support for YDAN in an auspice arrangement, however in 2017/18 financial year, YDAN took the exciting step of becoming an incorporated association in its own right and finalised its strategic plan. YDAN received a Department of Communities ILC Grant which funded a part-time project officer to coordinate service delivery and member engagement.

In 2017/18, YDAN have continue to deliver services which build the knowledge, skills and capability of the sector to work with young people with disability, including:

- Delivering eight youth and community sector workshops
- Delivering ten workshops for young people
- Delivering six experiential audits

YDAN also wrote several submissions to government including:

- Open letter calling for greater accessibility of the marriage equality postal survey
- Open letter calling for greater consultation in relation to the implementation of the statebased version of the NDIS
- Submission on Senator John Williams' proposal to lower the wheelchair speed limits for some wheelchair users

All YDAN's services are delivered by young members employed for this purpose, as part of YDAN's social enterprise strategy. YDAN is the only representative body of young people with disabilities that is directly involved in advocacy in WA and has rapidly become the eminent reference point for young people with disability in the WA community. In 2017/18 YDAN, in addition to the submissions made to government as previously noted under the submissions section, has enacted the following key pieces of advocacy:

- Participated as a member of the NDIS Transition Advisory Group to the Minister
- Met with Minister for Youth, Peter Tinley, to advocate for youth disability issues to be included in the framework of the Youth Strategy

Other key pieces of work that YDAN delivered in the last year include:

- Creating a You Can't Ask That styled Q&A
 video featuring young people with disabilities
- Engaging with service providers in Bridgetown (South West)
- Hosting a youth disability employment panel and forum, featuring the Equal Opportunities Commissioner
- Establishing an online blog platform for young people with disabilities
- Growing its Facebook page to over 1,300 likes

Youth Pride Network

Fast Facts



30+

meetings with organisations and decision makers (including State MPs, UNICEF, Living Proud, Out in Perth and the WA AIDS Council).

.

2018 saw the establishment of the Youth Pride Network (YPN); Western Australia's first representative advocacy body for LGBTQIA+ young people. YPN was established to provide a space for young people of diverse sexuality and/or gender to advocate for their rights, wellbeing and interests to decision makers.

YPN spent a great portion of its time in 2017/18 planning events and advocacy work for the second half of the year. This included:

- Work on a submission to the Law Reform
 Commission's Review into Western Australian
 Legislation Regarding Sex and Gender
- 'Queer & A' online workshops in partnership with the YEP Project
- An all-ages LGBQIA+ gig night





Hong Kong International Youth Exchange

The International Youth Exchange Program provides young people in Western Australia aged 18 to 25 with the opportunity to create strong international connections and build awareness of global issues faced by young people. In 2017, 12 young people from diverse backgrounds were chosen to represent Western Australia as a delegation to Hong Kong supported by the Department of Communities and the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia. The young people and their team leaders from the Department of Communities visited Hong Kong in February, where they had the opportunity to experience a different culture and develop new international relationships.

This program, now in its second year has enabled WA delegates not only to learn more about what other young people in different parts of the world





care about, but also about what young people in their own state find important and what WA has to offer to further support their interest.

Following the exchange, delegates presented to the Minister for Youth, the Hon. Peter Tinley at the Parliament House. The Minister had an open dialogue with the delegates to learn more about their experiences and the things they learned about themselves as a result of their trip to Hong Kong.





Policy and Advocacy





Policy and Advocacy

Policy and advocacy are the foundations of what YACWA does, and how we improve the lives of young people and the youth sector. YACWA's policy and advocacy positions are founded on the views, experiences and opinions of young people, and we strive to elevate the voices of young people directly to decision-makers wherever possible.

In the 2017/18, our policy and advocacy work stepped up massively with the addition of a Policy and Advocacy Officer (0.6FTE) to the team. Our policy and advocacy work this year has involved:

- Government responses;
- Targeted lobbying and influence;
- Member and youth consultation;
- Member representation in key networks, committees and meetings;
- Regional representation;
- National influence; and
- Awareness raising campaigns

As a small organisation, YACWA punches well above its weight as it influences decision-makers and policy outcomes. Below are some of the ways YACWA achieved real change for young people during this financial year.

Responding to Government

YACWA Submissions

- Submission in response to the Better Choices: Youth in WA Discussion Paper (WA Youth Strategy)
- Submission to the Select Committee on the Future of Work and Workers
- Submission to the draft WA Youth Health Policy 2018-2023
- Submission to the WA Aboriginal Youth Health Strategy Consultation
- Submission to the Mental Health Commission Mental Health Promotion, Mental Illness, Alcohol and Other Drug Harm Prevention Plan.

YEP Submissions

• Submission regarding the next WA State Strategies for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and Aboriginal Sexually Transmitted Infections and Blood-borne Viruses

YPN Submissions

 Submission to the Law Reform Commission's Review into Western Australian Legislation Regarding Sex and Gender

State Budget Analysis 2018/19

In response to the 2018/19 State Government budget announcement, YACWA launched its State Budget Analysis in June 2018. This document built heavily on our previous Pre-Budget Submission and examined the impacts of the State's financial decisions upon young people and the youth sector, as well as provided recommendations moving forward to create the best possible outcomes for young people in Western Australia.

The submission provided a series of recommendations to Government for the 2018/19 budget that built on members' feedback through areas identified in responses to our Members Survey, various consultations, and previous areas of YACWA's work.

Development of the State-wide Youth Strategy YACWA has played a key role examining and guiding the development of the upcoming WA Youth Strategy. As part of this, YACWA hosted two State of the Youth Sector Forums to provide the WA Youth Sector opportunities to engage directly with the strategy's development. In December 2017. YACWA also hosted a State-wide Youth Summit allowing almost 100 young people from across the State to provide their direct input into the upcoming Strategy. As part of its advocacy role. YDAN members also met with the Minister for Youth. Peter Tinley, to advocate for the need to include youth disability issues in the framework of the Youth Strategy. At the conclusion of this financial year, the WA Youth Strategy was still being drafted. YACWA will continue to work to ensure the WA government develops the highest possible quality strategy for young people.

Member Representation

In 2017/18 we aimed to increase our representation across multiple key issues, such as funding reform, housing and homelessness, child protection, youth justice, health and mental health, interagency collaboration, trauma-informed practice, LGBTIQ+ rights, multicultural issues and co-design. Below are some examples of committees and key stakeholders that YACWA regularly engaged throughout the year.

Committee Representation

- Adoption Act Review Reference Group
- Collaboration Working Group YACWA cochaired
- Communications Working Group
- Data Linkage and Sharing Working Group
- Department of Justice Youth Justice Reference Group
- Homelessness Week Reference Group
- Housing Authority Round Table (HART)
- Looking Forward, Moving Forward
- Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network
 Australia Executive Group
- Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network of WA
 Advisory Group
- Suicide Prevention Coordinators Reference
 Group
- Supporting Communities Forum
- UNICEF Child Rights Taskforce
- WA Council on Homelessness Ministerial Advisory Group
- WA Homelessness 10 Year Strategy Working Group
- WA Peaks Forum



- WACOSS Children's Policy Advisory Council
- YDAN membership on the NDIS Transition Advisory Group to the Minister
- Youth Mental Health Services Integration
 Project Advisory Group
- Youth Partnership Project Executive Committee
- Youth Work WA Committee

Parliamentary Hearings

- YACWA provided evidence to the Community Development and Justice Standing Committee's Parliamentary hearing on the Inquiry into the Administration and Management of the 2017 State General Election
- YACWA provided evidence to the Parliamentary hearing on the Inquiry into the Future of Work and Workers
- YACWA provided evidence to the Joint
 Standing Committee on Migration's Review
 into Migrant Settlement Outcomes

Regular Meetings with Key Decision Makers

- Quarterly meetings with the Minister for Youth
- Quarterly meetings with the Commissioner for Children and Young People
- Quarterly meetings with the Assistant Director General, Services (metro and regional), Department of Communities
- Quarterly meetings with the Executive Director, Office of Multicultural Interests

- Regular meetings with the Minister for Child Protection, Women's Interest, Family and Domestic Violence and Community Services
- Regular meetings with the Department of Communities across multiple function areas
- Regular meetings with a variety of Members of Parliament on a range of issues

Consultations

State-wide Youth Sector Summit on the State-wide Youth Strategy - 70 attendees

YACWA hosted this forum in partnership with the Department of Communities to provide youth sector an opportunity to develop a more strategic and collaborative approach to youth services in Western Australia. With over 70 attendees, this event provided targeted feedback on the upcoming WA Youth Strategy.

Youth Summit - 90+ attendees

In partnership with the Department of Communities, YACWA brought together almost 100 young people from across Western Australia to attend a summit hearing their views and experiences, and their ideas for a better future Western Australia. Organised and facilitated by young people themselves, the summit showcased the expertise young people have in their own affairs and their passion for Western Australia.

Consultation for the Parliamentary Inquiry into Lowering the Voting Age - 40 attendees

Building from the previous State of the Youth Sector Forum, this event brought together 40 key youth services executives to review the Better Choices: Youth in WA Discussion Paper informing the WA Youth Strategy.

Consultation for the Parliamentary Inquiry into the future of Work and Workers - 15 attendees

YACWA held a small roundtable of approximately 15 young people in Geraldton in partnership with Ngala Mid-West. This event heard from young people what life was like in Geraldton, their experiences of youth services in the region, and their hopes and aspirations for a future Geraldton.

MYAN WA Consultations

- Consultations with MYAN Australia on youth employment for refugee and migrant young people
- Part of a National ARC linkage project hosted consultations with over 200 refugee and migrant young people living in WA with the University of Melbourne.

Surveys

- Data Use in the Youth Sector (25 responses)
- Work and Technology: How Well Do You Feel Prepared for the Future? – Employment Survey (89 responses)
- Youth Consultants Scoping Project Survey (61 responses)
- Voting Habits in the 2017 WA State Election Survey (49 responses)
- Voting... What Does It Mean to You? Voting Habits Survey (345 responses)
- End Youth Homelessness Creating an Action Plan (22 responses)
- The YEP CALD Young People and the Media Survey (15 responses)
- The YEP Experience Survey 2017 (25 responses)
- 2017 YEP Youth Survey (57 responses)
- The YEP Biennial Youth Sector Survey (168 responses)
- Member Survey YACWA Strategy Plan 2017-2020 (55 responses)
- YEP Youth Survey 2017 (57 responses)

Awareness Campaigns

In 2017/18 YACWA carried out and supported a number of state and national campaigns that aimed to raise awareness on issues affecting young people, as well as promote youth engagement.

These included:

- Home Stretch Campaign to raise the leaving care age option of 21 for young people leaving state care
- Awareness raising on the impacts of Department of Education Aboriginal Education Reforms
- Awareness raising on the impacts of the national My Health Record roll-out and optout deadline.
- Youth Homelessness Matters Day campaign
- Anti-poverty week campaign

Regional Representation

As the largest state in the nation, Western Australia faces unique challenges in supporting regional and remote communities and young people. YACWA aims to ensure our policy responses and state-wide engagement consider the views, issues and opinions of regional young people and organisations at all times; including in our grant applications, project submissions and sector events.

Nearly all our main events during the year had funds allocated for regional travel bursaries to ensure these events were accessible to regional members and stakeholders, or facilitated other ways of remote participation.

During 2017/18, YACWA's policy work included direct face-to-face engagement in the following regions:

- Mid-West (16 organisations)
- South West (13 organisations)
- Great Southern (23 organisations)

Face-to-face engagement isn't always possible, especially given funding limitations. As a result, YACWA often relies heavily on online dialogue in our engagement with the regions. Engagement was maintained and strengthened through our social media presence, newsletters, and correspondence about outreach strategies employed by our projects and policy teams.

National Influence

While being state-focused, YACWA maintains a keen lens on national policy developments and activities, and we have continued to exert national influence. Following the federal defunding of the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC), YACWA has provided policy and administrative support to continue its work and influence.

There are many national developments we have provided input on, including the continuation of Safe Schools, advocating for a Federal Minister for Youth, the impacts of the My Health Record, Youth Homelessness Matters Day, as well as Parliamentary Inquiries described above. Examples of our national advocacy and influence include submissions to the Inquiry into Lowering the Voting Age, the Inquiry into the Future of Work and Workers, and advocacy to extend the National Partnership Agreement on Housing and Homelessness.

YACWA also maintained its national presence by sitting on the following boards and committees:

- The Australian Youth Affairs Coalition Board
- MYAN Australia Executive Group
- National Youth Coalition on Housing
- Homelessness Australia
- National Multicultural Youth Census Advisory
 Group

Our focus on national policy activities will continue into 2018/19 as we continue to partner with federal peak bodies, organisations, and campaigns to ensure that federal decision makers are responsive to Western Australian young people's needs.

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Sector Support and Development



Sector Support and Development

One of the key roles at YACWA is our mandate to develop and support a strong youth sector. Having a strong youth sector ensures that the organisations that support young people are competent and confident in delivering evidencebased, effective services for young people.

During the 2017/18 financial year, YACWA held a number of sector development events not only to facilitate this strength but also to:

- provide an opportunity for networking across the Western Australian youth sector;
- to hear from leading experts working in relevant fields;
- to improve collaboration and information sharing; and
- to improve the evidence base for our advocacy.

These principles underpin all our sector-focused core functions.

Sector Training and Capacity Building

Transformative Evaluation in Youth Work Training

Throughout the first half of 2018 YACWA worked with Edith Cowan University to provide a selection of metro and regional youth services organisations and stakeholders with ongoing Transformative Evaluation in Youth Work training. Transformative Evaluation in Youth Work is based on the Most Significant Change (MSC) technique which is an ongoing practice involving the generation of young peoples' significant change stories and collective analysis based on those stories. The purpose of these workshops was to assist in improving practice knowledge, and to support sustainable development of evaluation practice within the sector.

The Youth Educating Peers (YEP) Project

Fast F	acts
13	youth sector workshops
271	youth workers reached
2	new workshops launched

videos produced

In the 2017/18 financial year, the YEP Project is proud to have delivered 13 youth sector workshops to 271 youth and community sector workers across the Perth metropolitan area and in the regional areas of Mandurah, Katanning, Bridgetown and Busselton.

Three of these workshops were delivered in partnership with key experts and YACWA sincerely thanks Legal Aid WA, the Youth Disability Advocacy Network (YDAN), WA Aids Council (WAAC) and M Clinic for all of their support and hard work in delivering the following events:

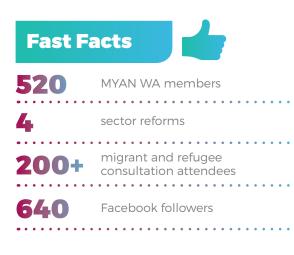
- R U Legal? Legal Aid WA
- You're doing it wrong: Sex, Education & Disability - Youth Disability Advocacy **Network - YDAN**
- Breaking Down the Alphabet: A Closer Look at GBM (Gay & Bisexual Men) workshop - the Western Australia AIDS Council (WAAC) and M Clinic

The YEP Project is also extremely proud to have launched two new sector workshops this year. In November 2017. YEP Crew members Kai. Julia and Susan developed and launched the first module of our Trans & Gender Diverse Sexual Health 101 workshop called the Gender Identity Toolkit. In April 2018, YEP Crew Peer Educators Matt and Jordina successfully launched Check Yo Self: Attitudes & Values workshop, which provides youth sector workers the opportunity to reflect on their own attitudes and values around Sexual Health and Blood Born Viruses (SHBBV) issues and how they impact on their work with young people.

YEP also have a range of online training videos that youth sector workers are able to access at any time, which have been developed and produced by the YEP Crew. These training videos allow youth sector workers who are unable to attend YEP trainings to view them on their own time and in bite-sized modules. Currently, these online training videos include:

- Creating Safe Spaces: the YEP Youth Sector **Guidelines v2.0**
- Engaging Young People in Youth SHBBV Issues

Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network of Western Australia (MYAN WA)



YACWA continued to auspice the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network of Western Australia (MYAN WA) during 2017/18. During this period, MYAN WA focused on four key strategic areas: youth participation, sector capacity building, policy and advocacy and network sustainability, (see sections Youth Leadership and Policy sections for related achievements).In 2018/18 the following sector and sustainability achievements of MYAN WA included:

Sector capacity building

- Delivering four sector forums with attendance of over 200 sector members and young people
- Hosting two working groups on topical issues
- Developing and distributing 12 e-newsletters to the network
- Growing MYAN WAs social media page to an audience of 640

Sustainability

- Building MYAN WA's membership base to over 520 individuals
- Finalising MYAN WA strategic plan
- Securing three grants for MYAN WA projects

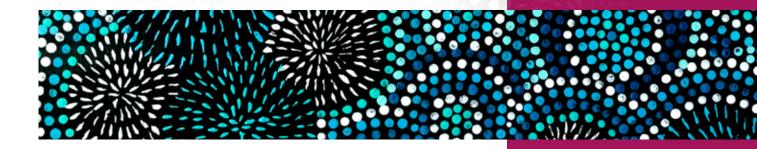
MYAN WA would like to thank Youth Futures, Office of Multicultural Interests (OMI) and Sage who have provided funding for the network this financial year. Thank you also to the members of MYAN WA Executive group for bringing their considerable skills, knowledge and commitment to the network.

Leveraging Reforms Project

YACWA received funding from the Department of Finance under this project to deliver targeted support to four Regional Managers Forums (RMFs) and associated communities to improve relationships, better integrated localised services for young people, and provide dedicated training in co-design.

We worked with communities in the North Metropolitan (Mirrabooka), Mid-West (Geraldton), South West (Bunbury) and the Great Southern (Albany) to develop relationships and provide training responsive to individual community needs. Albany and Bunbury also received expanded Assets-Based Community Development Training to capitalise on emerging collective impact approaches in the regions.

YACWA also engaged regions to determine their state of readiness and appetite for data dashboard activities, which can provide valuable insights to inform services.



YACWA ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18

Sector Events

Part of YACWA's core role is to bring people together, to learn from one another, to build skills, and to create new ideas. We do this through a variety of sector and youth led events throughout the year, based on the needs and feedback from our members.

Every Body, Every Mind Youth Summit

In October 2017, YACWA's YEP Project ran the first-ever YEP youth sector summit on the topic of youth sexual health. Titled Every Body, Every Mind, the summit brought together 145 people from the youth and SHBBV sectors and showcased:

- Workshops from various youth and SHBBV projects and programs across WA;
- Think Tank sessions exploring different wicked SHBBV issues;
- A youth panel with young people sharing their lived experiences; and
- Youth slam poetry performances

The Summit was a great success, with the majority of the attendees stating that the event provided them with the opportunity to better understand the current issues facing the youth community in WA today.

Alternatives to Suicide Youth Forum

In March 2018, YACWA, in conjunction with MercyCare, ran the Alternatives to Suicide Youth Forum with speakers from the Western Massachusetts Recovery Learning Community (WMRLC) for a series of learning workshops on Alternatives to Suicide (AtS). This type of suicide prevention is entirely peer-led and delivered through facilitated support groups in the community (non-clinical settings).This full-day forum was designed to educate the sector, and create a space for young people to come together to talk about mental health. The forum attracted more than 200 attendees and two AtS groups were formed as a result.

Trauma-Informed Practice Symposium

In May 2018, YACWA- in conjunction with Department of Communities, Circle Seminars, Swan Alliance, Ngala, and Sanctum Specialist Services- worked to produce the Trauma-Informed Practice Symposium for managing trauma based behaviours in children and young people.

Recognising an urgent need for the sector to respond to the physical, psychological and emotional needs of children and young people who have experienced trauma, a one-day event was created. The purpose of this event was to inform attendees on trauma-informed approaches to service delivery in an effort to better support healing, and empower young people. The Symposium brought together more than 200 sector leaders, policy makers and inspirational international, national and local experts to explore a systemic response that supports children who have experienced trauma.

Youth Homelessness Matters Day 2018

As part of the 2018 Youth Homelessness Matters Day (YHMD), YACWA developed and delivered a forum to align, sense and inspire the sector. This forum was driven by the desire to get the right services in the right place, at the right time, to discuss important strategies towards the future of ending youth homelessness. The main outcome from this forum was the establishment of the ongoing working group to End Youth Homelessness in WA. This forum was made possible by the generosity of Bankwest.



Sector Networks

The Agency Network for Youth (ANY) Through 2017/18 YACWA has continued the facilitation of the Agency Network for Youth (ANY). These meetings have provided opportunities for sector to network and exchange learnings around relevant issues, challenges and innovative ideas within the sector.

Alongside this, YACWA also maintained regular attendance and contributions at other key sector forums and networks such as:

- The North East Youth Organisations Network
 (NEYON)
- South East Corridor Youth Partnership Project
 (SECYPP)
- Northern Corridor Network Group (NCNG)
- Fremantle, Cockburn, Melville Youth Interagency
- Armadale Youth Network (AYN)
- Housing Authority Roundtable Meeting
 (HART)
- SiREN Network
- Joondalup and Wanneroo Services (JAWS)
- WA Sexual Health and Blood Borne Virus (SHBBV) Quarterly Forum
- State Election Working Group
- Youth Mental Health Sub Network
- Kwinana Rockingham Service Network
- Youth At Risk Network

YACWA Professional Services

YACWA Consulting is our fee for service arm of the organisation. The funds that are generated from our fee for service work enables YACWA to better support young people and our members. In 2017/18 YACWA commenced or completed the following pieces of fee for service work:

- Centrecare young people in care consultation
- City of Cockburn Youth Services Strategy development
- City of Canning Youth forum
- City of Gosnells GOZYAC forum and Youth
 Strategy development
- City of Stirling Stirling Youth Advocates
 (SYA) program
- WA Police Preventing Violent Extremism
 forum
- Passages Resource Centre Service
 Framework development
- Shire of Ashburton Youth Engagement Strategy development
- Department of Communities State of the Youth Sector forum and Youth Strategy youth consultation





Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to present the audited financial statements for the Youth Affairs Council WA (YACWA), for the period ended 30 June 2018. This report should be read together with the 2018 Financial Report. The accounts audited by Hewitt Turner and Gelevitis, are included in the Annual Report.

Despite experiencing challenging years, I am delighted to report that YACWA continues to improve their surplus, ending the 2018 financial year with a profit of \$14k, an increase from \$11k profit in the prior year. This could not have been achieved without the dedication, strong work ethic, and commitment from the executive and management team, to which they should be highly commended.

Our income for the year was \$1.13MM, with its main source stemming from grant funding \$0.96MM, as well as other income generated through conferences \$162k. Grants and service funding was primarily received through Department of Communities, Lotterywest, Department of Health, and Department of Finance.

Our expenditure for the year was \$1.12MM, with the majority of this expenditure relating to staff costs at \$595k, and events and activities at \$294k. Other significant costs include travel expenses at \$85k, and administration at \$71k.

Our members' funds had also increased to \$53k, compared to \$39k in the prior year. Full details of these accounts can be found in the annual report. The proposed budget for the 2019 financial year has been approved by the Board, with new revenue streams being explored, enabling YACWA to meet its goals in the coming years. Additionally, our CEO, Ross Wortham, continues to build, maintain and nurture relationships to allow for greater longevity and security of incoming funds – continued and new.

A special thank you to the Board for their support, and to Ross, and Finance Officer, Gaurav Singh for their outstanding work in not only managing our finances, but also for their incredible dedication to YACWA. I would also like to extend my thanks to our Chairperson, Penny Webb, and the Finance Sub-Committee, for their support and governance to ensure YACWA continues to grow from strength to strength.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to members of the Youth Affairs Council WA, particularly as we celebrate our 40th birthday – an incredible milestone, through the support of our members, has allowed us to engender and enhance positive community attitude towards young people; to respect, embrace equity, integrity, and celebrate diversity.



Katie Liew Treasurer 12 November 2018

Financial Reports

YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

1	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
INCOME			
Grant and Service Income		963,314	1,163,659
Interest		3,983	5,100
Conference and other income		161,694	195,763
Membership Income	2	2,318	6,000
		1,131,309	1,370,522
EXPENDITURE			
Employee Benefits		594,547	577,146
Events & Activities		293,769	479,678
Occupancy		45,070	47,989
Depreciation		14,994	18,062
Vehicle and Travel Expenses		84,968	100,859
Finance and Insurance Costs		13,567	16,179
Administration and Other Costs	-	70,789	119,652
	-	1,117,704	1,359,565
Profit/ (Loss) before income tax		13,605	10,956
Income Tax Expense		-	
PROFIT/(LOSS) AFTER INCOME TAX	20	13,605	10,956
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items that will not be reclassified to profit and loss			
Items that may be reclassified to profit and loss			
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/ (LOSS) FO	DR -		
THE YEAR		13,605	10,956

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	480,179	309,048
Trade and other receivables	5	83,400	34,147
Prepayments	6	22,214	17,999
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		585,793	361,194
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	7	23,741	38,735
Rental Bond		10,010	10,010
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		33,751	48,745
TOTAL ASSETS		619,544	409,939
LIABILITIES CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables		93,199	60,147
Provisions for Employee Entitlements	9	32,990	20,413
Project Funds Received in Advance	8	432,737	290,266
Membership Paid in Advance	2	7 900	-
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	-	566,826	370,826
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provision for Employee Entitlements			
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
TOTAL LIABILITIES		566,826	370,826
NET ASSETS	-	52,718	39,113
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained earnings		52,718	39 113
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS	-	52,718	39,113





AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

I, declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2018 there has been:

- No contraventions of the auditor's independence requirements set out in the APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.
- ii. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

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PO Box 199 Victoria Park Western Australia 6979

HTG PARTNERS TIMOTHY TURNER

Dated in Perth this 9th day of November 2018.



INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Youth Affairs Council of WA Inc, which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2018, the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Changes in Equity and the Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report presents a true and fair view, in all material respects the financial position of the Youth Affairs Council of WA Inc as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act (Western Australia) 2015 and the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013, incorporating Subdivision 60-D-Requirements for annual financial reports.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Act (Western Australia) 2015* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* and to meet the needs of the members. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* ("the Code") that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



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PARTNERS

Timothy Turner BBus (Acc), FCPA, CTA Registered Company Auditor

Vick Gelevitis BBus (Acc), FCPA, CTA

Darryl Rodrigues BSc, BBus (Acc), CPA





INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the Youth Affairs Council of WA Inc, are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the members and their reporting requirements under the *Associations Incorporation Act (Western Australia) 2015* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as they determine necessary to enable the preparation and true and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <u>http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx</u>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

HTG PARTNERS TURNER

ARTNER

Dated this 9th day of November 2018

