



About Youth Council FACT SHEET

What is Youth Council?

Youth Council is a group of up to 12 young people aged between 14 – 18 years which meets regularly to discuss youth issues, help organise youth & community events and take part in leadership forums and self development activities. Youth Council is a 12 month commitment.

Youth Council is open to any young person who is interested in making a difference in their community.

Youth Council is an advisory committee of Council. The Youth Council has obligations to Council such as producing an annual report, formal meeting agendas and detailed reports and minutes that will be kept in Council records.

When and where do Youth Councillors meet?

Youth Council meets formally each month and meetings are usually held in the Council Chambers at the Wangaratta Government Centre.

During these meetings Youth Council discuss issues and make recommendations to Council in relation to youth issues or activities.

The Youth Council also holds an informal meeting the week before the formal meeting to keep in regular contact and keep projects on target in preparation for the formal meetings.

Meetings are generally held after school from 4:00pm – 5:30pm.

Youth Councillors may also be required to attend activities and events during school hours from time to time.

What do Youth Councillors do?

As a Youth Councillor you will:

- talk with other young people to learn what are the important issues to them;
- provide advice to Council to make sure that young people's concerns are heard;
- work towards making Wangaratta a more liveable place for young people by providing young people with safe social activities and supporting community groups;
- provide young people with information;
- represent young people at Youth Council and at other public forums and functions; and
- work with other wider community groups to make your community a better place to be.

Youth Council is also involved in a variety of activities such as:

- Ceremonies
- Awards
- Celebrations for young people

You will have the opportunity to develop new personal and leadership skills such as:

- running meetings;
- coordinating events;
- public speaking;
- preparing media releases, radio announcements, flyers, newsletters, event posters;
- identifying and planning for the needs of the local young people;
- liaising between school and Youth Council; and
- promoting Youth Council and Creative Youth activities

You will also learn more about local government. You will have the opportunity to take part in leadership programs and camps specifically designed for young people.

Youth Councillors are encouraged to take part in a variety of groups which generally meet after hours. Such as:

- Creative Youth Committee (organising drug, alcohol and smoke free events for young people)
- Community Pride Committee (environmental & community pride initiatives)
- Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee
- Wangaratta Youth Providers Network

How can I get involved or find out more?

For a nomination form (or just to find out more) please contact
Tom Arnold - Youth Development Officer
Rural City of Wangaratta
On (03) 5722 0819 / 0438 362 984
Or email: t.arnold@wangeratta.vic.gov.au

Nominations for 2017-18 Youth Council close 21st April 2017.