

# Premier's Youth Council

## Activity Plan



April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2020

## Message from Council Co-chairs

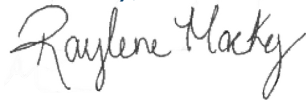
As co-chairs of the Premier's Youth Council, and in accordance with the requirements of the Transparency and Accountability Act, we hereby submit our Council's Activity Plan for the period April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2020.

This Activity Plan provides an overview of the work our Council will undertake during the next two years to fulfil our mandate of providing advice to the Premier and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador on select topics of importance.

In September 2017, we and 23 other youth were appointed to the newly created Premier's Youth Council. Our membership comes from throughout the province, reflecting Newfoundland and Labrador in all its regional, cultural and demographic diversity. This diversity of experience and perspective has greatly enriched our discussions and deliberations as we pursue our mandate as an advice-giving body.

The members of the Premier's Youth Council are responsible for the preparation of this Activity Plan and are accountable for the achievement of its objective. In developing this Plan, the Premier's Youth Council considered the strategic directions of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Together, we look forward to working with the Public Engagement Division of the Communications and Public Engagement Branch, and other departments and agencies, to bring forth perspectives and viewpoints of young people for the Provincial Government's consideration.

Sincerely,



Raylene Mackey, Co-chair



Mark Murdoch, Co-chair

On behalf of the members of the Premier's Youth Council

## Introduction and Overview

In 2017, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador created the Premier's Youth Council to ensure a mechanism for receiving feedback and input from young Newfoundlanders and Labradorians between the ages of 16 and 24 on select topics of interest.

On September 7 of the same year, the Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Honourable Dwight Ball, announced the appointment of the following individuals further to a merit-based appointment process led by the Public Service Commission:

- Erin Ball, Botwood
- Shaelynn Barry, Corner Brook
- McAuley Bellows, Irishtown-Summerside
- Brooke Blanchard, King's Point
- Lauren Carter, Harbour Breton
- Kaylie Chaulk, Musgrave Harbour
- Kyle Cook, St. George's
- Riley Farrell, Marystown
- Kaleigh Hicks, Gander
- Courtney Jones, Torbay
- Frances Leonard, Happy Valley-Goose Bay
- Raylene Mackey, St. John's (co-chair)
- Haley Moriarity, Conception Bay South
- Mark Murdoch, Deer Lake (co-chair)
- Adam Murphy, St. John's
- Bennett Newhook, St. John's
- Samantha Noseworthy, Happy Valley-Goose Bay
- Kyle (Ky) Pearce, Cape Ray
- Patrick Pearson, Dunville
- Laura Peckford, Lewisporte
- Olivia Perry, York Harbour
- Daniel Stark, Deer Lake
- Radhika Verma, Stephenville
- William White, Grand Falls-Windsor
- Sarah Winsor, St. John's

As of the tabling of this Activity Plan, all the individuals listed above remain active and engaged members of the Premier's Youth Council. The Premier's Youth Council has met on several occasions, including an in-person meeting in September 2017, to discuss important issues such as the legalization of cannabis, Atlantic regional cooperation, immigration and integrated health services.

Members of the Premier's Youth Council receive no remuneration for their service. To fulfill its mandate, the Council relies on administrative, strategic and financial support from the Public Engagement Division of the Communications and Public Engagement Branch of Executive Council, as part of that entity's mandate to support Government's engagement activities, including those carried out with the province's community and youth sectors.

## Mandate

The mandate of the Premier's Youth Council is to provide advice to the Premier and the Provincial Government, bringing a youth perspective to select topics important to youth and Government.

## Vision

The Premier's Youth Council has a vision of a dynamic, forward-looking, inclusive and innovative Newfoundland and Labrador where there is an abundance of opportunities for young people to contribute to the social and economic life of their communities, as well as to the prosperity and resilience of the province.

## Values

**Inclusiveness** – Appreciating all viewpoints and recognizing that diversity is a resource that will help the province overcome the challenges and seize the opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Respect** – Allowing others to express their views openly and honestly without fear of conflict or alienation and discussing differences of opinion while maintaining the dignity of all.

**Collaboration** – Understanding that complex issues are best addressed by multiple persons or groups acting together, and that partnership and cooperation are strengths that lead to better outcomes.

**Innovation** – Being open to, and actively seeking, novel ideas and creative approaches to problem solving.

## Annual Objective

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has made a commitment to openness, transparency and accountability, as well as to evidence-based decision making. Government's ongoing engagement with the public, stakeholders, business and industry groups, and communities across multiple sectors, including youth, is a manifestation of this commitment.

Members of the Premier's Youth Council take their advice-giving role very seriously and their work is an important part of the Provincial Government's ongoing conversation with young Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. Young people are vital stakeholders in matters of provincial policy and their involvement in local, community and provincial life is essential to any vision of growth and prosperity for Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Premier's Youth Council maintains a close working relationship with the Public Engagement Division to ensure a youth perspective is available to departments according to the strategic directions set by the Premier and the Provincial Government. This Activity Plan and its annual objective align with The Way Forward, as Government's vision for sustainability and growth in Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Activity: Provide advice to the Premier and the Provincial Government on select issues of interest.**

With support from the Public Engagement Division, the Premier's Youth Council will respond to requests for advice on issues that are of interest and importance to the Provincial Government.

Over the next two years, the Premier's Youth Council will meet in-person and virtually, as required, to research, discuss and formulate advice on issues that will be identified according to Government's strategic policy and engagement agendas.

**Objective:**

By March 31, 2019 and March 31, 2020, the Premier's Youth Council will have provided advice, in writing or in-person, to the Premier and/or departments and agencies on issues of importance identified by the Provincial Government.

**Indicators 2018-2020:**

- Number and nature of meetings held to discuss and deliberate;
- Research and other preparatory work carried out to facilitate meetings and the formulation of advice; and
- Advice, in-person or in writing, provided to the Provincial Government.

The above objective and indicators apply to both the 2018-19 and 2019-20 fiscal years. The Premier's Youth Council will report on its progress in the respective Annual Reports for those years.

## Contact information

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