



City of Victoria Youth Council

2014-2015 YEAR IN REVIEW

Our year, by the numbers

35 online applications submitted

6 returning members

26 registered CVYC members as of October 2015

1 Coordinator

5 events and projects, free for all participants

Over 500 event participants

\$20,000.00 grant from the City of Victoria



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Vision and Mission

Vision

- The CVYC envisions a vibrant and inclusive city where youth voices are heard and valued.

Mission

- The CVYC leads the community in enhancing youth engagement in the City of Victoria. We are a youth-led council advocating for social change and opportunities to empower youth within the community.



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Governance

- Hosted by BC Healthy Communities Society
- Funded by the City of Victoria and through donations
- Part-time CVYC Youth Facilitator: Sarah Graham
- City Council Liaison: Jeremy Loveday
- City Staff Liaison in the Citizen Engagement Department



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The 2014-2015 Council



A year in review

September

- Recruitment on social media, in schools, with posters and by word of mouth

October

- A day long Retreat including icebreakers, a history of the CVYC, creation of a communication agreement, presentation from BCHC and more.
- Returning members mentored and lead new members

November

- Presentation from Bipolar Babe on Mental Health and from the Victoria Foundation about the results of the Youth Vital Signs



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A year in review

December

- Collective decision to focus on an mentorship, peer to peer learning, employability skills and mental health awareness
- Meeting guests: Kristina Bouris and John Reilly from the Citizen Engagement Department

January

- Launch of the Art Mentorship Program

February

- Mid-year survey
- Facilitation workshop



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A year in review

March

- Media Workshop with Jeremy Loveday
- Mental Health Forum

April

- Generation Collaboration (hosted in City Hall)

May

- Life Hacks (hosted in City Hall)
- Employability Skills Fair (hosted at Work BC)

June

- Year end meeting and celebration



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Core Member Projects

- Youth Q&A with Victoria's Mayoral Candidates
- Art Mentorship Program and Generation Collaboration
- Mental Health Forum
- Employability Skills Fair
- Life Hacks



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Youth Q&A with Victoria's Mayoral
Candidates



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Youth Q&A with Victoria's Mayoral Candidates

- Hosted in collaboration with Youth for Community and Inclusion (YCI) and the Chief's Youth Council
- Over 60 youth were in attendance and invited to ask their own questions
- Candidates Lisa Helps, Stephen Andrew, Dean Fortin and Ida Chong were present
- Took place at Victoria High School on a Pro-D Day



Mental Health Forum

- Facilitated by Youth Council members; attended by mental health practitioners, community members and youth service providers
- Created discussion about the existing services available to young people and how they could be better supported
- The Youth Council hopes to use the information gathered to inform future projects and to build more connections among existing service providers



Art Mentorship Program

- Brought together 7 young artists and 6 established artists for a two month visual arts mentorship
- Created a space for inter-generational work and creativity
- The end of the program was celebrated with a gallery reception, Generation Collaboration

"It was wonderful to meet and work with an artist whose interests were so different from my own. I think we learned a lot from each other." –Art Mentorship Program Mentor



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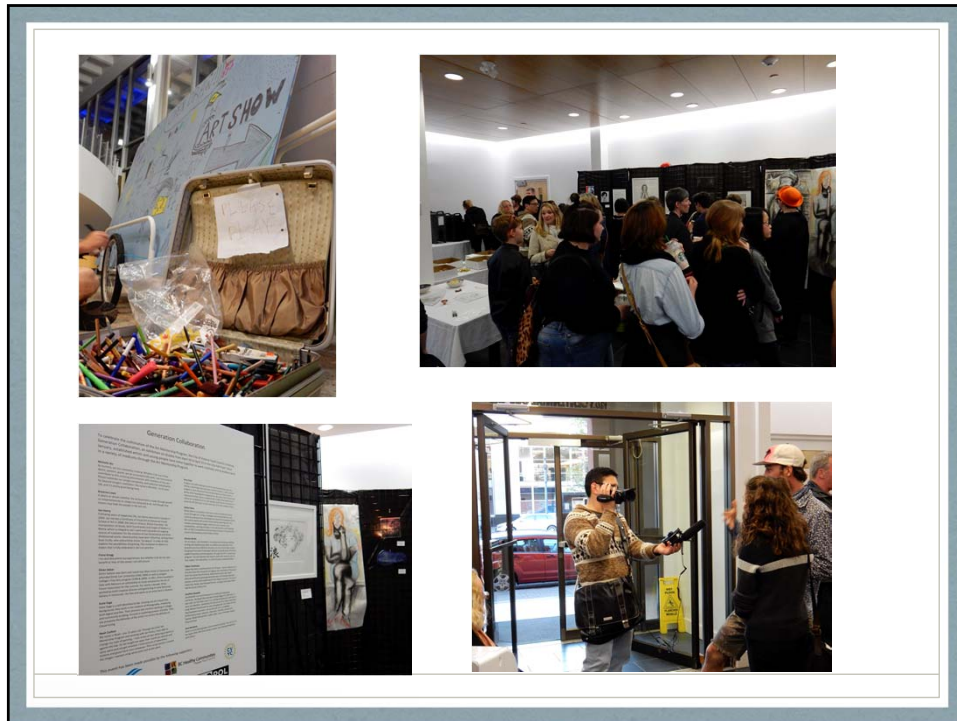
Generation Collaboration



- A pop-up gallery was created in City Hall's foyer
- Showcased work created by youth during the Art Mentorship Program
- The reception was attended by over 150 people
- Sponsors (Starbucks and Silk Road) provided free refreshments



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Employability Skills Fair

- Hosted in collaboration with GT Hiring and Work BC
- Attended by over 90 young people
- Provided participants with the resources and skills needed to apply for entry level jobs in Victoria
- A drop in style event held at an Employment Centre on Douglas (across from the Hotel Rialto)

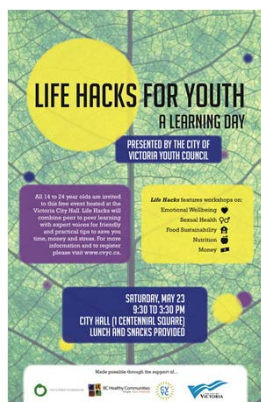


Employability Skills Fair

Included representatives from BC Healthy Communities, GVPL, Habit Coffee, Il Terrazzo, Skilled Trades Employment Program (STEP), Hotel Rialto, Youth Mean Business, Fairmont-Empress, the City of Victoria, Save on Foods, Service Canada, Flavor, Saanich Recreation, Function Fox, PCC Constructors, YMCA, Beacon Community Services and more.



Life Hacks



- A learning day combining peer to peer learning with expert voices for friendly and practical tips to save young people time, money and stress
- The event was inspired by a conversation at Youth Council regarding all the knowledge members wished they learned in school
- Hosted at City Hall and catered by Juma (a food truck) in Centennial Square
- Attended by over 75 young people





Workshops covered topics such as mental health, financial literacy, food security, sexual health and nutrition.

Working with the City

- Bicycle Master Plan focus group
- City Council Meet and Greet in March
- CVYC members interviewed 4 city staff members over the summer
- Worked with Citizen Engagement on the Burnside Gorge Local Area Plan
- Promotion for the Create Community Colour Mural Project
- Selection committee for the Youth Poet Laureate (now administered by the Parks, Rec & Culture department)
- Participated in meetings about the CAP on Discrimination



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Community Involvement

We attended...

- United Way Youth Council Development Day
- Helping Youth Programs Excel Conference
- Community Partnership Network meetings
- CAP on Discrimination meetings
- Saanich Youth Development Strategy consultations
- Sole Power
- Esquimalt Healthy Housing Forum
- Child and Youth Collective Impact Network



Grants

- \$200.00 from the Greater Victoria Police Diversity Advisory Committee
- \$700.00 from Tracy and Jay Cullen through the Victoria Foundation and on behalf of the Horner Foundation



Media

- Fostered a strong social media presence
 - Facebook – 257 likes
 - Twitter - 137 followers
- Radio: guest appearances on CFX 1070 in October and May
- Press: Times Colonist article
- Created four exciting new posters and meaningfully employed young graphic designers



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Generation Collaboration Article



City of Victoria
Youth Council

What if you could change your city?

[Who We Are](#)
[What We Do](#)
[Events](#)
[Support](#)
[Get Involved](#)
[Contact](#)



[Click here for some photos from Life Hacks](#)

Welcome to the City of Victoria Youth Council's website!

The City of Victoria Youth Council (CVYC) is a passionate group of young Victorians who are being the change they want to see in the world. We host projects and events to make Victoria more youth-friendly and to meet the needs of youth in creative ways.

We hope you learn, discover, get inspired and find what you need on these pages. If you don't, feel free to send us an email at info@cvyc.ca.

Apply Now!

Tweets

[@GTHiringBlog](#) 8 May
We're hosting [@CityofVictoriaYouthCouncil](#) Employability Skills for Youth Fair on May 13! See you there!
#yyc #yycjobs #youthpic.twitter.com/VJ05AqNtU Retweeted by CVYC



Tweet to @VicYouthCouncil

Log In To use Facebook's social plugins, you must switch from using Facebook as City of Victoria Youth Council to using Facebook as Victoria Youth Council.



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Non-Profit Organization

Create Call to Action Share

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257 likes 0 this week

5 post reach this week

Try posting a photo
People are more likely to engage with photo posts

Find New Customers
Connect with more of the people who matter to you
[Promote Page](#)

Status [Photo / Video](#) [Offer, Event +](#)

What have you been up to?

City of Victoria Youth Council
Published by Victoria YouthCouncil (?) · June 4 at 2:44pm ·

Looking for a job? Register to attend this job fair!

[GT Hiring Solutions](#) [WorkBC](#)



Successes and Challenges

- Success: Organized the second annual Employability Skills Fair (the first time the CVYC has ever hosted a reoccurring event)
- Success: Carefully examined community needs to determine what would be most beneficial and completed each proposed project
- Challenge: Balancing the schedules of so many amazing and busy young people
- Challenge: Due to the growing success of the program, more coordination support and capacity would be valued



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In their words...

- “The CVYC allowed me to build a connection to my community” (Sara Bhandar)
- “This year the Youth Council taught me how municipal government functions and helped me to connect more with my community” (Alexandra Ages)
- “The CVYC provided me with an opportunity to take a first step towards my goals at an early age” (Berkay Ertugrul)
- “A wonderful experience that allowed to contribute to my community and connect with the political system” (Robert Lee)



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Partnerships and Supporters



habit



JRNER FOUNDATION



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A final thought

Young people in Victoria are keen to share their thoughts and opinions so if you're ever wondering what we think, reach out and someone will answer.



Thank You

To City Council and the City of Victoria for providing us with the funds and the support to make this all possible!

