

0 2/03:
ANNUAL REPORT

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> ROWENA ALLEN | Chairperson

1 : CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

How do you sum up an action packed year in only one page? The YACVic team has achieved an extraordinary amount in the past 12 months. I often call the secretariat "The Mouse that Roared" as many people are still amazed when I tell them all of this is managed on less than five staff full time.

Some of the highlights for me have included another State election and a new Minister, our "*In the Spotlight*" media forum which was a terrific opportunity to showcase ways in which young people can be involved in the media. The Privacy Forums were overwhelmingly popular due to the new legislation introduced this year. The Participation in Practice Project is a fine example of partnership development from its conception as is it a joint initiative between the Office For Youth and YACVic. This project will produce resources to support young people's participation in their communities. All of these projects are born from a strong and purposeful partnership between the Office For Youth, YACVic and strong sector development.

Through the challenging patches YACVic has needed to remember our strength lies in the fact we are member driven and non-party political. While funded by government we are an independent, autonomous organisation. We have the task of working in partnership with government while balancing the role of critiquing when necessary.

We have worked extremely hard at keeping our alliances with all levels and positions of government strong and our governance procedures need to be constantly reviewed and improved on to meet

forever challenging demands placed on our organisation. It is surely inevitable that if we are to have an active advocacy role for young people in Victoria we will not please all people all of the time.

The future is enormously bright and I show my bias when I say I don't think YACVic has ever been in a better position than it is at the end of this year, financially and with its current human capability both employed and in a voluntary role.

What a privilege it is to work with such a highly dedicated team of staff and the volunteers that surround them. May I take this opportunity to thank Janet Jukes for her personal support and overwhelming commitment to the organisation. Her strong leadership has made it possible to hand YACVic over to Georgie Ferrari in such a sound position. Also to my deputy chair and other committed Board of Governance members, Policy Advisory and Youth Reference Group Convenors and members, none of this work could happen without your dedication. As they say, thank you for making me look good.

Rowena Allen
Chairperson 2003



2: EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



> JANET JUKES
Executive Officer
2002-2003

I am very proud to present to you the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria's 2002/03 Annual Report - another action packed year as we work to advocate for better opportunities and services for the young people of Victoria.

I'd like to begin by thanking the fantastic secretariat team who have worked far beyond the call of duty to make it all come together this year. Specifically I'd like to thank Alex Markham who left us in June to travel the world. Alex was essentially responsible for creating the new 'look' for YACVic. Welcome Nik Beuret, who has already proved himself many times over as Alex's worthy successor. I'd also like to thank the amazing Paula Grogan, Sally Goldner and Dalal Samaan. It's the team work of the secretariat that has been key to our successes.

Thanks also to Rowena Allen, the Board of Governance, Policy Advisory Group and Youth Reference Group who have, as usual worked tirelessly to ensure that the organisation is true to itself and heading in the right direction.

This report shows just how hard we have been working this year on issues that range from employment, media representation, homelessness, juvenile justice, drug and alcohol use and human rights. Specifically, were proud of our work in partnership with the Council to Homeless Persons to ensure that the youth sector and young people's voices are considered as the Victorian government considers a way forward to address youth homelessness. We also consider a key success the "In The Spotlight" media forum that provided a forum for young people to discuss directly with members of the media the effects its negative representation has on their lives.

This is my third and final annual report for YACVic. It's my pleasure to introduce to you Georgie Ferrari who, by the time you read this report, will have been Executive Officer for several months. I'm very excited that Georgie has agreed to take on this challenging but also immeasurably rewarding job. Welcome Georgie.

Finally, I'd like to thank you all for your support and inspiration.

I commend this annual report to you.

Janet Jukes

> GEORGIE FERRARI
Executive Officer
2003

I am excited by the challenges that lie ahead of me as Executive Officer of YACVic. I believe the measure of any effective peak body is to advocate for the sector they represent, leading where required and supporting where needed, while maintaining a close but robust relationship with government.

YACVic will continue to be a strong and vocal advocate for both our membership organisations and the young people they work for and with. I am keen to meet with as many members in the coming months, to hear about your triumphs and challenges in the field and to understand how YACVic can continue to offer the leadership and support that is integral to our role.

We will continue to work with government, advising on and developing policy and lobbying for young people and the youth sector. Collaborations and partnerships will continue to be a key aspect of our work, we will look for opportunities to work with members, other peak bodies, statewide organisations, and government to advance youth and sector issues in Victoria.

There is much work ahead of us, but with the solid foundation that has come from all the work done so far, I am sure we will successfully achieve all that we set out to do.

I look forward to reporting YACVic's successes and achievements to you in 12 months time.

Georgie Ferrari
Executive Officer

3: ABOUT YACVIC



> YACVIC
SECRETARIAT
Taking it to
the streets

The Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc. (YACVic) is the peak body and leading policy advocate on young people's issues in Victoria. Our vision is for a Victorian community that values and provides opportunity, participation, justice and equity for all young people.

At YACVic we:

- Listen to the needs of young people, workers with young people and organisations that provide direct services to young people.
- Provide advice to the government and other institutions about these needs.
- Analyse and develop policy through consultation with our members.
- Provide our members with information through our regular printed newsletter YIKES! our email announcement list and our website.

YACVic is governed by a volunteer board and managed by a paid secretariat. We are a not-for-profit, membership driven organisation and our core funding comes from the Victorian Government's Office for Youth.

YACVic has around 300 members. Individuals and organisations are able to join. Our membership base consists of organisations that work with young people such as local council youth services, schools and community organisations, government agencies, academics and young people themselves.

OUR STRUCTURE

As a membership driven organisation YACVic relies heavily on the involvement of our members in the governance and advisory structures of the organisation.

The direct involvement of the membership is an important and valued aspect of the organisation,

which adds weight to the policy positions and public stances that YACVic articulates.

There are a number of formal avenues for members to become involved. They are:

- Board of Governance
- Policy Advisory Group
- Youth Reference Group
- Young Media Spokesperson position

Members may also be involved in our many activities and consultations throughout the year including our Policy Forums and information sessions. They are also encouraged to write articles for Yikes!, our regular newsletter, or to provide information for our weekly email announce list.

BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

The Board of Governance is the ultimate authority for the successful operation of YACVic. The Board is comprised of four officers and three ordinary members. The four officers are the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Treasurer and, the Young Media Spokesperson.

Members of the Board are elected by the YACVic membership at the Annual General meeting (AGM). At the first Board meeting following the AGM the new Board decides on the officers for the coming year - with the exception of the Young Media Spokesperson who is directly elected at the AGM.

The Board operates under a governance framework which means that they are concerned with the overall strategy and direction of the organisation. The management of day-to-day decisions are left up to the Executive Officer who is accountable to the Board in respect to these operational matters.

The Board takes advice from both the Policy Advisory Group as well as the Youth Reference Group, but ultimately decisions regarding the governance of YACVic are made by the Board.

POLICY ADVISORY GROUP

The Policy Advisory Group provides a forum for members who wish to be involved in the ongoing policy development and policy setting processes of the organisation. The PAG provides a structured avenue for members to actively shape the policy setting of the organisation.

It comprises between 6-15 members and, following an open call for nominations each year, is appointed by a selection committee determined by the Board.



YOUTH REFERENCE GROUP

The Youth Reference Group is a practical demonstration of YACVic's commitment to the participation of young people in the structures, processes, debates and environments, which shape their lives.

It exists to provide a forum for young people to develop proposals, campaigns and projects in relation to YACVic's overall policy. This group also provides advice to the Board about YACVic's youth participation and consultation processes.

The Youth Reference Group comprises between 6-15 members and, following an open call for nominations, is appointed by a selection committee determined by the Board.

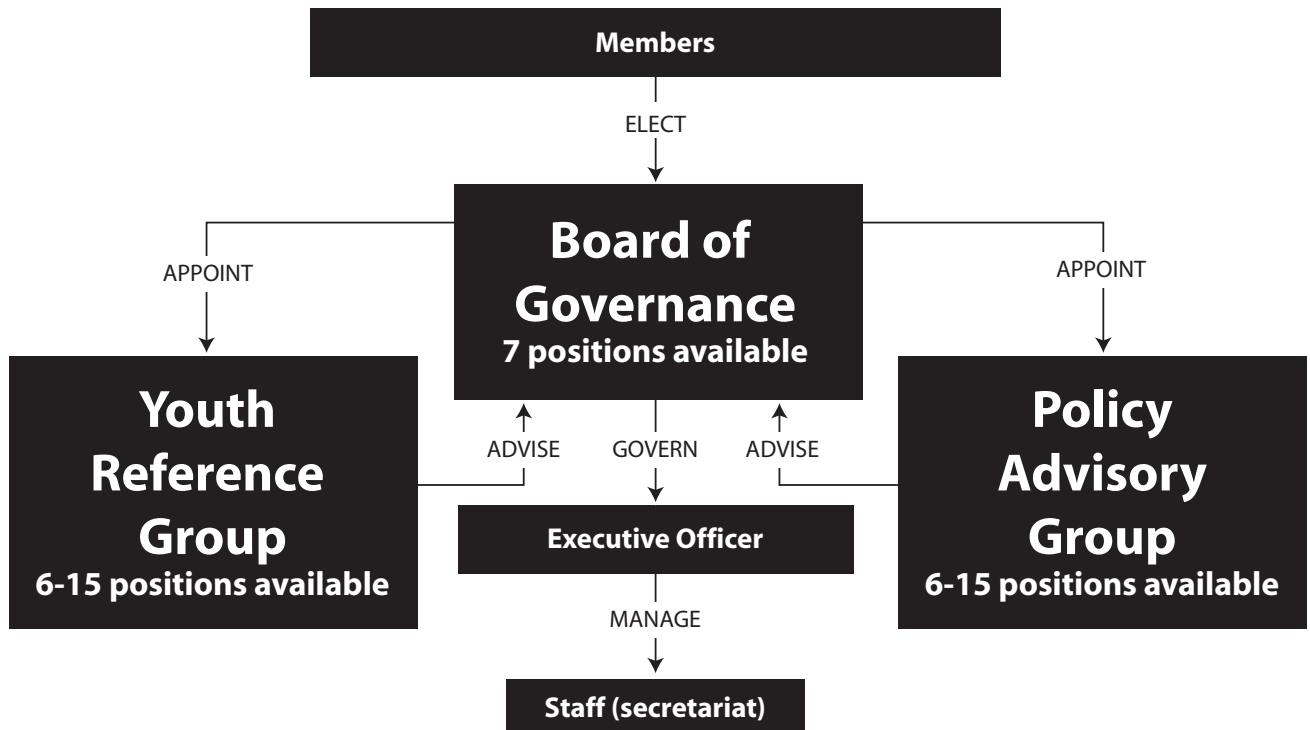
YOUNG MEDIA SPOKESPERSON

One of the official spokespeople of YACVic, the Young Media Spokesperson is directly elected by YACVic members at the AGM.

The Young Media Spokesperson is a member of both the Board and Youth Reference Group.

Note: An exemption to the Equal Opportunity Act (1995) granted by the Equal Opportunity Commission of Victoria has allowed for membership of the Youth Reference Group and position of the Young Media Spokesperson to be restricted to people 12-25 (inclusive) years of age.

YACVIC'S STRUCTURE



4: YACVIC'S POLICY PRINCIPLES

At YACVic we apply the following principles to all of our work...

1. HUMAN RIGHTS

Young women and young men have a right to share resources, to learn, grow and make mistakes in an environment that is safe and healthy, to express and contribute in their society, and to receive the respect of their community. They must be viewed in a context that includes families, friends, and their wider community and cultural heritage, not as an isolated entity requiring distinct and separate attention.

2. PARTICIPATION

If improved services for young people are to be achieved, processes must be established to encourage and allow them to contribute to their communities, and to the political processes that define the structure of their lives and opportunities. Involving young people at planning and individual decision making levels and in setting priorities is essential.

3. FLEXIBILITY

A broad range of services and resources are necessary in order to acknowledge, address and celebrate the diversity and individual variability of young women and young men, the backgrounds they come from and the potential they hold for the future.

4. COLLABORATION

Cooperative working relationships are required between government at all levels, non-government organisations, the private sector, and across disciplinary boundaries to develop effective and equitable use of resources. An integrated approach to planning which crosses sector boundaries is essential to the achievement of goals. YACVic supports focus on outcomes and on recognising and working towards the future of young people in our communities rather than band-aiding or damage control responses.

5. EARLY INTERVENTION

Public policy and service provision should be based on prevention and education for young women and young men, rather than response to escalating crises. Provision of real options and choices are vital to a young persons transition to adulthood. The school system, both through curriculum and student support staff, offers an ideal forum for providing early intervention and prevention strategies.

6. RESOURCING

Level of resources accessible to young people and to the youth serving sectors should be reflective of the number of young people in the community and the level of need presented. Improved access to services and resources, both physically and in terms of the knowledge about available services, is integral.

7. AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Proactive strategies based on affirmative action are required in order to adequately address the issues facing young women and young men as they move into the 21st century, and to redress the inequities faced by those confronted by additional disadvantage.

8. DIVERSITY

All young people irrespective of their age, gender, race, ethnicity, class, sexuality, gender identity or ability should be able to access services and programs. Service Delivery must be developed on the premise that young people are not a homogenous group





> SECRETARIAT 02/03 | Dalal Samaan, Paula Grogan, Janet Jukes, Sally Goldner, Alex Markham, Jen Rose

5: WHO'S WHO AT YACVIC

YACVic would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to members of the YACVic Board of Governance, Youth Reference Group and Policy Advisory Group who have donated their time, energy, ideas and enthusiasm to maintaining YACVic as Victoria's leading policy advocate on young people's issues.

BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Mary Aldred
 Rowena Allen (Chairperson)
 Matthew Bubb (Treasurer)
 Lise Dalla Torre (Young Media Spokesperson)
 Joanne Scott
 Felicity Sloman (Deputy Chairperson)
 Dave Hamra

YOUTH REFERENCE GROUP

Michelle Blanchard (Convenor)
 Jennifer Blyth
 Sarah Brandhoff
 Ashley Creighton
 Patty Etcell
 Michael Feller
 Donna Gross
 Prue Hill
 Claire Hunting
 Erin Johns
 Jade Nolan
 Lise Dalla Torre
 Anna Wood
 Alan Wu
 Minal Ansell
 Stephan Brown
 Paul Van Holsteyn

POLICY ADVISORY GROUP

Dr Julian Bondy
 Anita Doyle
 Steve Francis
 Denise Francisco
 Christine Harrison
 Roger Holdsworth
 Sheree Limbrick
 Craig Marshall
 Peter Newling
 Rosalind Riley
 Ben Rossiter (Convenor)
 Heather Stewart
 Andrew Williamson
 Stephen Wilson
 Liz Davies

SECRETARIAT

Executive Officer
 Janet Jukes (to June 2003)

Policy Officer
 Paula Grogan

Communications Officer
 Alex Markham (to July 2003)

Participation in Practice Project Worker
 Jen Rose

Administration Officer
 Dalal Samaan

Finance Officer
 Sally Goldner

6 YEAR IN BRIEF



> BRINGING IN THE BACON 3 | Philanthropy Forum

EVENTS AND FORUMS RUN BY YACVIC:

- > *In the Spotlight* media forum
- > *Privacy legislation. Does your organisation comply?*
A series of forums about Victorian Privacy Legislation and its impact on Youth Service Providers. In conjunction with the Office for Youth
- > *Bringing in the Bacon 3*, a philanthropy and funding forum
- > Youth Development Round Table
- > Youth Participation Certificate consultation - service provider focus group and young people's focus group
- > Afternoon Tea with the Minister for Youth Affairs
- > Campaign for a Victorian Children & Young People's Commission community based meeting

SUBMISSIONS, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION PAPERS:

- > *Young people and social support*: YACVic's response to the Commonwealth Government's discussion paper Building a simpler system to help jobless families and individuals.
- > *Working with Children Check*: YACVic's response to the Department of Justice information paper
- > *Proposal for Commonwealth Age Discrimination Legislation*: YACVic's response to the information paper
- > *Inquiry into the Incidence of Youth Unemployment in Victoria*: A submission to the Economic Development Committee
- > YACVic's response to Respect: The Government's Vision for Young People

PRESENTATIONS BY YACVIC

- Australian Catholic University - youth work course
- Australian Council For Health, Physical Education and Recreation, Victorian Branch
- Central Gippsland Regional Youth Network
- Forest Hill Branch of the Liberal Party
- Lilydale Youth Service Providers Network
- LLENS Building Pathways to the Future Conference
- Northern Metropolitan Institute of TAFE - youth work course
- Peninsula Child Advocacy Group
- Regional Youth Committees
- Speakout conference - Albury
- Swinburne University - youth work course
- Victoria University Conference
- Victoria University - youth work course
- VCOSS Congress
- Youth futures Summit - Bairnsdale

YACVIC REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS:

- Australian Drug Foundation, DrugInfo Clearing House Reference Group
- Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC) - National Representative Council meeting
- Brotherhood of St Lawrence Preparing for Work Agreements Project Reference Group
- Commonwealth Games Youth Reference Group
- Council for Homeless Persons, YACVic & CWAV - Joint Youth Homelessness Initiative Reference Group
- Criminal Justice Coalition
- Department of Human Services - FAPP Price Index working group
- Department of Human Services - Ministerial Roundtable on Juvenile Justice
- Department of Human Services - Funded Agency Partnership Project
- EOCV/Victoria Police work group
- Gateway Reconnect Reference Group
- SAAP Networkers
- SSAFE Reference group
- VCOSS Peaks forum
- VCOSS Children's Policy Working Group
- Victoria Police Youth External Reference Committee
- YouthLaw Management Committee
- Young Unionists Network
- Youth Round Table Reference Groups

ATTENDANCE AT EVENTS, FORUMS AND CONFERENCES:

- *'All I want is protection'* - CMYI policy paper launch
- ALSORTs Publication launch
- ACOSS Congress - Hobart
- ACU Careers and Job Fair
- ACTU Young Unionist and Community Activist Forum
- Australian Human Rights Register launch



- Australian and New Zealand Adolescent Health Conference
- AusYouth's Youth Development National Futures forum in Sydney
- AYAC AGM and 2 day members meeting
- Civic Entrepreneurship Summit - Canberra
- CMYI Youth refugees forum
- CWAV election forum
- Council for Homeless Persons AGM
- Education Department Secretary's Xmas drinks
- FReeZA launch of funded programs
- HEROC
- Inner Eastern Students and Young People's Network Forum
- LLENS Building Pathways to the Future Conference
- Melbourne University - Masters in Youth Health and Education Management (Youth Policy talk)
- Ministerial Round Table - An age inclusive society
- National Gallery of Victoria Youth Access Project
- Northern Regional Youth Committee Issues Forum
- VicHealth AGM
- Victoria University Nyerna Indigenous Youth Studies students
- VCOSS Pre Budget Orientation
- VCOSS Congress
- VUT Conference
- Volatile Substance Use - legislative changes information session
- Youth+Family World Congress - International
- Association of Youth and Family Judges and Magistrates

MEETINGS AND NETWORKING:

KEY CONSULTATIVE AND ADVOCACY MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT AND POLITICIANS

- Australian National Training Authority
- Attorney-General's Legal Policy Advisor
- Centrelink - National and State Offices
- Craig Ingram
- DE&T (LLEN)
- Department of Human Services - Housing Assistance
- Department of Human Services - budget briefing
- Federal Australian Labor Party
- Federal Minister for Family and Community Services
- Juvenile Justice Ministerial Roundtable
- Minister for Education Services, Education and Training, Employment & Youth Affairs
- National Party Youth Spokesperson
- NSW Children's Commission
- New Zealand Ministry of Youth
- Norwegian Children's Ombudsman
- Office for Youth
- Office for Women's Policy
- Premier's Office

- Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
- Crime Prevention Victoria
- Department of Family and Community Services
- Victoria Police

KEY CONSULTATIVE AND ADVOCACY MEETINGS WITH NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

- Absolutely Women's Health
- Australian and Torres Strait Islander Commission
- Australian Clearing House for Youth Studies
- Australian Youth Affairs Coalition
- Ballarat Youth Services
- Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Bendigo Youth Services
- B-Central
- Boroondara Youth Services
- Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues
- Centre for Adolescent Health
- Council to Homeless Persons
- Connexions
- Fairwear
- Fitzroy Legal Service
- Foundation for Young Australians
- Health Issues Centre
- Jobwatch
- JPET Providers
- Juvenile Justice network
- Lead-On Bendigo
- Melbourne City Mission
- Mission Australia
- Mildura Rotary club
- ORYGEN Youth Health
- Platform Youth Theatre
- PUSH
- Quit Victoria
- Red Cross
- Streetwize
- Sputnik
- St Vincent de Paul
- Vibewire Youth Services
- Victorian Secondary Students group
- VICSRC
- Victorian Council of Social Services
- VAACA
- Western Young Peoples Independent Network
- Werribee Community Legal Service

7: POLICY REPORT



> PAULA GROGAN
Policy Officer

It's always good to take some time to reflect back on the many highs and (very occasional) lows of the past year. As always, it's been a busy one, particularly given the release of *Respect: The Government's Vision for Young People*, the state election and the launch of the Participation in Practice project. Add to that the usual forums, committees, submissions, presentations and campaigns and it has ended up being a challenging and exciting year. Here are some of the highlights.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMISSION

In June 2001 we released *Are You Listening to Us?* which calls for the establishment of a Children and Young People's Commission in Victoria. Over the last couple of years we have received overwhelming support for the model proposed in *Are You Listening to Us?* and so we are now taking the campaign a step further. We recently held a meeting for peak bodies and other leading community agencies to share information about what has happened since the release of *Are You Listening to Us?* and what needs to happen next. We, along with Defence for Children International - Australia, Youth Law, the Law Institute, Victorian Council of Social Services and the Children's Welfare Association of Victoria have established a Children and Young People's Commission Coalition which will provide a strategic means to further the call for a Children's Commission in an open and coordinated way.

JPET

Late October 2002, we were contacted by several members concerned about a shake-up of the Job Placement, Employment and Training (JPET) program. The shake-up hit Victoria with around 50% of current Victorian providers losing funding. Gender specific and multicultural programs were

particularly hard hit. The changes led to a formal complaint being lodged with the Department of Family and Community Services about the funding allocation process and an independent review of the process was undertaken. The review found problems with the probity of the business allocation process and recommended that funding be rolled over until 2004 to enable a new process to be put into place. YACVic, along with other state youth peaks, worked very hard to bring stakeholders together and to raise issues of concern to both the commonwealth and state governments. We welcomed the responsiveness of FaCS who recognised these concerns and who have initiated a new funding process.

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

For the past two years we have been aware of the lack of a specific voice for young homeless people in Victoria. To address this gap we worked with the Council to Homeless Persons and the Children's Welfare Association of Victoria to seek funding for a youth homelessness policy position. We were successful in receiving this funding from the Department of Human Services and were able to appoint a policy officer, Meg Mundell, who is based at CHP. This position will enable the community sector and young people to engage with the development and implementation of the Victorian Youth Homelessness Action Plan and will help to build stronger networks between the community organisations and government departments that deal with youth homelessness. We also hope that this joint initiative will raise greater awareness about youth homelessness in the broader community.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE MEDIA

A lot of our work this year has focussed on the issue of young people and the media. Young people consistently tell us that they see a link between the way they are portrayed in the media with the way they are treated in the community and so we thought it was important to explore the issue further. In addition to our In the Spotlight forum (see below) we have undertaken some research to understand the issues. Prue Hill, a member of our Youth Reference Group looked at the media's representation of young people as part of her student placement at YACVic. Her work considered the theory that the media portrayal of young people is unbalanced largely because young people are not given the opportunity to contribute to public debate on issues that affect them. Prue considered how young people can better participate in media activities. Her research showed that young people are participating in a variety of ways but need more skills to do so and this work contributed to our In the Spotlight forum.

We also undertook some research with La Trobe University which looked at the relationship between young people, drugs and the media. The project was



initiated and funded by the Media Studies Program, School of Communication, La Trobe University. The study looked at how media employ images of young people in discussions around drug use and we also identified some projects that engage young people in media activities as a way to address self-esteem, social status and drug use. This work contributed to the development of an issues paper about the broader issues of media and young people.

JUVENILE JUSTICE

There has been much talk over the last year about possible changes to the juvenile justice system in Victoria and we have been concerned about the effect of the proposed changes on young people. We have been involved in a Ministerial Roundtable on Juvenile Justice and have also done a lot of work with other organisations to raise awareness about the juvenile justice system in Victoria. This is an ongoing issue.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

It's not often that you'll get the Herald Sun, The Age, the ABC, MX and a range of other media people in the same room as a bunch of young people and youth workers. But we made it happen at the In the Spotlight a forum (actually more of a mini conference) in February at the St Kilda Town Hall. The forum explored the issues facing journalists, editors, young people and community workers in the development of a news story and looked at how a news story gains momentum and how can it ultimately impact on the development of public policy. The forum also provided a way to showcase the wealth of independent media produced by young people. The day kicked off with a lively panel discussion which centred around a hypothetical situation involving the daughter of a fictional Premier who had been involved in a car crash where the young driver was over the blood alcohol limit. The main question for panellists was how the media would report this. The second part of the day was skills focused and we offered a range of workshops covering topics such as managing the media, communicating your message and making a media complaint. The forum was originally the brainchild of the YACVic Youth Reference Group and we worked with the Inner City Regional Youth Committee and the Centre for Adolescent Health to make it happen. The day was a great success with around 200 people attending.

PRIVACY FORUMS

The Information Privacy Act 2000 and the Health Records Act 2001 requires that a government funded service must be reasonable and fair in its protection and treatment of personal and health information it holds on all individuals. The privacy laws exist to protect individuals from harm resulting

from misuse of their personal and health information. Last year a member phoned us to say that new privacy laws would have a significant impact on the youth sector. This led us to organise a series of overwhelmingly popular forums about the legislation and its impact on workers. We ran these in conjunction with the Office for Youth and the Department of Education and Training Privacy Unit. Two forums were held in Melbourne, one in Bendigo and one in Sale.

BRINGING IN THE BACON #3

This is always a popular one. In June, 160 people squeezed into the Melbourne Town Hall to hear presentations from the Myer Foundation, the Reichstein Foundation, the Foundation for Young Australians and the Telstra Foundation. *Bringing in the Bacon* aims to provide the sector with information about some of the major philanthropic bodies in Victoria. It's also a chance to talk to these organisations about some of the policy issues that could be the focus of funding grants.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ROUNDTABLE

Over recent years, there has been increasing focus on the concept of youth development. However, we have noticed that there is no common understanding of the term youth development although it is often used to make decisions about policy and funding priorities. We thought it was time to further the development of a common understanding so we held a round table discussion with key stakeholders about youth development and what it means for young people and those working in the youth sector. The roundtable helped us to shape some of our policy ideas about this issue.

Of course that's only a snapshot of the year. We've done other work around issues such as youth unemployment, age discrimination, volatile substance inhalation, working with children checks.... As usual I would like to thank the rest of the YACVic team, the Policy Advisory Group, the Youth Reference Group and the Board for their advice and support throughout the year. This work would also be impossible without the contribution of YACVic members and so I would like to say a big thankyou to you all.



> JEN ROSE | PiP Officer

8: PARTICIPATION IN PRACTICE

This year has seen the launch of the Participation in Practice Project, an exciting new partnership project between YACVic and the Office for Youth. Through the PIP project we are developing some resource publications that explore young people's participation in their communities and how it can be better supported. As the PIP Project Officer, I have the fantastic opportunity to consult with young people, organisations, agencies and individuals from a wide range of service areas across the state about these issues, and to write it all up in the project publications.

The project is responding to what has been identified as a need to develop a series of tools to assist organisations and individuals to develop effective models of youth participation. The twelve month project will produce three publications to do this, each with a specific focus. All three are concerned with providing information that will help in supporting young people's participation so that it is empowering, purposefully engaging and inclusive.

The handbooks will have a particular relevance and focus on Victoria, drawing heavily on Victorian initiatives and addressing the policy and legislative issues impacting on young people's participation in Victoria. They will also address, where appropriate, key issues around working with marginalised young people and specific communities of young people. The project is steered by a reference group of young people, workers in the field, YACVic and Office for Youth representatives.

The first handbook, exploring '*Young people and consultation - asking young people about their ideas and opinions*' is in the final stages of production. It asks the reader to seriously consider their motivations and aims in consulting with young people in order to avoid tokenism, and provides information about how to plan, carry out and evaluate a consultation process. Research is currently underway for the second handbook, focussing on '*Young people and governance - participation on boards and committees*'. The final handbook will explore young people and community building.

Many thanks go out to the numerous individuals and agencies who offered time and support and shared their experiences and expertise with us to make the first handbook possible.



9: COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER



> ALEX MARKHAM
Communications
Officer
2002-2003

'I didn't realise you were that small!' No I'm not talking about my height, but the response YACVic gets when people walk into the office and realise that we have a core team of only five staff. People often think that the organisation is a lot bigger than it actually is and that's due to the amazing team effort that goes into producing quality materials that are not only well thought out and researched but are presented in a professional and accessible way too. The scope of the communications officer's role stretches across all areas of YACVic's work - here's some of the main highlights over the year.

MEDIA

YACVic is now firmly established as a respected source of information for the media on issues affecting young people in Victoria. Over the past year YACVic has talked to the media about volatile substance inhalation; FReeZA (a state government funded program which runs drug and alcohol free events for young people); teenage pregnancy; issues facing rural young people; binge drinking; young people and financial debt; youth culture and drug taking and young people's views around the war in Iraq.

Not only does YACVic provide comment to the media but we regularly refer journalists to other researchers, policy makers and workers in the sector. More importantly we continue to work towards ensuring that the media consider young people as a valuable source of information since their voices are, more often than not, excluded from media reports. Lise Dalla Torre our Young Media Spokesperson has done a fantastic job in ensuring that this happens, and in promoting the idea that not all young people think alike! A big thanks goes to Lise for fielding those 8am calls from frantic radio producers while trying to balance work and VCE.

I'd also like to acknowledge Michelle Blanchard for her contribution to promoting the voices of young

people in the media. Michelle (our Youth Reference Group convenor) was selected as a Youth Ambassador for National Youth Week (NYW) 2003 and worked tirelessly before, during and after NYW in April getting young people's voices ideas, images and opinions out there.

YIKES!

YACVic's bi-monthly print newsletter YIKES! continues to be distributed to our members providing information on YACVic's work such as policy reports and submissions and current projects.

Articles featured in YIKES! over the year have dealt with current debates such as law and order and youth homelessness; key priorities for YACVic during the state election campaign and analysis of the State and Commonwealth budgets. In addition YIKES! has included best practice articles on programs and projects such as Platform Youth Theatre and the Centre for Adolescent Health's Paying Attention to Self peer support program.

It's been encouraging to see a number of articles published by members of our Youth Reference Group including information on young people and mental health, research on young people and the media and report backs on various events our Youth Reference Group members have been involved in. Thanks to all of you who have contributed over the year.

EMAIL LIST

The YACVic email list has grown to over 600 members and continues to be a timely and effective means of providing information to our members and supporters. We are constantly astounded by the speedy responses we get from notices about YACVic forums and receive regular positive feedback about the usefulness of our email newsletter Email Bits.

WEBSITE

The YACVic website acts both as an archive of our policy submissions, publications and reports and an up-to date-source of news on our current activities. This year we have expanded our links section and added specific pages for the Policy Advisory Group and Youth Reference Group. Our financial information sheets Debt Sux! also continue to be a well used resource.

LOOKING FORWARD

As many of you know I'm heading out into the big wide world on an overseas adventure so this is my third and last annual report. When I started at YACVic two and a half years ago I had to rebuild, redesign and invent a new image for the organisation from scratch. YACVic has come a long way since then and its been a tremendous team effort to get the organisation established as a respected policy advocate for Victorian young people. I feel privileged to have been a part of that effort and give a heartfelt thanks to all of you who have provided support and inspiration to me personally and the organisation as a whole. While I'm sad to be leaving YACVic it's an exciting time and our fabulous new Communications Officer Nik Beuret who started in June is cooking up some fantastic new ideas...

10: YOUTH MEDIA SPOKESPERSON REPORT

From the diary of Lise Dalla Torre, Young Media Spokesperson

FRIDAY, 27TH OF SEPTEMBER, 2002

It's the day after the AGM. I'm back, and I'm looking forward to the year ahead. We have a new face on the Board, a new group of young people eager to get on the Youth Reference Group and our Media Forum is going to kick off early next year. I'm looking forward to a good year at YACVic.

THE NIGHT BEFORE THE MEDIA FORUM (19TH OF FEBRUARY, 2003)

Finally, the Media Forum is here. I like to think back to when it was just a modest idea, to facilitate dialogue between the big, bad "media" and young people. As the forum has developed our plans have become bigger, and hopefully better, than anything we had thought of before.

Now, after months of planning meetings and frantic phone calls, we hope our dream goes off with a bang and, most importantly, gets realised. I hope that we can give young people something to take away from

today, be it renewed cynicism about the media, or practical skills gained in the series of workshops we have planned.

But, most of all, I pray it works. Thanks to our grandiose dreams, celebrities are coming!

FRIDAY, THE 27TH OF AUGUST, 2003

It's AGM time again. The Media Forum has been and gone, and everyone has the pre-election jitters.

A good year is when you celebrate your successes and learn from both your successes and your mistakes. I'm proud to say that I'm still learning.

I'd like to thank everyone for the enjoyment I have experienced in this second year of my tenure as Young Media Spokesperson.

I need to thank the Secretariat for their tireless work, the Board for their constant support and the membership, for allowing me to fulfil this role once more.

11: YACVIC MEDIA OVERVIEW

MEDIA RELEASES

- 11/9/02 - Guidelines for responsible media reporting of 'Chroming' needed.
- 11/9/02 - Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee Report into the Inhalation of Volatile Substances
- 1/11/02 - Young people want meaningful participation not just tokenism
- 3/11/02 - Community support for Children's Commission gains momentum
- 24/11/02 - Children's commission will reach further than the law
- 6/12/02 - The Bracks' Government breaks it's pre-election commitment to young offenders
- 18/2/03 - Young people in the spotlight at media forum
- 22/4/03 - YACVic leadership awarded Centenary Medals
- 4/6/03 - Child Advocate Falls Short of the Mark

MEDIA COVERAGE

This year has been a quiet on the media front for YACVic. YACVic prefers to work in collaboration with various stakeholders rather than garner media coverage on the diverse issues we work on. Much of the media coverage we receive is based on either

requests for comment on particular issues or in conjunction with one of our public events. Below is an overview of some of the media coverage we have received this year broken down by issue:

- Fertility & the Family - Triple J
- Reversing the Drift - Radio 3SER
- In the Spotlight - Alchemy SBS radio
- Bringing in the Bacon 3 - The Brimbank Star
- State budget - Spres
- YACVic & rural youth - Vision Australia radio
- Binge Drinking - ABC Radio 774
- Debt & Young People - The Age

YACVIC & VICPEACE

- 3LO ABC radio
- The Age
- The Herald Sun

VOLATILE SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- Triple J News
- The Australian newspaper
- Radio RRR News
- AAP

YOUTH REFERENCE GROUP

- Spres
- YRG Radio show - SYN Fm



12: YOUTH REFERENCE GROUP



> YOUTH REFERENCE GROUP

The Youth Reference Group (YRG) is an opportunity for young members of YACVic to contribute their ideas on various issues affecting young people and contribute to the policy of the organisation. The YRG is made up of a core group of enthusiastic people who come together, swap information, have a few laughs, and discuss issues affecting young people.

This year the YRG has participated in a range of activities including an orientation day, an event to meet the Minister for Youth Affairs, consultations for the Participation in Practice project and communication skills training.

One of the highlights of the Youth Reference Group's activities for this year was the YACVic Media Forum held in partnership with the Inner City Regional Youth Committee, City of Port Phillip and the Centre for Adolescent Health. This forum was held to address the issue of the media's representation of young people. Ways in which the media represents young people shapes the way society regards and treats young people. Consequently, the YRG share the view that it is essential to ensure the media accurately reflects the diverse character of young people from all ranges of backgrounds and avoids stereotypes, generalisations and over simplification of the needs, desires and opinions of young people as a valued social group.

The media forum brought together media professionals, youth sector professionals, young people and the Minister for Youth Affairs, Jacinta Allen to discuss this important issue. A discussion panel consisted of media professionals from major organizations such as The Age, Herald Sun, ABC and SYN FM who were available for audience questions, comments and scenario situations. The discussion was successful in drawing out constructive and often heated debate, illustrating the passion audience members felt for the issue. Young people challenged the practices of the media and enlightened media professionals on the various instances and impacts of

negative and misinformed reporting about young people. The media professionals were provided with the opportunity to defend their practices and also educate young people on the best ways to get involved to ensure their 'voices' were heard.

The discussion forum was supported by an afternoon of practical workshops oriented at developing effective media management skills for young people and youth workers with the aim that these skills would facilitate greater participation in media debate about and for young people. The forum was founded on the belief that misrepresentation and misinformation regarding young people and youth issues, can be significantly reduced by giving young people more say on issues that concern them. The YACVic media forum made a positive contribution in creating a greater awareness around the importance of accurate representation of young people in the media, the significant implications of misrepresentation for young people and the need for greater acceptance of the importance of involving young people in public debate.

In addition, Jen Blyth has worked hard alongside Alex Markham and Nik Beuret from YACVic to make some alterations to the YACVic website to incorporate the needs of the Youth Reference Group. The changes being made include expansion of the existing single-page summary to three pages, providing additional details of the projects that the members of YRG are involved in, greater detail on the YRG members. In addition, a separate email address is being set up so that people accessing the site can contact the YRG directly.

As a direct result of their involvement in the Youth Reference Group members have also become involved in a range of committees and projects involving young people. Steve Brown and Prue Hill participated in the Young People's Community Reference Group for the 2006 Commonwealth Games Social Inclusion Strategy while Alan Wu is now involved with the Ethnic Communities Council's Youth Committee.

Despite facing some challenges keeping the group engaged, this year has been a productive year for the Youth Reference Group, and we look forward to seeing some new members join us for 2004.

13: POLICY ADVISORY GROUP



> LISE DALLA TORRE
In the Spotlight
media forum

The Policy Advisory Group (PAG) is an advisory group that provides policy advice to the YACVic Board and is representative of a broad range of services and key stakeholders in the youth sector. The PAG has a broad knowledge of youth affairs and each member has specific knowledge about particular issues impacting on young people throughout Victoria. The PAG has met four times in 2002 and has contributed to several policy discussions throughout the year at meetings and through electronic communication.

A PAG meeting incorporates a comprehensive YACVic update from the Secretariat; responses to policy issues raised by the Secretariat and the PAG; and ongoing policy discussions which relate to policy and service gaps, emerging issues and policy concerns.

This year the PAG involved:

- Ben Rossiter: Manager, Frontyard Youth Services
- Dr Julian Bondy: Senior Lecturer and Program Coordinator, Department of Justice and Youth Studies, RMIT University
- Liz Davies: Program Manager, Centre for Adolescent Health
- Anita Doyle: Program Coordinator, Ballarat Community Health Centre
- Steve Francis: Policy & Projects Co-ordinator, Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues
- Denise Francisco: Project Officer - Social Planning and Projects, City of Melbourne
- Christine Harrison: Manager, Nexus Youth Resource Centre, Horsham
- Roger Holdsworth: Senior Research Fellow and Manager, Youth Research Centre, the University of Melbourne
- Sheree Limbrick: Manager of Service Development, Berry Street Victoria
- Craig Marshall: Service Coordinator Youth and Family Support, City of Melbourne

- Peter Newling: State Manager of Youth Services, Victorian YMCA
- Rosalind Riley: Youth Support Worker, MacKillop Family Services
- Heather Stewart: Field Education Officer, Australian Catholic University
- Andrew Williamson: Training Manager, Victoria University
- Steve Wilson: Training & Support Worker, Youth Substance Abuse Service

Policy discussions throughout the year addressed the following issues:

- YACVic strategic planning
- JPET
- In the Spotlight media forum
- Children and Young People's Commission
- Funded Agencies Partnership Project & Price Index
- State Youth Round Tables
- Working with Children Check
- National Youth Week

The PAG also reviewed draft submissions including YACVic's State Budget submission and YACVic's response to the Commonwealth Government's discussion paper "*Building a simpler system to help jobless families and individuals*".

Two small projects were established to consider the issues of service mapping and what services exist in each region and the issue of a Professional Association for Youth Workers. These are both ongoing issues and will remain on the agenda for future policy planning and debate.

Ben Rossiter
PAG Convenor

14: MEMBERSHIP REPORT

WHAT KINDS OF ORGANISATIONS AND PEOPLE ARE THE MEMBERS OF YACVIC?

To ensure that the needs of young people are met across all sectors of the community YACVic encourages the membership of organisations and individuals that might not see themselves as part of the 'youth sector' but who work with young people in some way. Whilst the mainstay of our membership are generally direct service agencies that specialise in youth services our membership also covers neighbourhood centres, community legal and health centres, and research and policy agencies.

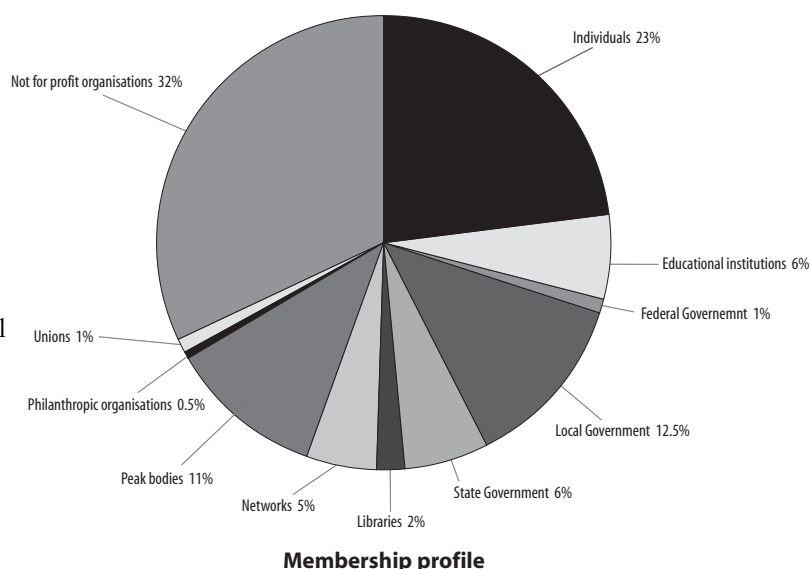
Individual members of YACVic are typically young people or students, plus long-term supporters of YACVic who have worked within the youth field in a variety of capacities and have carried their YACVic membership with them through a range of organisations. State government membership includes the Office for Youth.

YACVic continues to have strong links with Local Government youth services who make up 12.5% of our membership. We also have excellent continuing links with State and Federal Government agencies.

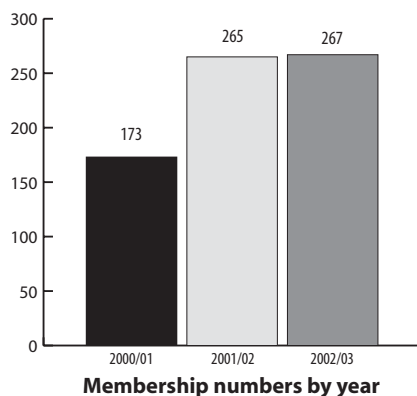
Peak bodies comprise one of our largest single membership groups, providing YACVic with key links across a variety of sectors such as housing or health. To enhance these links YACVic regularly participates in a number of cross-sector forums including the Victorian Council of Social Service (VCOSS) peaks forum.

Secondary schools, university departments and student representative bodies make up the category of education institutions. The networks category refers to Local Learning & Employment Networks (LLENs), Regional Youth Committees (RYCs), the Young Unionist Network and School Focussed Youth Services.

Throughout the year YACVic members have consistently shown a high level of interest and commitment to the organisation. This has been demonstrated by the excellent attendance at our forums and enthusiastic responses we have received from information sent out via our communications networks.



Overall anyone and everyone is welcome to become a YACVic member, so long as you have a commitment to promoting the rights, interests and well-being of young people in Victoria and are willing to contribute to a vibrant and dynamic community organisation.

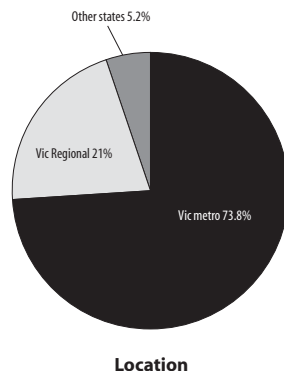
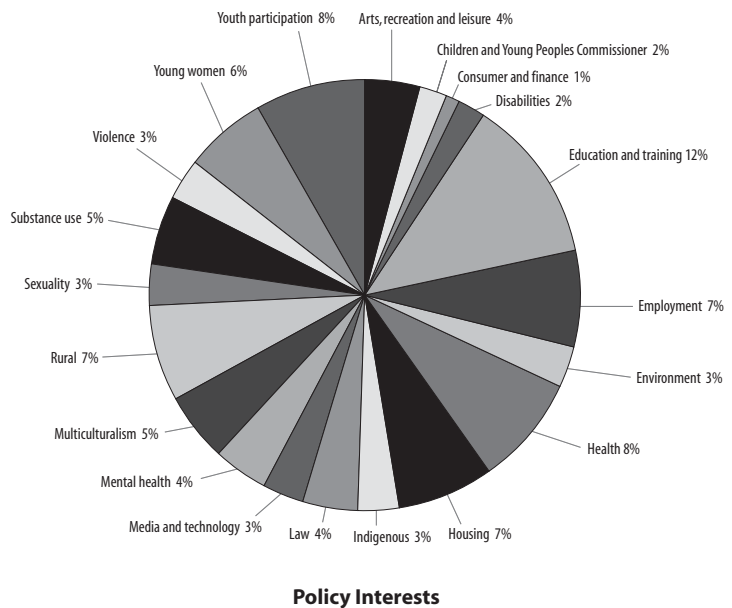


YACVIC OVER THE YEARS

Since its reinvention, YACVic has undergone a reinvigoration of its membership base. The maturing of YACVic as an organisation is reflected in the plateauing of the membership. While the exact composition of our membership, as seen in our membership profiles, types and locations, the overall membership numbers have maintained a relatively steady course over the last two financial years.

WHAT ARE YACVIC MEMBERS INTERESTED IN?

When you become a member of YACVic we collect information about what areas of policy you are interested in. This assists us in focusing our work and also enables us to draw on the expertise of our members around particular issues, such as substance abuse or homelessness. As you can see from the graph the spread of interests are quite even with education and training, health issues, youth participation and employment as some of the major areas of interest.

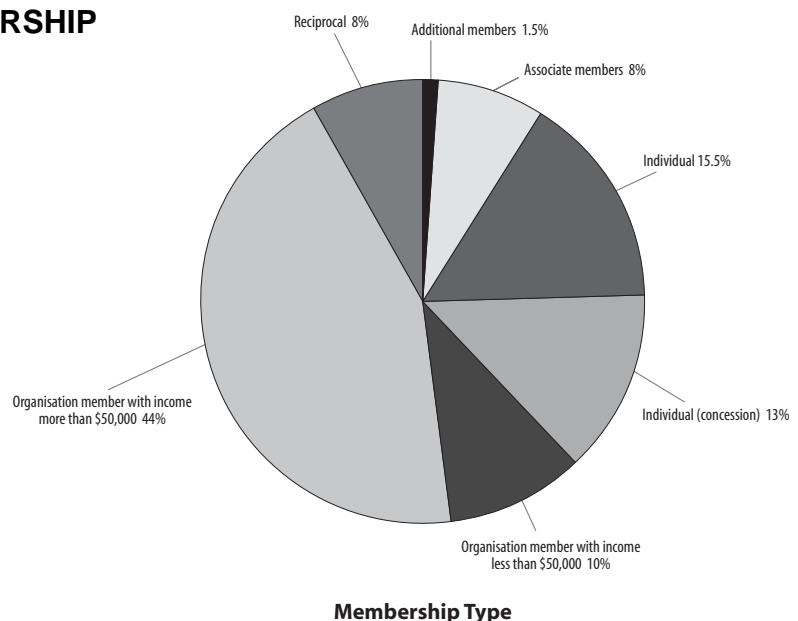


LOCATION OF YACVIC MEMBERSHIP

The majority of YACVic's members are within the Victorian metro area, with a significant amount located within the Victorian regional areas.

TYPES OF YACVIC MEMBERSHIP

YACVic has five main membership categories: organisational members, associate members, additional members, individual members and reciprocal members. All members are entitled to printed materials despatched from YACVic. Government departments (not including Local Government youth services) are entitled to become associate members only. Additional members are affiliates of a larger umbrella organisation which is an organisational member of YACVic. Reciprocal members are organisations that exchange periodicals with YACVic.





> SALLY GOLDNER | Finance Officer

15: FINANCE REPORT

YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC - TREASURER'S REPORT

2002 - 2003

YACVic has recorded an operating surplus of \$826 for the year ended 30 June 2003.

In my report last year, I advised members that the Board had created a reserve which was to be used to increase the contracted hours of the Secretariat over the 2002-2003 financial year. Due to efficient budgeting by the Board and Janet Jukes, the previous Executive Officer, YACVic was able to increase the contracted hours of the Secretariat staff without drawing on the reserve created last year. This reserve therefore remains intact and will allow the Board and YACVic the flexibility to examine opportunities in the coming 12 months to undertake new activities for and on behalf of members.

The year ahead provides some specific challenges for the Board and the Secretariat:

■ The triennial funding agreement with the State Government concludes in 2004 and the Board will be working hard to ensure that ongoing funding is secured so that YACVic's good work representing the interests of young people in Victoria can continue.

■ The smaller surplus this year is a reflection of the tightening economic conditions we are all experiencing. One of the challenges for the Board in the coming year will be to strengthen the

financial position of YACVic by broadening our funding sources, in particular by identifying additional strategic projects which attract non-core funding. I expect that this will be an important part of the strategic planning process to be undertaken by the new Board.

■ It is always a challenge for the not-for-profit sector to reward its staff appropriately, within the confines of a restrictive budget position. YACVic is extremely lucky to have a such a talented, committed and hard-working Secretariat. The Board has begun working with the Secretariat staff to develop an Enterprise Bargaining Agreement. Initial meetings have been held in a cooperative spirit and we expect that a draft Agreement will be put to the Board shortly for its consideration.

The Board looks forward to working with the new Executive Officer, Ms Georgie Ferrari, to ensure that appropriate financial policies, budgets and reporting systems are in place to ensure that YACVic's resources are used appropriately.

It would be remiss of me not to pay tribute to the work of Sally Goldner, our Finance Officer. We are very fortunate to have someone with Sally's qualifications and experience and her work for YACVic is very much appreciated by the Board.

I encourage you to read the financial report which is set out on pages 20 to 27 of this Annual Report.

Matthew Bubb
Treasurer

YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC STATEMENT BY BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

The Board has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and therefore, there is no requirement to apply Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in the preparation of these financial statements. The Board have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts.

In the opinion of the Board the financial report:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc. as at 30 June 2003 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc. will be able to pay its debt when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:



Rowena Allen
(Chairperson)



Matthew Bubb
(Treasurer)

Dated this 6th day of August 2003.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2003**

Note	2003	2002
	\$	\$
Current Assets		
Cash	153,426	123,907
Receivables	3,436	27,595
Prepayments	2,638	2,638
Total Current Assets	159,500	154,139
Non Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	24,110	30,670
Total Assets	183,609	184,810
Current Liabilities		
Payables	20,087	24,514
Provisions	27,258	27,844
Grants in advance	68,750	68,750
Other	4,397	1,410
Total Current Liabilities	120,492	122,518
Net Assets	63,117	62,292
Members Funds		
Cash based Reserves	39,007	31,622
Fixed asset based reserves	24,110	30,670
	63,117	62,292

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003**

Note	2003	2002
	\$	\$
Revenue from ordinary activities	342,128	340,548
Employee expenses	(231,143)	(193,153)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	(14,745)	(11,213)
Other expenses from ordinary activities	(95,415)	(133,920)
Surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities	826	2,262
Increase/(decrease) in reserves from prior year adjustments		20,892
	826	23,154

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003**

Note	2003	2002
	\$	\$
Cash Flow from Operating Activities		
Receipts		
Receipts from members	21,801	14,682
Operating grants	258,540	325,883
Interest Earned	3,074	1,059
Other receipts	85,859	44,575
Payments		
Payments to suppliers and employees	(331,570)	(317,836)
Cash Flow from Operating Activities	37,704	68,363
Cash Flow from Investing Activities		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(8,185)	(7,651)
Cash Flow from Investing Activities	(8,185)	(7,651)
Cash Flow from Financing Activities		
Cash Flow from Financing Activities		0
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash held	29,519	60,712
Cash at the beginning of the year	123,907	63,195
Cash at the end of the year	153,426	123,907

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003

Note 1: Statement of Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 [Vic]. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

As a prescribed company the financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 [Vic] and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

- AAS 1 Statement of Financial Performance
- AAS 4 Depreciation
- AAS 5 Materiality
- AAS 6 Accounting policies
- AAS 8 Events occurring after reporting date
- AAS 28 Statement of Cash Flows
- AAS 36 Statement of Financial Position

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values, or except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

FIXED ASSETS

Fixed assets are included at cost, and are depreciated over their estimated useful lives, commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Provision is made for payments to employees for their pro rata entitlement to annual leave.

FUNDING GRANTS

General operating support grants, from the Department of Education, Employment and Training are made on an annual basis and are fully brought to account during the financial year.

Specific project grants, generally made on a non profit or loss basis, are brought to account over the duration of the project, on the basis of actual costs incurred. Unexpended grants at year end, are carried forward in the balance sheet, as a liability to be matched against expenses in future periods.

Where the project period extends beyond year end, an assessment is made at year end as to the financial progress of projects by comparing actual year to date costs against budgeted year to date costs. Where a significant cost overrun has been incurred, a provision for overrun is raised in the accounts to ensure that any significant losses are recognised in the period to which they relate.

The Board has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and therefore, there is no requirement to apply Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in the preparation of these financial statements. The Board have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts.

In the opinion of the Board the financial report:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc. as at 30 June 2002 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:



Rowena Allen
(Chairperson)



Matt Bubb
(Treasurer)

Dated this 5th day of August 2003.

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003**

Note 2: Revenue	2003	2002
	\$	\$
Operating activities		
Government grants	307,814	262,133
Membership subscriptions	18,813	13,272
Interest received	3,074	1,059
Publications	2,695	5,105
Forums and training	2,455	1,089
Other income	7,278	57,891
Total revenue	342,128	340,548

Note 3: Surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities	2003	2002
	\$	\$

Surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities has been determined after

Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	14,745	11,213
Remuneration of auditor		
- audit services	1,187	3,327
- other services	-	
Total remuneration	1,187	3,327

Note 4: Income tax

The Association is specifically exempt from tax under s(50)10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act, and in accordance with the restrictions imposed by exempt status, no asset or income of the Association may be transferred to any member of the Association.

Note 5: Property, plant and equipment	2003	2002
	\$	\$

Furniture and fittings - at cost	4,149	4,149
Less Accumulated depreciation	(1,126)	(711)
	3,023	3,438

Leasehold improvements	6,028	6,028
Less Accumulated depreciation	(1,530)	(927)
	4,498	5,101

Office equipment	46,836	38,651
Less Accumulated depreciation	(30,248)	(16,521)
	16,588	22,131
	24,109	30,670

Note 6: Grants received in advance	2003	2002
	\$	\$

DEET funding	68,750	68,750
	68,750	68,750

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003**

Note 7: Cash flow information	2003	2002
	\$	\$
A) Reconciliation of cash		
Cash at the period's end as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:		
Cash	153,426	123,907
	153,426	123,907
B) Reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to operating surplus		
Operating surplus	826	2,262
non cash flows in operating surplus		
depreciation	14,745	11,213
Provisions	(587)	519
other non cash flows		
movement in reserves		20,892
Changes in assets & liabilities		
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(4,427)	(9,736)
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	-	
Increase/(decrease) in grants received in advance	0	63,750
Increase/(decrease) in membership received in advance	2,987	1,410
(Increase)/decrease in other current assets	0	(2,388)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	24,159	(19,559)
	37,704	68,363

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC.**

Scope

We have audited the financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of **Youth Affairs Council Victoria Inc.** for the year ended 30th June 2003. The Committee is responsible for the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.


The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of Section 30(3A) of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included an examination, on a test basis, of evidence of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Association's financial position and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the incorporated association during and at the end of its last financial year.


J.L. COLLYER (PARTNER)
J.L. COLLYER & PARTNERS

16th July 2003

GET YOUTH ISSUES ON THE AGENDA! BECOME A MEMBER OF YACVIC

Gain invaluable access to a state-wide network of young people, organisations and individuals who work with young people... join YACVic!

The Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc. (YACVic) is the peak body and leading policy advocate on young people's issues in Victoria. Our vision is for a Victorian community that values and provides opportunity, participation, justice and equity for all young people.

At YACVic we:

- Listen to the needs of young people, workers with young people and organisations that provide direct services to young people.
- Provide advice to the government and other institutions about these needs.
- Analyse and develop policy through consultation with our members.
- Provide our members with information through our regular printed newsletter YIKES! our email announcement list and our website.

YACVic is governed by a volunteer board and managed by a paid secretariat. We are a not-for-

profit organisation and our core funding comes from the Victorian Government's Office for Youth.

Having an active youth peak body in Victoria with a strong membership base means that your issues will be heard!

WHAT TYPE OF MEMBER AM I?

■ Organisational Members

Organisations entitled to become members of YACVic will be organisations that are generally concerned with direct service delivery for and with young people or organisations run by young people. Organisations that are concerned purely with policy formulation will not be entitled to join as organisational members. Organisations are defined as a legal entity. Each organisation is entitled to join once. Additional membership is available for service streams or regional offices. Local Government Youth Services are entitled to become organisational members. Voting entitlement: A maximum of two votes at any general meeting of the Council

■ Associate members

Associate members are generally organisations whose main function is to formulate policy. An associate member of YACVic is any political party, federal government department, state government department, local government council or local government policy unit. Voting entitlement: not entitled to vote

■ Additional members

A service stream, regional or local affiliate of a larger umbrella organisation which is an Organisational Member of YACVic. Voting entitlement: One vote at any general meeting of the Council.

■ Individual members

Any member of the public is entitled to apply for membership of the Council. Young people and those working for and with young people are particularly encouraged to join YACVic. Voting entitlement: One vote at any general meeting of the Council.

ABN: 39 774 045 170

Title First Name Surname Position

Organisation Name Approx No of members in organisation

Address

Suburb/Town State Postcode

Phone Number Fax Number Mobile

Email Website address

I/We agree to the purpose and objectives listed* and hereby apply for membership to the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc.

Signature Date

Fees (all prices are GST inclusive)

Organisational

- Member with annual income less than \$50,000 \$55.00
- Member with annual income more than \$50,000 \$120.00
- Associate Member (no voting rights) \$120.00
- Additional Member \$55.00

Individual

- Member \$55.00
- Member — Concession \$15.00

Payment: Total amount paid: \$

Cheque or money order payable to Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc.

Credit Card: Visa Mastercard Bankcard

Name on Card:

Card number

Expiry date __ / __ Signature

Areas of policy interest

So that we can actively involve you in our policy discussions please tick one or more boxes:

- Arts, recreation and leisure
- Consumer and finance
- Disabilities
- Education and training
- Employment
- Environment
- Health
- Housing
- Indigenous
- Media and technology
- Mental health
- Multiculturalism
- The law
- Rural
- Sexuality
- Substance use
- Violence
- Young women
- Youth participation

If you are under 25 and would like to be involved in our youth consultation processes tick here

ADDRESS: Level 6, 1 Elizabeth St, Melbourne 3000 PH: (03) 9612 8999 FAX: (03) 9620 4802
EMAIL: info@yacvic.org.au WEBSITE: www.yacvic.org.au

YOUTH AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

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Melbourne 3000

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