

YACVic annual report 2004–05



youthaffairs

COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC.



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annual report 2004-05

Three years have travelled so quickly and it has been an absolute pleasure to chair such a dynamic organisation.



rowena allen

chairperson

chairperson's report

broader community and outcomes we achieve to raise the awareness of issues and improve the lives of young Victorians.

Change is inevitable, our organisation is no different and this year we must say goodbye to two terrific members of our board of governance. Lise Dalla Torre began as our young media spokesperson and moved to the position of board member. During her time on the board Lise also spent some time as deputy chair. Lise's straight shooting style combined with her gentle wisdom personally taught me a great deal, a passionate person for human rights and social justice, Lise's skills are being missed.

This year we also say goodbye to Craig Hodges our wonderful treasurer. Craig has always been happy to find time to participate in the extra financial planning meetings with Sally and Georgie which gives great confidence to the board knowing he was always keeping a watchful eye.

An enormous thank you must go to the committed team of the Board of Governance, Policy Advisory and Youth Advisory members, Georgie Ferrari our magnificent executive officer, the secretariat and the many volunteers that have worked with our organisation this year.

Finally, it has been a privilege to serve as chair of YACVic and I wish the new chair as much enjoyment, learning, personal and professional satisfaction as I've had.

As I reflect over my last annual chairperson report I am extremely confident in the current position and future direction of this organisation. The strong reputation YACVic has developed over the last year and the advocacy work we have achieved is a glowing testament to the strengths of everyone who has been involved in the organisation.

Having a strong board with a mixture of young people and experienced professionals makes it a delight to oversee the governance of the organisation. Governance is a crucial component to a well run peak body, to that end the YACVic board takes its responsibility in this area extremely seriously. This year all board members participated in a facilitated workshop session around board of governance training.

A highlight this year from a board level is to be able to launch our strategic plan for the future of the organisation. I am confident to say it has been worth the wait and can I say thank you to all the individuals who have been a part of our very meticulous and thorough journey to this point.

An organisation is only as strong as its membership base, this is still growing and as a board we are constantly surprised that we continue to approve members at every board meeting. The growth is largely due to an every increasing profile we have in the

Rowena Allen

I am proud to report on the activities of the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria for the past 12 months. YACVic has achieved an enormous amount of work in the last year.

executive officer's report

Our work has been of a high standard and, I believe, has achieved a fine balance of meeting the needs of the youth affairs sector and addressing issues of direct importance to young people.

Advocacy

YACVic has continued to be a strong advocate for young people, often in the absence of many other voices of support. Issues such as public space and the right to freedom of association and assembly continue to feature in policy debates and young people's interests in these discussions are often ignored or forgotten.

In February of 2005, concerned about the increasing discussions around limiting young people's rights to occupy public space, YACVic convened the Public Space Action Group (PSAG). The group comprised members from Youthlaw, the Equal Opportunity Commission Victoria, the Western Young People's Independent Network, YACVic and the Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues.

The group's work in 2005 culminated in a well-attended forum entitled "Space Invaders". Given the concern and interest in this issue and with the State election in 2006, (where law and order debates always get a run and young people are often the meat in the sandwich), PSAG will remain active over the next 12 months to ensure that young people's rights are remembered in these debates.

Late in 2004 the granting of licences for underage events at licensed premises in the CBD was suspended following a number of incidents of concern to the police. YACVic worked very hard to ensure that young people's voices were present in the ensuing discussions around how and if underage gigs in the CBD would go ahead.

Our work involved convening a forum with approximately 25 young people to gauge their opinions on the issue, talking with various media outlets about our concerns, hosting an on-line survey that captured young people's thoughts about their safety needs at these events, meeting with Victoria Police, Liquor Licensing Victoria, The Office for Youth and the City of Melbourne to progress the issue and writing a joint report with the Office for Youth on our findings from the survey and forum.



georgie ferrari

executive officer

Finally in April of 2005 the suspension was lifted and underage gigs in the CBD were allowed to go ahead under a trial set of new conditions that YACVic had significantly fed into. We were happy to wrap this important piece of work up with a final meeting of young people at the Melbourne Town Hall where the world premiere of a documentary video on the underage events suspension "Save our Scene" was shown. Around 45 young people attended.

New Program Areas

The past 12 months have been a period of thoughtful growth and development for YACVic. Several opportunities have come our way through our many partnerships and collaborations with both government and the community sector. As each opportunity presented itself the Board and the Secretariat reflected on some important questions, these included is this the direction that we want to be heading in? Would this development be in keeping with our strategic directions and our policy principles? Have we got the capacity to do this well? How will young people in Victoria benefit from this initiative?

Having asked ourselves these questions, I feel confident that the new programs we have taken on fit with YACVic's core principles and with the direction we want to be taking. We are delighted to be auspicing the Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory Council (VIYAC). Supporting Indigenous young people from across Victoria to identify issues of concern to them, speak out about them and achieve change in their communities is a priority for YACVic over the next 12 months. With the auspicing of VIYAC we welcomed Jade Coglan to the YACVic team as VIYAC's State Co-ordinator. Jade hit the ground running and has taken to the role like a duck to water.

executive officer's report (continued)

One of our challenges for the next 12 months will be to secure ongoing funding for VIYAC to ensure Jade's great work can continue.

Another new program direction YACVic has taken is to establish a Youth Disability Advocacy Service, in partnership with Youthlaw and the Disability Discrimination Legal Service. This is a three-year project that will be youth centred in its approach. The service is in its planning stages now, and will be established by November of this year. Taking on this project has meant YACVic needs to find new, disability accessible and larger office space. We are in the process of securing this space currently and look forward to settling into our new CBD location in the coming months.

Partnerships and Collaborations

YACVic has continued to develop and strengthen our relationships with community organisations and government agencies over the past 12 months. Some highlights include the human rights consultations that occurred over the past three months that saw us work closely with Youthlaw to capture young people's opinions on a what a Charter of Rights for Victorians might look like.

YACVic worked with the Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee to assist them to hear the voices of young people in their Inquiry into the Reduction of Harmful Alcohol Use, this culminated in approximately 25 young people attending a Committee Hearing for the Inquiry at Parliament House in June of this year.

YACVic continues to be an active member of the Youth Referral and Independent Persons Program (YRIPP), this vital program provides 24 hour coverage of Independent Persons at 9 pilot Police Stations when young people are brought in for questioning and their parent or guardian is not available to support them in the interview setting. YACVic houses the program, providing office and managerial support to Sally Reid, YRIPP Co-ordinator, as well as sitting on the program's steering committee. Sally has done an amazing job at co-ordinating a challenging and at time logistically very difficult program to pull together across the state.

Membership and Youth involvement

In February of 2004 YACVic took a bold step and restructured our Administration Officer role into an Information and Participation Officer. The focus of the new role was on increasing our membership, promoting

YACVic's work and further involving young people in the work we do. This move has paid off in many ways. YACVic's membership has grown steadily over the past 18 months. Similarly, the number of talks and information sessions we have provided has increased significantly.

I am particularly proud of the innovative ways that we have ensured young people are engaged in our organisation. We have explored the use of technology to communicate and engage with groups of young people who might not ordinarily contribute to an organisation like YACVic. These include the use of the "myspace" website, the use of "sms" to communicate with young people who are on our youth reference group and the development of a 'zine' to help young people get active in their communities.

State Conference

In October 2004 YACVic held our State Conference in the City of Whittlesea. *Fringe Benefits? Young People on the Edge of Policy and Place* sought to highlight the positives and negatives of young people occupying the fringes of society, both physically and in terms of their access to decision-making structures. This two day event attracted over 300 young people and workers with young people from across the State. On offer were 41 workshops, five keynote addresses and three panel discussions. Evaluations from the conference were overwhelmingly positive. We also received suggestions on what we could do better next time. This feedback will be used to ensure that our next conference will be even better than our last!

Taking Young People Seriously

We were very proud to have the Minister of Employment and Youth Affairs, Jacinta Allan launch the Participation in Practice Handbooks at the *Fringe Benefits?* Conference in October last year. The three handbooks provide practical advice on how to ensure young people are actively engaged in decision-making processes. The books have proved very popular and have been distributed widely across the state and beyond.

In May of this year I was fortunate to be invited to present on the Participation in Practice project at the International Adolescent Health Association Conference in Lisbon, Portugal. Attending this international conference and hearing from service providers from all over the world confirmed for me just how ahead we

are in Australia on the theories and practices of youth participation. The information and advice I had to share was readily accepted by all of those who attended my workshop session.

Strategic Plan

After an extensive consultation and development phase, the 2005-2008 YACVic Strategic Plan is currently being distributed. This comprehensive document sets out the course for our organisation over the next three years. A lot of people had input into our Strategic Plan; members, sister organisations, government agencies and YACVic staff and volunteers. It is a strong and clear document that will ensure our directions are considered and consistent over the next three years.

Staffing and Volunteers

As highlighted above YACVic has achieved a great amount of quality work over the past 12 months, this of course has been carried out by our small team of incredibly hard working, dedicated staff, all of whom deserve a mention. Rys Farthing has done an amazing job as YACVic's first Information and Participation Officer. Rys' enthusiasm, intelligence and initiative have been the perfect combination needed for this diverse and vital role within the organisation.

Sally Goldner is YACVic's longest serving employee, having been with us since 2001. Sally is responsible for YACVic's accounts, but more than this, Sally has an active interest in social justice and youth issues. This interest sees Sally participate in YACVic's day to day work as so much more than our Finance Officer, as she contributes to YIKES!, attends meetings and regularly alerts us to issues of interest in the media.

As I was writing our annual report last year we were saying good bye to Nic Beuret as our Communications Officer and welcoming Louise McDonald to the role. Louise literally hit the ground running, taking over several projects in mid-stream. Louise worked like a trooper to get our conference and AGM documents prepared in time and has continued to work steadily (on only three days a week) to produce our strategic plan, YIKES! and many other documents for YACVic. Louise's artistic flair and creativity in the office give our work a striking and effective look.

In November of last year we were sad to say goodbye to Paula Grogan as our Policy

Officer, Paula left us to take up the Director role with Youthlaw. Happily for us this means that we continue a close working relationship with her. We were very fortunate to appoint Jen Rose to the Policy Officer position, Jen is well known to YACVic members as our project worker on the PIP project and for the State Conference. She has taken up her new role with ease and professionalism and continues to be a real asset within our organisation.

YACVic's steady and sure course over the past 12 months can be largely attributed to the hard work of the many volunteer members who sit on the Policy Advisory Group, the Youth Reference Group and the Board of Governance. I cannot say enough to acknowledge the amount of support these three groups provide the staff team.

From a personal perspective the Board have been a source of great support and advice to me as EO over the past 12 months. Their availability and willingness to assist on any issue has been constant. This has been the first year that we have had 50% representation of young people on the Board, this change in structure has worked incredibly well, with all of the Board enjoying and benefiting from having such a strong youth representation at Board level.

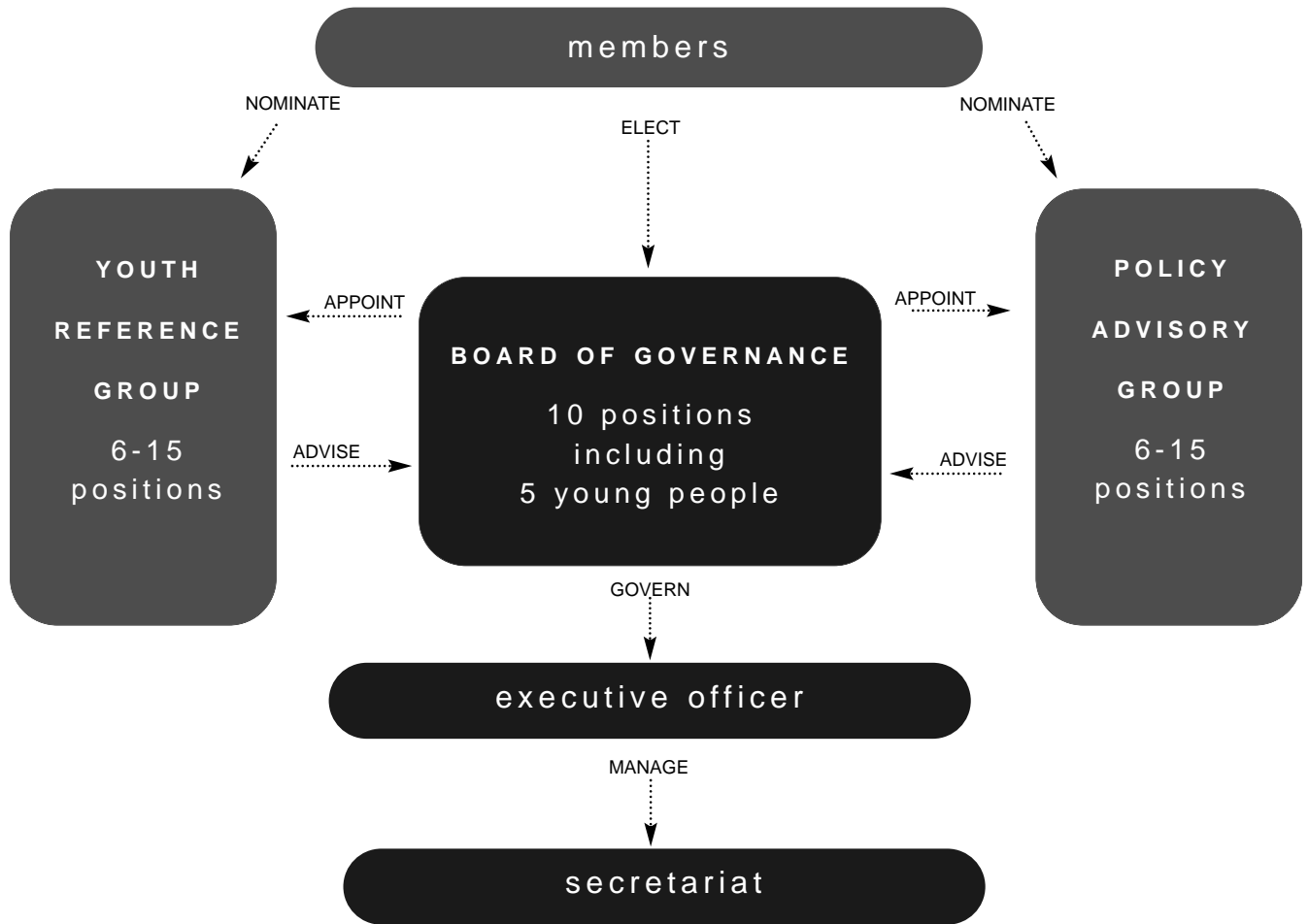
2005 will be Rowena Allen's last year as a YACVic Board Member and Chairperson. Rowena has given an incredible amount to YACVic over the past three years. The perspectives she has brought as a rural member and the manager of a direct youth service provider agency have been invaluable. She has been a steady and reassuring Chairperson, always available for some advice and support. I would like to publicly record my personal thanks to her for the work she has done for YACVic.

The next 12 months for YACVic will, no doubt, be action packed ones, we will be re-establishing ourselves in our new office space, developing and strengthening our new program areas and implementing the Strategic Plan. I look forward to reporting on our successes again in 12 months time.



Georgie Ferrari

YACVic's organisation structure



policy and principles

1. HUMAN RIGHTS

Young people 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 people, 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 focussing on outcomes and on recognising and working towards the future of young people in our communities rather than band-aiding or damage control responses.

The Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc. (YACVic) is the peak body and leading policy advocate on young people's issues in Victoria.

about YACVic

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 Department of Victorian Communities, through the Office for Youth.

YACVic has around 362 members. Both 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 bi-weekly email announce list.

5. EARLY INTERVENTION

Public policy and service provision should be based on prevention and education for young people, rather than response to escalating crises. Provision of real options and choices are vital to a young person's 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 service 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 people 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 an homogenous group.

who's who at YACVic

YACVic BOARD

Rowena Allen
Chairperson and
designated rural representative

Dave Hamra
Deputy Chairperson

Craig Hodges
Treasurer

Brad Rowswell
Young Media Spokesperson

Nik Dragojlovic

Lise Dalla Torre (until May 2005)
young person

Jordina Rust
young person

Luke Bo'sher
young person

Ashley Perez
young person



L-R: Brad Rowswell, Ashley Perez, Dave Hamra, Rowena Allen, Jordina Rust, Nik Dragojlovic, Craig Hodges.

2004-05 YEAR IN BRIEF

EVENTS AND FORUMS RUN BY YACVIC

- Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee Parliamentary Inquiry into the Reduction of Harmful Alcohol Use Young Consultations.
- JPET Providers Meeting
- Say and Play: The Victorian Children's Summit in partnership with the City of Melbourne and the Children and Young people's Commission Coalition.
- Suspension of Underage Gigs Forum
- Suspension of Underage Gigs Forum Wrap-up
- YACVic 2004 State-wide conference Fringe benefits? Young people on the edge of policy and place.
- YACVic Child Protection Consultations
- Young People and Problem Gambling in partnership with Gambler's Help Victoria

SUBMISSIONS, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION PAPERS

Submissions:

- Submission in response to Inner City Entertainment Precinct Taskforce discussion paper 'A good Night For All: Options for improving safety and amenity in inner city entertainment precincts'.
- Submission in response to the Human Rights Consultation Committee discussion paper 'Have your say about human rights in Victoria.'
- Submission of endorsement in response to the Advocate for Children in Care: Charter for Children in Care discussion paper.

- Submission to 'Protecting children: ten priorities for children's wellbeing and safety in Victoria.'
- Submission to Parliamentary Inquiry into Body Image.
- Submission to the Education and Training Legislation review.
- Submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Building New Communities.
- Submission to the Senate Inquiry into Mental Health.
- Submission to the Senate Select Committee on the Administration of Indigenous Affairs.
- Submission to the Working with Children Bill 2005 Discussion Paper.

Reports:

- Is getting pissed getting pathetic? A report of the joint VAADA/YACVic Youth Binge Drinking forum held at the Melbourne Town Hall, 21 June 2004.
- The Victorian CROC Roundtable Report 2004 A Summary of issues raised at Victorian roundtables April 2004.
- Young people and problem gambling: A report of the joint YACVic/Gambler's Help 'young people and problem gambling' forum, August 2004.

Policy Papers:

- Report on the Information Needs of the Youth Affairs Sector
- Report to the Steering Committee on the Review of Underage Events at Licensed Premises in the CBD (joint report with the Office for Youth and City of Melbourne)



L-R: Jen Rose, Jade Colgan, Georgie Ferrari, Sally Goldner, Rys Farthing, Louise McDonald

SECRETARIAT

Georgie Ferrari
Executive Officer

Rys Farthing
Information and Participation Officer

Sally Goldner
Finance Officer

Paula Grogan
Senior Policy Officer,
until November 2004

Jen Rose
Project Officer until November 2004,
then Policy Officer

Louise McDonald
Communications Officer from August 2004

Jade Colgan
Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory
Council State Co-ordinator,
from May 2005

Other publications:

- 'Consulting Young People about their Ideas and Opinions: A Handbook for organisations working with young people.'
- 'Creating Change in Your Community: A Handbook for Young People.'
- 'Young people on Boards and Committees: A Handbook for organisations working with young people.'

ATTENDANCE AT EVENTS, FORUMS AND CONFERENCES

A Fairer Victoria: Strategies for Action. A Victorian Council of Social Service Forum. Anti-Poverty Week Launch
 Australian Drug Foundation Seminar: Should the legal drinking age be raised to 21?
 Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues State-wide network meetings
 Code of Practice for Domestic Violence Launch, Victoria Police
 Engine Innovate Conference
 Eureka 150 Launch
 Forum for Us 3
 FreeZA Central launch
 Gangs forum, Crime Prevention Victoria
 Growing Victoria Together II Launch, Department of Premier and Cabinet
 Inquiry into Building New Communities, Parliament of Victoria

International Association of Adolescent Health 8th World Congress
 International Women's Day Launch
 Is Getting Pissed Getting Pathetic? Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association
 Launch, Beyondblue
 Methodist Ladies College Youth Forum
 Orygen Youth Mental Health Festival
 Push Over
 Royal Children's Hospital Charter of Rights for Parents and Children Launch
 Schoolies week launch, Department of Victorian Communities
 Secretaries Forum, Department of Human Services

ATTENDANCE AT EVENTS, FORUMS AND CONFERENCES

St John's Ambulance Service national conference
 State Budget Lock-up
 Sunbury Youth Forum
 The Health Costs of Violence Launch, VicHealth
 Vic Health Launch
 Victorian Alcohol and drug Association Forum
 Victorian Council of Social Services Congress
 Conference
 YAPA: Young People and Shopping Centres Forum
 Young Carers Summit
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Young Women's Health Forum
Youth at the Centre Launch, Department of
Victorian Communities
Youth Justice Forum
Youth Mental Health Public Forum, Youth Mental
Health Coalition
Youth Referral and Independent Person Program
Launch

PARTICIPATION TRAINING, WORKSHOPS AND CONSULTATIONS

Environment Victoria
Forum for Us 3
Futures Youth Group, Tasmania
National Gallery of Victoria
Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE
RMIT University
Second Strike SRC Forum
Swinburne University
Victorian Public Tenants Association

YACVIC REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Advocate for Children in Care, Charter for
Children in Care Stakeholder Focus Group
Convention on the Rights of the Child Shadow
Report Group, International Covenant on
Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
Inner City Regional Youth Advisory Network
Juvenile Justice Rehabilitation Review,
Department of Justice
Protecting Children VCOSS/Department of Human
Services reference group
Public Space Action Group
Statewide Steering Committee to Reduce Sexual
Assault, Office of Women's Policy and Victoria
Police
Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory Council
Reference Group

KEY CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENT, STATUTORY BODIES AND POLITICIANS

Aboriginal Affairs Victoria
Active Participation Reference Group, Disability
Services, Department of Human Services
Advocate for Children in Care, Department of
Human Services
Australian Drug Foundation
Child Protection, Youth Leadership Group
City of Melbourne
Community Building Resource Service Reference
Group, Department of Victoria Communities
Community Care Branch, Department of Human
Services
Crime Prevention Victoria, Department of Justice
Critical Friends Groups for Youth Services
Program Grants Realignment, Office for Youth
Dale Foody, Office for Youth, South Australia
Department of Family and Community Services
Department of Human Services
Department of Justice

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**This year has seen some important
and far-reaching reviews and changes
in policy relating to the youth sector.**

policy officer's report

It has been a very busy time in the policy arena, the below information provides a snapshot of some highlights:

A Fairer Victoria

In June 2005, YACVic participated in the A Fairer Victoria: Strategies for Action. A Victorian Council of Social Service Forum to bring members of the community sector to the table with Government to discuss saw the Bracks Government social policy statement 'A Fairer Victoria: Creating opportunity and addressing disadvantage.' A Fairer Victoria outlines how the Government will work towards achieving the objectives it outlined in the earlier released policy discussion paper 'Challenges in addressing disadvantage in Victoria.' Some specific strategies relating to young people include:

- The establishment of the Office for Children and a new Children's Act,
- The 'Getting young people back on track' initiatives relating to supporting young people's education and training needs
- The appointment of a Child Safety Commissioner
- A new program for intensive treatment at an earlier stage for young people aged 16-25 years who present with emerging mental health problems for the first time.
- A commitment to strengthen links between communities with more flexible and frequent public transport services in growth areas as part of the Government's Metropolitan transport Plan and providing more community buses.

YACVic looks forward to working collaboratively with Government and the sector to assist in the achievement of the objectives of A Fairer Victoria.

A new Department, Minister and Child Safety Commissioner.

Following the release of the Premier's Children's Advisory Committee report *Joining the Dots* which made various recommendations on how the Government may improve the lives of Victorian children, the Department of Premier and Cabinet issued its response paper *Putting Children First...the next steps*. In the paper the Government announced the establishment of an Office for Children, a Minister for Children and a Child Safety Commissioner. The Child Safety

Commissioner role fell short of the model that the Children and Young People's Commission Coalition has been calling for. As such YACVic convened a meeting of the Coalition's establishing organisations who later met with the Opposition Spokesperson for Community Services Helen Shardy and the Hon. Sherryl Garbutt Minister for Children to discuss our concerns. YACVic will continue to campaign for an independent Commission for Children and Young People.

Child Protection Review.

Since 2002, the Victorian Child Protection system has been under examination and review. YACVic has participated in several consultations as part of this review, and submitted a written response highlighting the lack of attention to young people and their specific needs within the protection system. In early August a draft Children's Bill and white paper were released with the aims of introducing it to Parliament by the end of the year. The purpose of the bill is to update and combine the Community Services Act and the children and Young Persons Act. Currently YACVic is represented on the Protecting Children VCROSS/Department of Human Services reference group and has hosted a briefing and consultation between Department of Human Services and members of the youth sector. YACVic will also be formally submitting a response to the draft bill.

Working with Children Bill

Another core component of the Government's child protection focus is the Working with Children Check. Once introduced, the Checks will be compulsory for anyone working with children or young people under the age of 18 in a paid or voluntary capacity in Victoria. YACVic attended several community-briefing forums on the legislation and consulted with members of the sector to submit a response to the Check highlighting concerns around the lack of discretionary powers of the Secretary in administering the check process and the potential impact this may have on young people applying for a check.

Charter for Children in Care

The Office for the Advocate for Children in Care embarked on the development of a charter of rights for children and young people in care. YACVic is represented on the Charter for Children in Care Stakeholder Focus Group. The Advocate, Mr Toby O'Connor, has been taking submissions on a charter examining



jen rose

policy officer

questions such as the rights that might be included in the charter and how it might best accommodate the needs of children in care. YACVic submitted an endorsement of the submissions of the Council to Homeless Persons (in partnership with the Homelessness Advocacy Service and the Family Access Network) and Youthlaw in response to the 'Development of a charter of rights for children and young people in care' discussion paper

Human Rights

The State Government has been exploring the question 'Should Victoria have a Charter of Human Rights?' A Human Rights Consultation Committee has been formed to examine this question and has been taking submissions on the issue. Youthlaw and YACVic worked collaboratively and consulted directly with seven groups of young people and reported the findings back to the Committee in individual submissions to ensure that their opinions are included in this very important community debate. We also devised a submission tool for young people to use to directly submit to the inquiry, which has been broadly used, and submitted individual organisational responses.

Young people and public space

YACVic has had a strong focus on young people and public space in 2005. YACVic co-ordinated a meeting of a broad range of community and youth sector organisations to discuss Options put forward in the Inner City Entertainment Precincts Taskforce discussion paper 'A Good Night for all.' YACVic also submitted a response to the paper. YACVic also had the opportunity to meet with Andrew McIntosh Shadow Attorney General, Kim Wells, Shadow Police and Emergency Services Minister and Nick Kotsiras, Spokesperson on Youth Affairs to give feed-

2004-05 YEAR IN BRIEF (continued)

Drugs and Crime Prevention Committee
Glen Eira City Council
Juvenile Justice Ministerial Roundtable,
Department of Justice
Kathryn Lamb, Director, Disability Services,
Department of Human Services
Kelvin Anderson, Commissioner, Corrections
Victoria
Lil Healy, Director, Office for Youth, Department of
Victorian Communities
Minister Allan, Minister for Employment and Youth
Affairs
Minister Garbutt, Minister for Child Safety Victoria
Mrs Helen Shardy MLA Government appointee of
the Minister for Health, Victoria
Municipal Association of Victoria
National Gallery Victoria
Nick Kotsiras, Shadow Spokesperson for Youth
Office for Youth, Department of Victorian
Communities
VicHealth
Victoria Police
Youth Liaison Officers, Department of Victorian
Communities

KEY CONSULTATIONS WITH NON-GOVERNMENT

Australian Council for Children and Youth
Organisations
Australian Drug Foundation
Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation
Ballarat CAFY Youth Network
Barwon RYAN
Beyond Blue
Cardinia Youth Services
Carers Victoria
Catholic Commission for Justice, Development and
Peace
Central Gippsland RYAN
Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues
Children and Young People's Commission
Coalition
Centre for Excellence for Child and Family
Welfare
City of Melbourne
Council to Homeless Persons
Cutting Edge Youth Services
Dusseldorp Skills Forum
East Gippsland and Wellington RYAN
Foundation for Young Australians
Geelong Youth Services
Glen Eira Youth Services Network Meeting
Homelessness Network Meeting
Inner City RYAN
Inspire Foundation
JobWatch
Law Reform Institute of Victoria
Melbourne Community Fund
Moonee Valley Workers with Young People
Network
National Youth Affairs Research Scheme
Northern Territory Youth Affairs Network (NTYAN)

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back on the Liberal Party policy to introduce youth curfews and anti-social behaviour orders.

The Public Space Action Group (PSAG), a collective of agencies promoting equitable access to public space for young people and convened by YACVic, was formed in early 2005. To kick-start a community campaign to protect and promote young people's rights to access public space, YACVic and the PSAG hosted the Space Invaders? Young people and public space forum in June this year. Proceedings of the forum will be released in the near future, sharing the findings of the day and outlining the direction of the campaign.

Thanks

Special thanks go to the YACVic Policy Advisory Group, the Board, and the Youth Reference Group for their advice, assistance and support. The contributions of YACVic members have also been highly valuable in YACVic's policy work throughout the year. YACVic is also very grateful to all the youth and community sector agencies that have lent support and advice to the development of our policy work.

Jen Rose



Conference participants and presenters

Over the last financial year, I have been lucky enough to work at YACVic in two different roles.

project officer's report

In 2004, before being appointed as the Policy Officer, I was working as the Project Officer at YACVic. The project role focussed on young people on the fringes, through the development of a research paper *Snapshots form the edge: Young people and service providers on the urban fringe of Melbourne* and our statewide conference *Fringe Benefits? Young people on the edge of policy and place*.

Snapshots form the edge: Young people and service providers on the urban fringe of Melbourne is a discussion paper outlining our findings after having consulted with young people and youth service providers in the Interface local government areas on the urban fringe on Melbourne. The report also draws on previous research, to paint a picture of some key elements of the experiences of young people living on the urban fringe and some of

the challenges of providing services to young people in these areas. It focuses on some key service gaps which were commonly raised in YACVic's consultations, including human services gaps, the need for more locally based mental health and counselling services, services to assist young people experiencing homelessness and specific concerns around education and employment for geographically isolated young people. Findings from the report have contributed to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Building New Communities and will be publicly released shortly.

YACVic's statewide conference *Fringe benefits? Young people on the edge of policy and place* was a terrific success with over 300 people attending over the two days, including young people, services providers, State and local government representatives and policy makers and other community representatives. The Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre in South Morang made a great setting for the conference in keeping with the urban fringe theme. Evaluations from the conference told us that people were generally happy with the range of keynote speakers, panels and workshops and gave us some valuable feedback on what we could improve for next time.

A special thanks goes to the conference sponsors for their valuable support, the Office for Youth Department of Victorian Communities, the City of Whittlesea, VicHealth, the Victorian Multicultural Commissions and the Foundation for Young Australians.

Proceedings from the Conference have been released and are available by contacting YACVic for a hard copy or for download from our website.

Jen Rose



Conference participants and presenters

Orygen Youth Mental Health
Peninsula Child Advocacy Group
Professional Association of Youth Workers
Public Space Action Group
Reach
Reconciliation Victoria
RMIT University
ROTARY Club
RYAN Convenors
Social Ventures Australia
Spres
St Lukes, Bendigo
Student Youth Network (SYN Fm)
Swinburne University
The Push
The University of Melbourne
Transport Coalition, Victorian Council of Social Services
Troy Austin, ATSIC Commissioner for Victoria
University of Ballarat
Victoria University
Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association
Victorian Council of Churches
Victorian Council of Social Services
Victorian Legal Aid
Victorian Local Governance Association
Whitelion
Whittlesea Youth Services
Yarra Ranges Community Health Centre
Yarra Ranges Youth Services and Young Leaders Group
Youth Action and Policy Association NSW (YAPA)
Youth Affairs Council of South Australia (YACSA)
Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia (YACWA)
Youth Affairs Network of Queensland
Youth Affairs Network of Tasmania (YNOT)
Youth Coalition ACT
Youth Referral and Independent Person Program
Youth Research Centre, University of Melbourne
YouthLaw

**It has been quite a year and wow,
hasn't it gone fast?**

communication officer's report

When I took over from Nik Beuret in August 2004 YACVic made some changes to the Communication Officer's role. It was reduced from four days to three days a week, which meant there some adjustments in responsibilities within the organisation. It enabled me to focus more on the publication and website needs of YACVic. A big thanks to Nik for all his work with YACVic.

As the new Communications Officer for YACVic I hit the ground running with YIKES! –YACVic's bi-monthly newsletter to be published; a number of publications, stationary and advertising to be designed and printed for YACVic's *Fringe Benefits? Young People on the Edge of Policy and Place* conference; and the Annual General report designed and printed, all in the first six weeks. It was a big blur and the year since then has flown by.

The Conference

Fringe Benefits provided a great introduction to what YACVic is really about, as a wide cross section of the youth services sector as well as many young people participated in a huge array of different workshops. I was able to see just how YACVic fitted into the scheme of things. Some of the work done for the conference included the main conference program plus pre-conference workshop programs, advertising material and the post-conference proceedings. A conference website also worked jointly with the other advertising. Additionally there was the production of conference T-Shirts and bags with the YACVic logo, and a series of animations that played during session intervals, produced in conjunction with Erena Hema.

YIKES!

YIKES! comes out every two months and its always a tight fit of events and news in the youth sector. This year YIKES! has focused on specific issues each month. Happily feedback has been that this has been good, allowing an easy to refer resource overview of a particular subject. Issues covered so far this year include, the Fringe Benefits pre-conference and after conference news, summaries, and titbits; workforce casualisation; youth homelessness; young people and mental health issues; young people and public space and much more.

A bump in the Road

Half way through the year the YACVic offices suffered two burglaries. Both times the communications computer was stolen, while the second time the Server was also taken losing valuable backup work. This resulted in the time consuming process of setting up new computer systems and software with all its associated teething problems. But it's all back on track now.

Major Publications

This year YACVic's Board developed the YACVic Strategic Plan 2005-2008, the organisation's flagship document on our future direction. The Board spent many hours consulting with our members and developing the document, no simple task. Intended to act as a 'flagship' document, it has been quite a challenge to incorporate the many ideas on how the document should look and feel so that it successfully communicates the values and vision that YACVic holds as an organisation.

The Urban Fringe report was one of our major policy reports from 2004. It has been released a bit later than expected, again due to issues arising from the burglaries. It is an in-depth look at the issues affecting young people and service providers living on the fringes of Melbourne.

Additional Communications activities

This year we have done some video consultations with young people talking about Participation in Practice. This video footage formed part of Georgie's presentation at the 8th International Adolescent Health Congress in Portugal.

Another redesign this year was the YACVic PowerPoint template as it is one of our front-line faces to the many different sectors of community and government and is used by the Information and Participation Officer, the Executive Officer and the Policy Officer on an almost daily basis to communicate a wide range of information.

The YACVic website is a well-used resource, but has been waiting on an upgrade for some time now and is one of the communications priorities for the coming year. It has been maintained and updated regularly and continues to be a useful resource for the youth sector as well as providing an archive of all YACVic publications such as policy submissions and reports, our newsletter YIKES!, and media releases.



louise mcdonald communication's officer

YACVic has been producing badges that promote the website as an information tool. They carry our website and are directly targeted to young people to engage with the organisation. A trial run at Pushover was a hit with many young people wanting to know more about our organisation. We are now putting together a young person's membership kit which includes the badges among other things that engage young people who want more involvement with YACVic.

Some of the work we have done for other partnership projects such as Youth Referral and Independent Person Program (YRIPP) has included pamphlets, ID cards for Independent Persons and training manuals. The Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory Council (VIYAC) has had their logo redesigned and all of their stationary needs seen to. They will also be getting a website designed at some point soon.

As for the next year, it's looking very busy already, with a new website image to design which will be aligned with our Strategic Plan, another conference plus moving to new premises which generates much work but many opportunities. I would like to thank Rys, our IPO who is leaving shortly, who I've worked closely with and has helped me immeasurably over the last year. I expect many ideas from discussion with her will come to fruition in the coming year and I look forward to working closely with our new IPO and meeting all the young people and others who are involved with YACVic.

Louise McDonald

The Policy Advisory Group (PAG) provides policy advice to the YACVic Board and staff.

policy advisory group

PAG members are appointed by the Board following each AGM. Members represent a broad range of organisations and services in the youth sector. PAG has a broad knowledge of youth affairs and each member has specific knowledge about particular issues impacting on young people in Victoria.

Policy discussions throughout the year addressed the following issues:

- YACVic Strategic Plan
- YACVic's Fringe Benefits? Young People on the Edge of Policy and Place conference
- Inquiry into Issues Relating to the Development of Body Image among Young People
- Young people and child protection: The child protection outcomes project
- Inquiry into child custody arrangements in the event of family separation
- The professionalisation of youth work
- Inquiry into strategies to reduce harmful alcohol consumption
- Inquiry into the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Amendment Bill 2003
- Volatile substance inhalation legislation and protocol development

Members of the PAG in 2004–05 were:

Roger Holdsworth
(Australian Youth Research Centre, University of Melbourne)

Andrew Williamson (William Angliss Institute)

Stephen Wilson (Youth Substance Abuse Service)

Matthew Hamilton (Orygen Youth Health)

Anita Doyle (Ballarat Community Health Centre)

Chris Camwell (YMCA)

Steve Francis (Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues)

Andrew Lavin (Australian Catholic University)

Chris Walsh (Salvation Army EastCare Network)

Matt Dixon (Centre for Adolescent Health)

Ben Rossiter (Frontyard Youth Services)

The Youth Reference Group (YRG) provide their expertise as young people to the YACVic board and staff.

youth reference group

Early in the year, the Youth Reference Group formed four portfolios or working groups, reflecting some key areas of interest. The working groups included:

- a Children and Young Person's Commission group, which continued to advocate for the creation of a Children and Young Person's Commission
- a Mental Health Working group, which addressed some of the issues surrounding mental health issues for young people, including service gaps and stigma
- a 'Western' Student Stigma group, which looked at the issue of 'stigma' experienced by young students in metropolitan Melbourne's western region
- a Community Capacity Building group, which looked at ways to resource other young people to advocate on their own behalf

These groups saw the YRG get active and write submissions, attend conferences, plan forums and advocate for young people in these four areas.

In addition, the Youth Reference Group provided feedback and advice to or on the following:

- YACVic's Inner City Entertainment Precinct Taskforce Report response
- The Human Rights Consultative Committee
- Dental Health Victoria
- Job Watch and
- 'Txter' Assist

Members of the YRG were:

Andrew Higgs

Cheryl Naik

Maree Wilson

Alan Wu

Melanie Roberts

Lindsay Parkhowell

Amy Shand

Brad Rowswell

Sally Ta

Annie Aumua

Just the second year since its inception, the information and participation role here at YACVic has been extremely diverse and had some really positive results!

information and participation officer's report

Participation

This year saw the 'restructuring' of YACVic in a variety of ways to ensure that young people's participation was maximised throughout the organisation. Not only was our board restructured to 10 people, with 5 designated young persons position but young people continued to increase their engagement with YACVic in a variety of other ways.

Our youth reference group continued to meet this year, and were amazingly proactive! At the start of the year they self-mobilised into four different working groups or portfolios to actively address; young people's mental health issues, stigma and stereotyping suffered by young students in the Western suburbs, a community capacity building portfolio and a Children and Young Person's commissioner group. Their exploits are detailed more fully on page 16.

Beyond our structures, as an organisation YACVic developed and created a variety of other mechanisms to connect with more young people. The membership fee was reduced to \$2 for young people, which saw a mammoth influx of 105 young people joining YACVic, and our email list ANNOUNCE grew from 800 members to over 1,000!

From email lists created to allow the young people who attended October's *Fringe Benefits?* Conference and our underage gig suspension sessions to stay in touch and network, to email lists dedicated to supporting SRCs throughout the state to the creation of a Myspace profile and online group, YACVic exploited the world wired web to connect to young people. Our (very funky if I do say so myself) Myspace page, which was designed and engineered by young people, has over 250 'friends' alone, ensuring that we continue to engage a diversity of young people! Check it out at www.myspace.com/yacvic

By connecting with a diversity of young people across the state, YACVic was able to support young people to participate in a wide range of policy debates including:

- The temporary underage gig suspension in the City of Melbourne review
- The Senate Inquiry into Mental Health
- The discussion surrounding the Inner City Entertainment Precinct Taskforce's discussion paper A Good Night For All
- The Human Rights Consultative Committee's discussion paper
- Broader debates surrounding young people's equitable access to public space

This year also saw the release of our joint project with the Office for Youth, Taking Young People Seriously, which was another great opportunity to go out and speak to young people, especially around the Creating Change in your Community handbook. This year we've



rys farthing information and participation officer

spoken to VCAL students, youth work students, music festival attendees, SRCs and even youth groups from interstate about how to get active!

Beyond young people, 2004/05 also saw a near 40% overall rise in YACVic membership, especially from rural and regional areas—although as page 24 highlights, we still have a long way to go!

Information

The flip-side of this position of is providing 'information' support for YACVic and the sector. As some of you may have noted at a few points throughout the year, YACVic's statistical prowess has seen us conquer surveys, calculate means and incorporate 'data' into our work. We can only thank my graphical calculator and various software for this revolution!

Beyond number crunching however, YACVic continues to remain an important hub of information for the sector. From our resource room to emails, this year has seen us continue to provide as much information as we can to the sector. From meetings to briefings, this is one of YACVic's key functions which I feel we have responded to positively throughout 04/05.

YACVic is often also the first port of call for many queries from the sector; from young people looking for GLBTI support groups in their area to youth workers looking to find funding for projects, we field about five queries a day. Although these requests can be timely to deal with, this is one of the invaluable services we provide, all I can say is keep the questions rolling in!

On a sadder note, as many of you know this will be my last year as the Information and Participation Officer. As you are reading this I will be debating philosophical notions of modernity at the London School of Economics! However with the innovation that comes with this position, I can only happily predict that next year's IPO Larissa will have a whole new and untried brainwave of ideas to keep YACVic connecting with young people and the youth sector.

Rys Farthing

It has been my utmost privilege to serve as Young Media Spokesperson for YACVic and its members for the 04/05 term.



brad rowswell young media spokesperson

young media spokesperson's report

wish Rowena and Craig all the best as their time on the Board concludes. You have both been great mentors. Thank you.

Finally I think it is worth mentioning, with some credit to my role at YACVic, about other media pursuits. As I write this report, I am in Florence, Italy with 150 young people from Melbourne filming a documentary and working for ABC Radio National. We are to meet 2500 young people from Australia in Cologne Germany, where 2 million of the world's youth are expect to join Pope Benedict XVI for World Youth Day - A Catholic cultural festival.

YACVic is an organisation that I am proud to be involved with and wish to continue my involvement in.

I have found the description of media very broad whilst in this role. From being a MC at YACVic hosted forums to being quizzed by "Today Tonight" on 'ITAGs' being introduced for use at McDonald's Restaurants! Been there, done that!

One thing that I have found comfortable doing is calling the secretariat on occasions and giving my opinion on issues. They are always ready to put together a release or follow up the issue. These issues include the question about the appropriateness of Big Brother and other contentious issues. Thank you to Georgie Ferrari especially for guiding me in this process.

I have learnt during my time thus far that YACVic is truly an accepting organisation of different and varied viewpoints. In every case the priority and focus is in the interests of young people and the youth sector. I think this is something to be admired and respected.

I thank my fellow board member for their continued support of me in this role. I especially

These many opportunities have not come out of luck, but out of YACVic's commitment to young people and "non-tokenistic" approach.

Thank you to the Members of YACVic for providing me with this unique opportunity. Thank you to all those who assisted also - the Board, YRG, PAG and Secretariat.

Brad Rowswell

Well it has been a big year for YRIPP!

youth referral and independent person program

YACVic is a key partner in this initiative which represents a partnership with the Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues, the Federation of Community Legal Centres, Crime Prevention Victoria, the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service, Victoria Police, the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs and many local agencies too!

The program became fully operational in police stations on 1st September 2004, providing volunteer Independent Persons to attend police interviews with young people under 17. Based on police requests and community interest, YRIPP quickly expanded from the nine original pilot stations to support young people at 14 police stations in the Local Government Areas of Greater Dandenong, Casey, Maribyrnong, Brimbank, Hume, Darebin and Greater Shepparton.

In terms of our key achievements, YRIPP has:

- established the Statewide infrastructure for 24-hour police callouts of Independent Persons
- developed a comprehensive training manual for volunteers;
- trained over 100 volunteers;
- established a 24-hour legal advice line, staffed by Victoria Legal Aid solicitors
- attended over 200 police interviews to support young people, around 20% of whom were Indigenous and 10% CLD
- Responded to 93% of police callouts within an hour
- Developed local referral systems for 'at risk' young people across all pilot areas
- Referred approximately 50 young people to health and welfare support services to address risk factors associated with offending
- Become integrated within local youth and justice service systems and established Local Youth Justice Networks where required.

On 1st July 2005, legislation was enacted changing the age of the children's court jurisdiction. One of the implications of the legislation was that Independent Persons are now required for police interviews with young people under 18 (rather than under 17) where a



The YRIPP Team L-R: paul teusner, rebecca wolstenholme, sally reid, liz coleman, deborah brown, (sharon murphy, absent).

parent or guardian is not in attendance. YRIPP has updated all program training to reflect this change and has implemented systems to cope with potential significant increases in service demand.

One of the highlights for us this year was on 27th April 2005, the YRIPP Steering Committee was invited to the Victorian Government's Community Safety and Crime Prevention Awards. We were particularly excited to receive the award for Enhancing Safety in Indigenous and Diverse Communities, which was presented to Carmel Guerra (Director, CMYI) and myself by the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the Honourable Tim Holding.

The YRIPP pilot, which is funded by Crime Prevention Victoria, comes to an end on 30th September 2005. Our biggest challenge at the moment is finding funding to continue the program and expand it so that ultimately, support is available for young people at police stations no matter where they are in Victoria. In order to work towards this, we are currently speaking to Government about the best ways of ensuring future program sustainability so... watch this space!

Finally, I'd like to say a huge thankyou to the YRIPP team (staff and steering committee) and all program volunteers for all of your hard work! Also thanks to all of the other program stakeholders - Victoria Legal Aid and local agencies - who have been such a fantastic support to the program. YRIPP looks forward to working with you all well into the future.

Sally Reid

The Youth Homelessness Policy Officer position is jointly auspiced by YACVic, the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare, and Council to Homeless Persons, and is funded by the Office of Housing.

media overview

YACVic gave comment in the media or provided background information and referrals to journalists on 36 instances in the past 12 months to the following media organisations:

- ABC Radio, 774 (seven occasions)
- The AGE (six occasions)
- The Herald Sun (five occasions)
- 3CR (three occasions)
- The Melbourne Times (three occasions)
- Melbourne Times
- Channel 7, Today Tonight (two occasions)
- ABC Radio Gippsland
- ABC Radio Wodonga
- ABC Television News
- Channel 31
- Prime TV
- Macquarie Radio
- The Bulletin
- Gold FM

YACVic gave comment on the following issues:

- Proposed curfews for L and P plate drivers
- Problem gambling and young people
- Youth curfews and anti social behaviour orders
- The suspension of underage events at licensed premises in the CBD
- Young people and public space
- Juvenile justice sentencing issues
- The working with children check
- The Child Safety Commissioner
- Generation "Y"
- Children's working hours
- Abortion
- Young people leaving rural areas
- "ITAGs"
- Young people and violence
- Transit Police
- Funding for youth counselling services

youth homelessness policy officer – council to homeless persons

The position is based at the Council to Homeless Persons with the key purpose being to support the development and implementation of the Victorian Government's Youth Homelessness Action Plan (YHAP). Additional work undertaken includes policy development and analysis on issues affecting young people experiencing homelessness, networking, liaising with and participating in research on youth homelessness, and advocacy. Many of the reports, submissions and policy bulletins developed by the YPO throughout 2004/05 can be found on the CHP website at www.chp.org.au. The position is currently funded until July 2006.

YHAP

Throughout 2004/05 the Youth Policy Officer has been closely involved in the roll out of the first stage of the Youth Homelessness Action Plan. This has included undertaking a project on early intervention and youth homelessness, and in partnership with the Office of Housing, progressing work on shared tenancy models and rules. Both pieces of work are due to be completed later this year. The YPO also resources bi-monthly meetings of youth refuge coordinators who are currently developing a paper on good practice for youth refuges. The YPO is also a member of the reference committees for the Family Reconciliation Mediation Project (FRMP), the Youth Employment, Education, Training Initiative (YEETI), and the Service System Intervention Project on same sex attracted young people, all key initiatives of the YHAP.

Child Protection

In 2004/05 the YPO has taken a keen interest in the relationship between Child Protection and Youth Homelessness, primarily through involvement in 'Protecting Children' the review of Child Protection policies, practice, and governing legislation. The YPO has developed submissions to the key stages of the review process, and participated in a number of committees including the Youth Leadership Group and the DHS VCOSS reference group. The YPO has also advocated strongly on the issue of access to the Child Protection system for young people aged 12-15. This has resulted in media coverage of the issue, regular meetings with the Director of Child Protection, and a policy bulletin on the role of the Advocate for Children in Care.

The Practice of Working with Homeless Young People

The practice of working with young people experiencing homelessness has been a key focus for the YPO throughout 2004/05. The Council to Homeless Persons commissioned Project i to investigate and critically comment on the structural and practice issues that impact on young people's access to and engagement with accommodation and support services. The YPO was closely involved with this project and the report entitled 'Making a Place to Belong' is co-authored by the YPO.

In addition, funds have been granted by the Federal government for the YPO to develop and resource a Youth Practice Network. This network, due to meet this month, will identify key areas of practice, with a view to developing an ongoing, sector-wide, strategic network that critically reflects on, and challenges, the practice of working with young people experiencing homelessness. Anticipated outcomes include:

- Individual and agency staff development
- Building the findings of the network into accredited training
- Input into Industry Planning that better defines the work of homelessness assistance agencies
- Refining service model development

Policy Bulletins, Submissions and Papers

A number of policy bulletins, submissions and papers have been developed throughout 2004/05. These include policy bulletins on:

- Youth Homelessness Assistance Services and Child Protection: What is the role of the Advocate for Children in Care?
- Housing Affordability for Young People, in partnership with the Tenants Union of Victoria
- Youth Homelessness and Mental Health, in partnership with Orygen Youth Health.

The following submissions have also been developed:

- Submission to Protecting Children: ten priorities for children's wellbeing and safety in Victoria, and the Technical Options Report, October 2004
- Submission to A good night for all: Options for improving safety and amenity in inner city entertainment precincts, April 2005
- Submission to the Senate Select Committee on Mental Health, May 2005
- Submission to the Development of a Charter of Rights for Children and Young People in Care, July 2005



michelle marven youth policy officer

A Strategic Background paper on youth homelessness issues has also been developed entitled 'Contextualising Young People: Implications for young people experiencing homelessness'.

Throughout the remainder of 2005 and into 2006 the YPO will continue to strongly advocate for better outcomes for young people experiencing homelessness.

Michelle Marven

My name is Jade Colgan and I'm the new State Coordinator of the Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory Council.



jade colgan

VIYAC state coordinator

victorian indigenous youth advisory council –VIYAC

- Prepare Indigenous youth as best we can, to be future leaders
- To provide support to youth to realise their independence
- To make Indigenous youth aware of the opportunities that are available to them

VIYAC has made some really positive steps in establishing a sound and productive program. We have devised a brochure that has been distributed throughout Victoria.

We have also established a Reference Group. The Reference is made up of prominent members of the Indigenous Community and representatives from YACVic, Aboriginal Affairs and the Office for Youth. These members are there for the state co-ordinator and regional representatives to use for contacts, support, and guidance.

We have also have made a "call out" for 12 young volunteer regional representatives from across the state. Which will make up the VIYAC council. The feedback has been steady but we still need more applicants! These Regional Representatives will be young Indigenous people dedicated to making a change and improving the life of Indigenous youth across Victoria. They will be a point of contact for the State Coordinator, attend VIYAC meetings and be a voice for Indigenous youth in their communities. We now have eight of the 12 members on board.

One of VIYAC's goals is to help support and develop all of the young people who get on board as best we can. We will provide them with skills development, great contacts, and opportunities that will help them to become future leaders for the Indigenous community and Victoria. VIYAC is also extremely excited by the fact that this is a youth run program, the agenda and tone of the program will be set by the youth, for youth. A concept I feel is really appealing and exciting!

Everyone can make a difference. I am really excited about the year ahead and the possibilities that may be just around the corner for VIYAC and the Indigenous youth of Victoria

Jade Colgan

I am 23 yrs old and am Aboriginal. My tribe is the Barkandji Tribe and we are known as the "River people", Barkandji people are from the Mildura, to the Wilcannia area. I am really excited and optimistic about VIYAC and can't wait to see where the program is headed. The possibilities are endless as there is so much room for positive development, growth and achievement for Indigenous young people.

You might be asking, what is VIYAC? VIYAC stands for the Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory Council. It is an initiative that is funded by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria and supported by the Office for Youth. YACVic is the auspice agency for the program. VIYAC will facilitate the voice of young Indigenous Victorians on issues that affect them.

VIYAC can help young Indigenous people by being a voice for them and simply just being here to listen. In the past the voices of young Indigenous Victorians have not been heard to their full potential. VIYAC can also be a vehicle that can help youth to access both government and non-government organizations, along with others in the community, to help have their say.

The program objectives are:

- To be a voice for Indigenous youth
- To be heard by the Government
- To provide a mechanism to voice youth concerns to older people
- To bring Indigenous youth and the broader community together
- Promote a sense of pride in being young and Indigenous
- To affect positive change for Indigenous youth
- Improve quality of life for Indigenous youth
- To enable Indigenous youth to have a say

YACVic membership has seen a huge increase throughout the year.

membership report

This year saw a big increase in YACVic membership, from 261 members in 03/04 to 362 in 04/05 (see figure one). A large part of this increase came from new young members, as the new membership category and reduced price came into effect. As figure two shows, young people and organisations with an income over \$50,000 per annum now make up the bulk of our membership.

Types of YACVic membership

YACVic has five main membership categories: organisational members, individual members, additional members and associate members. Individual memberships and organisational membership have a few 'additional' categories based on income and age.

Government departments are entitled to become associate members only. Additional members are affiliates of a larger umbrella organisation that is a member of YACVic. Reciprocal member are organisations that exchange periodicals with YACVic.

What kind of organisations and people are members of YACVic?

The members list on the right contains a detailed list of the organisations that are members of YACVic.

Roughly half of these organisational members are not-for-profit organisations and individuals who are committed to YACVic's ongoing work. These organisations include direct service agencies such as youth services, neighbourhood houses, community legal and health centres as well as policy and research bodies. Roughly a quarter of our membership base is young people, who are directly affected by our work.

Location of YACVic members

YACVic is a state-wide service which advocates for all Victorian young people. As the maps on page 24 indicate most of our membership is centred around metropolitan Melbourne, with a few other rural strongholds, including Greater Geelong, Ballarat and Greater Shepparton. Generally, the Western region of the state has the lowest levels of representation.

2004-05 MEMBERS

- Adolescent Forensic Health Services
- Anglicare Community Accommodation
- Anglicare Youth Services Glenroy
- ANTaR
- Ardoch Youth Foundation
- Association for Children with a Disability
- Australian Clearinghouse for Youth Studies (ACYS)
- Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)
- Australian Red Cross Victoria
- Australian Youth Research Centre/ Connect Student Magazine
- Ballarat Community Health Centre
- Banyule City Council
- Barwon Adolescent Task Force (BATFORCE)
- Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning and Employment Network
- BAYSA Youth Services
- Baywest Youth Housing Group
- Bendigo Community Health Services
- Berry Street
- BEST Inc.
- Beyond Blue
- Birchip P-12 School
- Boroondara Youth Services
- Braybrook Secondary College SRC
- Brimbank Community Initiatives
- Brophy Family & Youth Services Inc.
- Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Carers Association Victoria
- Carlton Fitzroy Financial Counselling Service
- Carrum Downs Secondary College
- Catchment Youth Services Refuge
- Catholic Youth Ministry
- Central Goldfields Shire Council
- Central Grampians LLEN
- Centre Against Sexual Assault (CASA)
- Centre Citizenship and Human Rights
- Centre for Adolescent Health
- Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare
- Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues (CMYI)
- Centrelink
- Child & Family Services - Ballarat Inc
- City of Ballarat, Youth Services
- City of Boorondara
- City of Casey
- City of Darebin - Youth Services
- City of Greater Bendigo, Youth Services
- City of Greater Geelong
- City of Kingston - Youth Services
- City of Maribyrnong
- City of Melbourne
- City of Monash
- City of Moonee Valley
- City of Port Phillip
- City of Whittlesea
- City of Wodonga
- City of Yarra
- Colac Area Health
- Community Child Care Association
- Connections
- Council for Homeless Persons (CHP)
- Cutting Edge Youth Services (CEYS)
- De La Salle College, Voice of Youth
- Defence for Children International
- Department of Criminology, University of Melb
- Department of Education Science and Training
- Department of Family and Community Services
- DHS - Northern and Western Metro Regions

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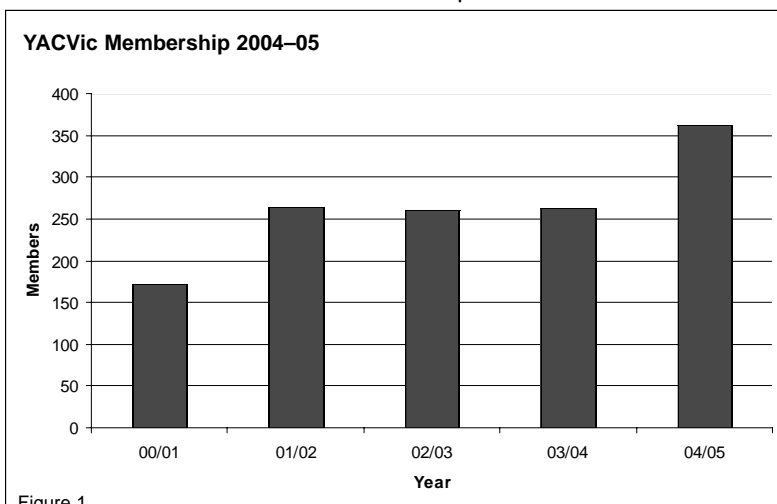


Figure 1

2004-05 MEMBERS (continued)

Disability Employment Action Centre (DEAC)
 Doveton Secondary College SRC
 Eastern Access Community Health
 Eastern Homeless Network
 Express Media
 Family Access Network Inc.
 Family Planning Victoria Inc
 Family Planning Victoria Inc
 Federation of Community Legal Centres (FCLC)
 Financial and Consumer Rights Council
 Foundation for Young Australians
 Frankston Youth Resource Centre
 Frontyard Youth Services
 Frontyard Youth Services
 Fusion Australia Ltd. (Vic)
 Futures
 Gippsland Accommodation & Rehabilitation Support Services (GARSS)
 Gippsland East Local Learning and Employment Network
 Golden Plains Shire Council
 Goldfields Employment and learning centre
 Goldfields Local Learning and Employment Network
 Good Shepherd Youth & Family Service Inc.
 Gordon Institute of TAFE
 Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE
 Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE
 Greater Dandenong Community Health Services
 Hanover Welfare Services
 Hanover Welfare Services Dandenong
 Hanover Young Adults and Young Womens
 Highlands Local Learning & Employment Network Inc (LLEN)
 Hobart City Council
 Incolink
 Inglewood & Districts Health Service
 Inner Northern Local Learning and Employment Network
 Jesuit Social Services
 Jesuit Social Services
 Job Watch
 Juvenile Justice-Department of Human Services
 Kids Helpline
 Kildonan Child and Family Services
 Kilmany uniting Care
 Knox Youth Services
 Latrobe City Council
 Lighthouse Foundation
 MacKillop Family Services
 MacRobertson Girls' High School
 Mallee Accommodation & Support Program Inc
 Manningham YMCA Inc
 Manningham Youth & Family Services Inc.
 Marist Transition School
 Marist Transition School
 Maroondah City Council - Youth Services
 Melbourne City Council
 Melbourne City Mission
 Melbourne City Mission
 Melbourne Girls College SRC
 Melton Secondary College
 Melton Shire Council- Youth service
 Mentone Girls Secondary
 Menzies Inc.
 Mildura Rural City Council (Youth Services)
 Mill Park Leisure Centre

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YACVic Members 2004-05

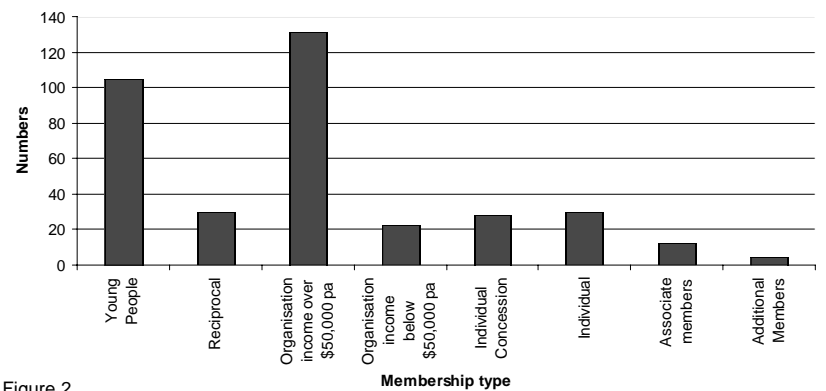
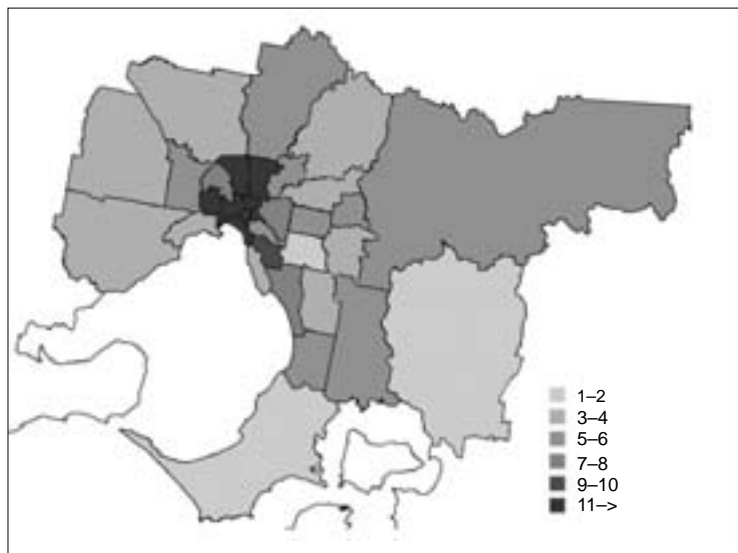
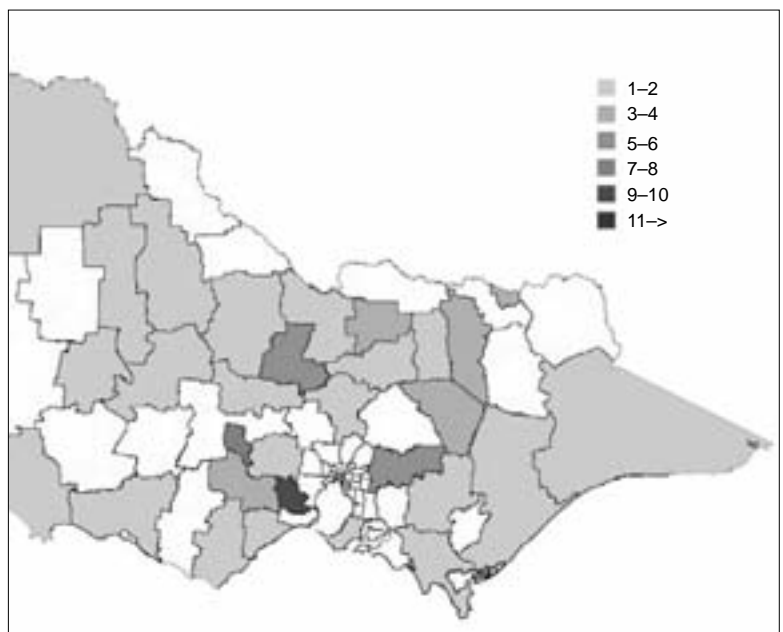


Figure 2

Metropolitan Melbourne Membership



Victorian Membership



2004–05 MEMBERS (continued)

MIM Adolescent Health
Monash Student Association
Monash University
Monash University Student Union Board
Moorabool Shire Council
Moreland City Council Youth Services
Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Mount Eliza Secondary College
Murray Mallee Community Legal Service
National Childrens Youth Law Centre (NCYLC)
Neami Ltd
Nexus Youth Resource Centre
Nillumbik Shire Council- Youth Service
North Central Local Learning & Employment Network
North East Support & Action for Youth Inc
North Melbourne Institute of TAFE
Northern Territory Youth Affairs Network (NTYAN)
NSW Association for Adolescent Health
Office of Bruce Mildenhall MP
Ombudsman Office Victoria
Open Family Australia
Orana Family Services
Orygen Youth Health
Oz Child: Children Australia
Probation Officers & Volunteers in Corrections Inc
Reach Foundation
RMIT University
Rural City of Wangaratta
Salvation Army - Crossroads/ Youth & Family Services
Salvation Army South East Services Network SESN
Salvation Army Victoria
Second Strike Productions
Secretariat National Aboriginal and Islander Childcare Inc.
(SNAICC)
Serials Team- IAOS
Sexual Assault Youth Outreach Service
Shelford Girls Grammar
Shire of Campaspe
Shire of Strathbogie
Shire of Yarra Ranges - Youth Services
Simonds Catholic College
Southern Family Life
St Bede's College
St Catherines
St John Ambulance Australia
St Kilda Youth Service Inc
St Monica's College
St. Lukes Family Care - Anglicare
Star of the Sea College
State Library of Victoria
Streetwork Outreach Service
Sunbury College
Sunraysia Commuity Health Services
Surf Coast Shire
TAFE-Bendigo
Taskforce Community Agency Inc.
The Bridge
The Cancer Council Victoria
The Foundation for Young Australians
The Push
The Salvation Army - Eastcare Network
The Ship for World Youth Alumni Organsiation
Tooronga Scout Centre
Uniting Youth Ministries
University of Ballarat
University of Ballarat
University of Ballarat–Tippett Library SMB Campus
Upper Hume Community Health
VicHealth
Victoria University
Victoria University - Youth Studies
Victoria University Youth Studies
Victorian Association of Youth in Communities (VAYC)
Victorian Community Council Against Violence (VCCAV)
Victorian Council of Social Services (VCOSS)
Victorian Council of YMCA's
Victorian Independent Education Union (VIEU)
Victorian Police Youth Affairs
Victorian Young Farmers Inc.
VIVAIDS
VLGA
Warringa Park School Junior School Council
Welfare Rights Unit
Wellington Shire Council
Westall Secondary College
Western English Language School
Western Region Accommodation Program
Western Young People's Independent Network (WYPIN)
Whitelion
Williamstown High School
William Angliss Institute
Williamstown High School
Wodonga Institute of TAFE
Wombat Housing and Support Services
Word and Mouth
Workco
Wyndham Youth Service
Yarra Ranges Youth Services
Yarra Valley Community Health
Yarriambiak Shire
Yarriambiak Shire
YMCA
Young Peoples Health Service
Young Peoples Health Service
Young Unionists Network
Youth Action & Policy Association NSW (YAPA)
Youth Affairs Council of South Australia (YACSA)
Youth Affairs Council of WA (YACWA)
Youth Affairs Network of Queensland (YANQ)
Youth Alive Victoria
Youth Coalition of the ACT
Youth Empowerment Against HIV
Youth Futures - Mission Australia
Youth Law
Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT)
Youth Projects Inc.
Youth Research Centre
Youth Substance Abuse Service (YSAS)
Youth Support Services - St. Vincent de Paul
YouthLaw
YWCA Victoria
NZHAAHD

Please note for privacy reasons YACVic does not publish the names of individual members.

treasurer's report

What a year its been at YACVic! Two burglaries make it difficult to balance the books, however we have managed to record a small operating surplus of \$9,353 despite these setbacks. It has been a busy year from a financial point of view with the State Conference and a number of new program grants. We have seen an increase in the work of the Secretariat which will continue into 2006 with the establishment of the Youth Disability Advocacy Service.

Security became a very real issue for YACVic this year with the burglaries which prompted a review and the need for us to more vigilant and introducing additional security measures. This has in part contributed to the decision to vacate the current premises YACVic occupies and to move to a more suitable location which can suitably accommodate people with disabilities. The small surplus announced makes this move easier as it provides YACVic with some capital to defray the costs of moving to the new premises in Flinders Street later this year.

The year ahead will be YACVic's biggest with regards to the budget which has been passed by the board and reflects the growing diversity of the work of the organisation to represent both the disability and indigenous youth sectors.

As this will be my last report as both Treasurer and Board Member I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Georgie Ferrari, Executive Officer and Sally Goldner, Finance Officer who have contributed to the smooth operation of YACVic's finances over the past 12 months. In particular I would like to thank Sally for her meticulous preparation of the monthly finance reports which makes the job of Treasurer all that much easier. I would also like to thank the Board and Secretariat of YACVic for their fantastic work throughout the year for what I believe is the best state youth peak in the country. I wish YACVic all the very best for 2006 and it is with pleasure that I present to you the financial report for 2004 - 2005.



Craig Hodges
Treasurer



craig hodges treasurer



sally goldner finance officer

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT
30 JUNE 2005**

	Note	2005 \$	2004 \$
Current Assets			
Cash	7	377,852	84,427
Receivables		11,916	11,313
Prepayments		3,867	3,462
Total Current Assets		393,635	99,202
Non Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	5	19,686	18,915
Total Assets		413,321	118,117
Current Liabilities			
Payables		7,728	15,161
Provisions		38,084	28,381
Grants in advance	6	292,584	9,600
Other		2,166	1,570
Total Current Liabilities		340,563	54,712
Net Assets		72,758	63,405
Members Funds			
Cash based Reserves		53,072	44,490
Fixed asset based reserves		19,686	18,915
		72,758	63,405

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2005**

	Note	2005 \$	2004 \$
Revenue from ordinary activities	2	385,527	343,691
Employee expenses		(239,385)	(245,421)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(9,516)	(12,753)
Other expenses from ordinary activities		(127,272)	(85,230)
Surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities	3,4	9,353	288
Increase/(decrease) in reserves from prior year adjustments			
		9,353	288

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2005**

	Note	2005 \$	2004 \$
Cash Flow from Operating Activities 7			
<i>Receipts</i>			
Receipts from members		17,589	15,142
Operating grants		351,300	195,646
Interest Earned		4,314	2,363
Other receipts		306,000	60,364
<i>Payments</i>			
Payments to suppliers and employees		(367,696)	(334,763)
Cash Flow from Operating Activities		311,506	(61,249)
Cash Flow from Investing Activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(18,082)	(7,750)
Cash Flow from Investing Activities		(18,082)	(7,750)
Cash Flow from Financing Activities			
Cash Flow from Financing Activities			0
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash held		293,425	(68,999)
Cash at the beginning of the year		84,427	153,426
Cash at the end of the year		377,852	84,427

The accompanying notes form part of this financial report

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005

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 Victorian Communities 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.

financial report 2004-05
Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005


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 2005 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)



Craig Hodges
(Treasurer)

Dated this 4th day of August 2005

NOTE 2: REVENUE	2005	2004
	\$	\$
Operating activities		
Government grants	311,624	308,396
Other grants	14,545	
Membership subscriptions	16,993	17,969
Interest received	4,422	2,685
Publications	304	4,471
Forums and training	1,136	-
Other income	36,502	10,170
Total revenue	385,527	343,691

NOTE 3: SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	2005	2004
	\$	\$
Surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities has been determined after		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	9,516	12,753
Remuneration of auditor		
- audit services	1,247	1,486
- other services		-
Total remuneration	1,247	1,486

financial report 2004–05

Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005

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	2004	2003
	\$	\$
Furniture and fittings - at cost	4,435	4,435
Less Accumulated depreciation	(2,004)	(1,560)
	2,431	2,874
Leasehold improvements	5,628	6,028
Less Accumulated depreciation	(2,546)	(2,132)
	3,082	3,896
Office equipment	35,421	49,946
Less Accumulated depreciation	(21,247)	(37,801)
	14,173	12,145
	19,686	18,915

NOTE 6: GRANTS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE	2004	2003
	\$	\$
City of Whittlesea		3,000
VicHealth	33,000	6,600
DHS re disability advocacy service	141,125	
VIYAC	43,660	
OFY/DVC funding	74,800	
	292,584	9,600

NOTE 7: CASH FLOW INFORMATION	2004	2003
	\$	\$

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	377,852	84,427
	377,852	84,427

B) Reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to operating surplus

Operating surplus	9,353	288
non cash flows in operating surplus		
depreciation	9,516	12,753
Provisions	9,703	1,123
loss on sale of assets	7,794	192

other non cash flows
movement in reserves

Changes in assets & liabilities

Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(7,433)	(4,926)
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities		-
Increase/(decrease) in grants received in advance	282,984	(59,150)
Increase/(decrease) in membership received in advance	596	(2,827)
(Increase)/decrease in other current assets	(405)	(825)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(603)	(7,877)
	311,506	-61,249

J. L. COLLYER & PARTNERS
ACCOUNTANTS & AUDITORS

1st FLOOR, 63 KINGSWAY, GLEN WAVERLEY, VICTORIA
PO BOX 340 GLEN WAVERLEY, VIC. 3150
PHONE 03 9560 0211 FAX 03 9561 5497
EMAIL bcatax@jccaandco.com.au

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

SCOPE

We have audited the special purpose financial report comprising the Statement of Financial Position, Operating Statement, Cash Flow Statement and Notes to the Financial Statements, of **Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc.** for the year ended 30th June 2005. The Committee of Management is responsible for the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of **Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Vic.** 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 distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Committee of Management's financial reporting requirements under the constitution. 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 examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements. (These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and UIG Consensus Views).

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

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents a true and fair view in accordance with the accounting policies to the financial statements the financial position of **Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc.** as at 30th June 2005, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, and gives a true and fair view of the **Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc** during and at the end of its last financial year.

Date: 1st August 2005

Partner: 
JANET L COLLYER

DIRECTORS
JANET L. COLLYER FCPA LIONEL R. ARNOLD CA

So many people and organisations have helped YACVic over the past 12 months, it is almost impossible to name them all but we are going to have a go at it...

thank you

Anna Duff, YRIPP volunteer

Liz Ellis, Disability Advocacy Service volunteer

Dante Gabriele, Conference volunteer

Rochelle Gear, MySpace webpage design

Melissa Medonic, MySpace consultant

Kate Beasey, MySpace consultant

Ben Skepper, Public Space volunteer

Kate Salmon, Public Space volunteer

Ele Toulman, Underage events in
CBD advocate

Izzy Beeche, Underage events in
CBD advocate

Julia Frances, DVD on Underage events

The Grates, Badge design

AmpedUp, FreeZa Moreland

Garner Clancy, YAPA 'Hanging Out Together'
project consultant

National Australia Bank

SYN FM

Blakes Dawson Waldron Lawyers

Plenty Ranges Arts and Convention Centre

City of Whittlesea

Irene Verrins, VicHealth

Trudy Wise, Melbourne Community
Foundation

byran Andy

Tim Corney, Incolink

Carmel Guerra, Steve Francis and
the CMYI Team

Peter Newling, YMCA Australia

Danny Sandor

Peter Chellew and the Push Team

Kavitha Chandrea-Shekeran, WYPIN

Sally James, Melbourne City Mission

Sharon Fisher, Melbourne City Mission

Janet Jukes, Past YACVic Executive Officer

Amanda Watkinson, RMIT

Judith Bessant, RMIT

Paula Grogan, Naomi Brown and
Anna Radonic, Youthlaw

Cath Smith, Bev Kliger and the VCOSS Team

Deb Tsobaris, Michelle Marven and the
CHP Team

Community Print

Print Mode

David Murray and the YSAS Team

Trent McCarthy and Ben Purdy, Dramatic
Solutions for Human Communication

Alison Knott, City of Melbourne

Brigid Henly, City of Melbourne

Sarah Nicholson, Federation of Community
Legal Centres

Terry Kilmister, Boardworks International

Justin Finigan and Geoff Adsett,
Finrea Computers

All participants in YACVic's *Urban Fringe*
consultations.



youthaffairs
COUNCIL OF VICTORIA INC.

YACVic is on the move,
please note our new address

Level 2
172 Flinders St
Melbourne 3000
www.yacvic.org.au
info@yacvic.org.au