

Annual Report 2017–18

YACVic is the leading advocate for young people aged 12–25 in Victoria. As a peak body, we work closely with young Victorians and the sector that supports them to deliver effective advocacy, events, training, resources and support – so that young people can live their best lives. We're driven by our valuable members and their vision for a positive future for young Victorians.

YACVic is an independent, for purpose organisation with core funding from the Victorian Government's Office for Youth. We pursue social justice by maintaining a focus on those young people in our community who face disadvantage or marginalisation.

We provide additional targeted advocacy and services through our core agencies, YACVic Rural and the Youth Disability Advocacy Service, and proudly auspice and support our partner agencies, the Koorie Youth Council and the Victorian Student Representative Council.

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October 2018





YACVic respectfully acknowledges the traditional custodians of the Aboriginal nations within Victoria where our work takes place. We pay our respects to Elders both past and present and acknowledge the children and young people of past, current and future generations.

Reflecting on a year of diverse achievement

As I sit down to write this, fresh in my mind are the recent and brilliant inaugural YACVic Rural Youth Awards, the powerful Ngaga-dji report from Koorie Youth Council, and the #vicyouth2020 campaign, but I thought it prudent to review some key achievements from the last year. And lucky I did because I was honestly stunned by how much YACVic has achieved in that time.

Front + Centre was our first conference in five years and a mammoth effort from the team. Its success confirmed that ours is a sector full of dedicated, passionate and creative folk, and that sometimes we need to step out of our busyness to reflect, learn and celebrate.

And since then?

The stats in this report speak for themselves. Our achievements over the past year reflect our ongoing commitment to meaningful youth participation, to value the diverse experiences of young people, to continue to grow our support and presence across Victoria, and to use the richness gained from our membership base in our advocacy to decisions makers.

All this has occurred alongside the effort of finding a new, permanent home for YACVic. I would like to acknowledge the endeavours of the entire team – from core and partner agencies alike – in continuing to work together to support young people in Victoria, and the people who work with them during this difficult time. I look forward to welcoming our members into fabulous new office very soon.

It seems change is the only constant and with that in mind I would like to acknowledge our outgoing board members for offering YACVic their time and passion, in particular Louisa Ellum, who served as Chair for most of her tenure.

YACVic really is wonderful: such a powerful mix of members and staff, humans who believe in young people and social justice, listening and respect. I can't wait to sit here again next year and read about our achievements.

Kerrie Loveless - Chair



Board of Governance



Kerrie Loveless Chair



Louisa Ellum Deputy Chair



Benson Saulo Treasurer



Katerina Dandanis



Paul Turner



Bev Hoffman Rural Representative



Jacob Mildren



Natasha Ritchie



Lauren Oliver



Kareem El-Ansary

Expanding our engagement through times of change

2017-18 has been a remarkable year for YACVic.

Our Youth Work Matters campaign has raised awareness of the need for, and unique value of youth work. We celebrated securing Certificate IV Youth Work as a free TAFE course. Now more people can embark on a youth work career, benefiting young people and communities throughout our state.

We delivered on our strategic goal to lead youth participation and engage well with our members. Revising our youth participation model, we created over 100 opportunities to involve young members in our work. Most notably, our innovative Young Thinker in Residence and Activators programs launched a new wave of youth advocates.

As the youth peak, we led a strong, connected and professional youth sector with over 30 training, networking and information sessions for over 800 people. Plus, we presented Australia's biggest youth work event in recent years, our Front + Centre conference.

And we've made waves as the key source of knowledge and expertise on youth issues by increasing our media coverage and interaction with government and political stakeholders. Our policy advocacy has remained resolute, with multiple submissions, papers and presentations. We underpinned this with a new website and refreshed communications.

We've excelled across our organisation. Our Rural team has established itself in the Great South Coast and Southern Mallee regions, while connecting and working alongside hundreds of young people and youth practitioners across country Victoria. Our Youth Disability Advocacy Service provided NDIS workshops for over 1,600 young people and family members. Our work as part of the Marram Nganyin Aboriginal Youth Mentoring Program and HEY partners ensured specialist support for young people and communities. And our auspiced partner agencies, Koorie Youth Council and the Victorian Student Representative Council have continued to grow from strength to strength.

All of this has been possible thanks to our dedicated team. I'm grateful to staff from all agencies for their commitment and support for each other. My thanks also go to our Board of Governance, I have valued their guidance over this eventful year.

Leo Fieldgrass - Chief Executive Officer

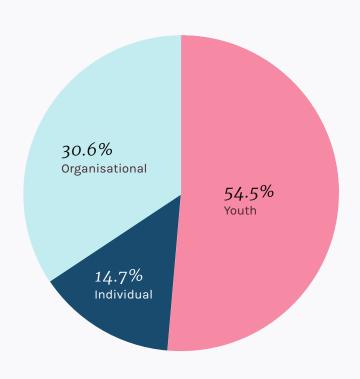


We're driven by our valuable members and their vision for a positive future for young Victorians.

2017-18 total members: 453

Total membership in 2016–17 was 342, representing an increase of 32.5%

Additional member	4
Associate member	4
Individual concession	18
Individual member	41
Local government (metro)	24
Local government (rural/regional)	24
Small organisation	42
Medium organisation	7
Large organisation	32
Reciprocal	10
Under 25	230
VicSRC Executive member	13
YDAS member	2
Youth-led	2



Organisational Members

Anchor Inc Anglicare Bendigo Anglicare Victoria

Ardoch Youth Foundation

Association for Children with a Disability Australian Catholic University - Youth Work

Australian Red Cross Victoria **Ballarat Community Health** Banyule City Council Banyule Nillumbik LLEN Barwon Adolescent Task Force Bass Coast Shire Council Baw Baw Latrobe LLEN **Bayside City Council**

Bayside Glen Eira Kingston LLEN

Berry Street

BGT Employment Services Boroondara Youth Services Brimbank Melton LLEN Brimbank Youth Services

Brophy Family & Youth Services Inc. Brotherhood of St Laurence

Campaspe Cohuna LLEN Campaspe Shire Council Capital City LLEN Cardinia Shire Council Centacare Ballarat Central Grampians LLEN Central Ranges LLEN

Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare

Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY)

Charis Mentoring City of Ballarat City of Casey City of Darebin

City of Greater Dandenong City of Greater Geelong City of Kingston City of Melbourne City of Monash City of Port Phillip City of Whittlesea City of Wodonga City of Yarra

cohealth

Connections UnitingCare Corangamite Shire Council

E-Focus

Family Access Network Inc.

Federation Uni Australia

Frankston Mornington Peninsula LLEN

Fusion Australia

Gannawarra Shire Council

Gateway LLEN Geelong Region LLEN Gippsland East LLEN

Gippsland Lakes Community Health Glenelg and Southern Grampians LLEN

Golden Plains Shire Council

Goldfields LLEN

Good Shepherd Youth & Family Service Inc.

Goulburn Murray LLEN

Greater Dandenong Community Health Services

Heywood SC Standing Tall Program

Highlands LLEN **Hume City Council** Hume Whittlesea LLEN Inner Eastern LLEN Inner Northern LLEN Innovation Youth Centre

Job Watch

Knox Youth Services Les Twentyman Foundation Macedon Ranges Shire Council MacKillop Family Services Manna Gum Community House

Mansfield Shire Council

Maribyrnong & Moonee Valley LLEN

Maribyrnong City Council Maroondah City Council Melbourne City Mission Melton City Council Member for Prahran Mildura Rural City Council Minister for Youth Moonee Valley City Council Moorabool Shire Council

Moreland City Council Mornington Peninsula Shire Council Mount Alexander Shire Council

Murray Mallee LLEN Murrindindi Shire Council

NE TRACKS LLEN Neami National Nillumbik Shire Council North Central LLEN North East LLEN

North East Support & Action for Youth (NESAY) Northern College of the Arts & Technology

Northern District Community Health Service

Northern Grampians Shire Council

Northern Mallee LLEN

Ocean Grove Neighbourhood Centre Opposition Spokesperson for Youth Affairs

Outer Eastern LLEN Rainbow Network Reach Foundation

Rural City of Wangaratta

Scouts Victoria South East LLEN

South Gippsland Bass Coast LLEN South Gippsland Shire Council South Port Community Housing

South West LLEN

St Kilda Police & Citizens Youth Club

State Library of Victoria Stonnington Youth Services Strathbogie Shire Council Surf Coast Shire Council Swan Hill Rural City Council

SYN Media

The Bridge Youth Service The Drum Youth Services **UN Youth Victoria**

University of Melbourne - Library Victoria University - Youth Studies Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA)

Victorian Trades Hall Council Volunteering Victoria

WAYSS Ltd

Wellington Shire Council Whitehorse City Council Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN

Wimmera Uniting Care

Wombat Housing and Support Services

WynBay LLEN

Wyndham City Council - Youth Services

Yarra Ranges Council YMCA Ballarat YMCA Victoria Youth Action

Youth Affairs Network of Queensland (YANQ)

Youth Coalition of the ACT

Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT)

Youth Research Centre

Youthlaw YSAS Pty Ltd

Youth participation and sector development

We're on a mission to make young people part of everything we do. In the last year we've taken a fresh approach to engaging young people in more varied ways across our organisation.

Key stats

19 Code of Ethical Practice and Youth Participation trianing

327 Participants

98% Satisfied or extremely satisfied

4 Youth Participation Practice Network events with 117 participants

131 Youth participation opportunities

12 youth participation sessions attended by 170 people

7 YACVic info sessions, attended by 326 people

Over 2017–18 we created exciting new roles and opportunities within our policy, HR and communications teams.

We launched our most innovative youth participation initiative to date in the form of the Young Thinker in Residence (YTiR) program. We employed two young people to work within our policy team to create an advocacy project on a topic of their choosing with the full support of YACVic, our partners, members and extensive networks.

We also created a Help Recruit Team of YACVic young members who we trained in recruitment so that they could sit as equal members on interview panels for all our new recruits. We have gained direct insight from young people about each candidate, which helps to create a staff team best placed to work with young people, and the young members on the panel receive training that benefits their employability.

Our young members asked to see changes in our organisation and we've been challenging ourselves to try new ways of bringing young people together. This has been through the Young Members Working Group, which is a trial of six meetings to hear from engaged young members on key organisational priorities over six months including our work on Child Safe Standards, the election policy platform and youth participation. This group will also direct the next iteration of what young members at YACVic can bring to the organisation in a group format.

Front + Centre

In October 2017, YACVic hosted Front + Centre: the role and future of youth work. The three-day event was our first conference in five years and Australia's biggest youth sector event since 2013.

Front + Centre hosted 345 delegates, of which 39% described themselves as youth workers and 43% identified as youth sector professionals.

Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive, with participants enthusiastic about the nine keynote and panel sessions, which ranged from discussions about the current state and future of youth work, ending family violence and promoting respectful relationships, longitudinal research with young people, story-telling, collaborative arts, the NDIS, and young people, gender and sexuality. Delegates also enjoyed more than 25 workshops on youth policy, research and youth work practice.

Marram Nyanyin

Marram Nganyin, meaning 'we are strong' in the Woiwurrung language of the Wurundjeri people, is an Aboriginal youth mentoring program supported by a partnership between YACVic, Koorie Youth Council and the Victorian Government Department of Health and Human Services. YACVic and KYC assist five funded Aboriginal organisations in different parts of the state to design and deliver local mentoring opportunities for Aboriginal young people (12–25 years old).

In 2017–18, Marram Nganyin held seven training workshops for 69 mentors, created 15 tailored support resources, provided 109 support phone calls, engaged directly with 68 young people.

HEY grants

The HEY (Healthy Equal Youth) grants are small grants administered by YACVic on behalf of the Victorian Government. HEY grants support both specialist LGBTIQ+ and mainstream youth organisations to undertake mental health promotion and community engagement activities which focus on LGBTIQ+ young people (14–25).

In this seventh year of HEY grants, a total of \$111,879 was awarded to 12 grant recipients. YACVic administered a further, one-off \$50,000 in funding to support HEY Partners' initiatives associated with the same sex marriage postal survey.

The Grants were widely promoted and YACVic received 36 applications. There was a fantastic diversity in applications and funded projects responding to emerging issues for LGBTIQ+ young people's mental health and wellbeing.

"[The] importance of understanding diversity of the young people we work with and practicing inclusion of all young people in services."

"The power of storytelling in youth work."

"Understanding and promoting the value of youth work to ourselves and others."

Key ideas that Front + Centre delegates said they'd take away from the conference.

Young Thinker in Residence

In July 2017 we launched the Young Thinker in Residence (YTIR) program — a initiative to employ young people (aged 18-25) to spend time 'thinking' on a social or political topic of their choosing. A first of its kind, the program ran for 16 weeks and offered Young Thinkers the opportunity to create an advocacy project on a topic of their choosing with full support of YACVic, our partners, members and extensive networks.

Our two inaugural Young Thinkers, Brittany and Annika, used the opportunity as a launch pad and have gone on to do some incredible work in their chosen areas of interest.

Brittany produced an outstanding research report, Young Care Leavers: The Need for Peer Support as a call to action for the out of home care sector to better support young care leavers with peer-led support groups. During her research she reviewed current literature and ran sessions with local youth services to hear the views and concerns of young care leavers, particularly when it comes to housing and support. Brittany's extensive research highlighted the value of peer relationships and presented a compelling case for the need for more peer support programs in our community.

Since her time as Young Thinker Brittany continues her outstanding work with CREATE Foundation, the Centre for Exellence in Child and Family Welfare and Youthlaw.

Annika created an inspiring video called The Hidden Victors, based on a message of hope for children and young people experiencing family violence. Her video was hugely successful and since her time with YACVic she has continued to advocate on family violence. Currently Annika works with the Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria (DVRCV) and Berry Street and has presented at events such as the Child-Centred Approaches to Ending Family Violence conference. We were also pleased to hear that she was the winner of the Holmesglen Independent Achievement Award.

One of the biggest successes of the YTiR program was the collaboration of the sector to support ideas driven by young people. The program emerged out of a lack of platforms for young Victorians to be heard on issues they care about and are affected by. The vast majority of policy and research related to young people is commissioned and undertaken by people who are not 'young'. The YTiR program stands to challenge the traditional methods of policy development and put power in the hands of those living within or with close connection to the issues they advocate for. We're excited about building the YTiR program in coming years through a partnership and sponsorship approach and where the program will go next.

"One of the biggest successes of the Young Thinker in Residence program for us was the collaboration of the sector to support ideas driven by young people."





Policy and Research

It's been a big year for young Victorians. We've seen major new investments by the Victorian Government in vocational education and training, careers education in schools, school re-engagement (with the extension of the Navigator program and the cementing of the LOOKOUT Centres), and child protection, as well as an expansion of Empower Youth, to help re-engage young people at risk of disadvantage in their communities.

Key stats

17,921 Reached with the Youth Work Matters 'hero' video – 9,409 views, 671 reactions and 1,142 post clicks.

70 Youth workers from interface communities at consultations about youth service provision.

7 Young people supported to present to Victorian parliamentary committees.

8 Policy submissions and research papers on topics including civic particiaption, youth justice, child information sharing, careers education, youth work, drug reform, and service needs in Melbourne's outer suburbs.

13 Students who had experienced school disengagement took part in an in-depth consultation session about pornography and sexuality education.

These have all been priority areas for YACVic's advocacy, and we were delighted by the new undertakings that were made.

We also welcomed the opportunity to advocate on a range of other issues impacting on young Victorians. These included proposed reforms to Victoria's drug laws, civics education for young people, and young people's access to services, infrastructure and opportunities in the outer (or 'interface') suburbs of Melbourne.

Another key area for YACVic's advocacy has been the unique and valuable role that youth workers bring to their communities. From supporting young people in crisis, to planning nurturing and engaging communities for all young people to grow up in, the experience and expertise of youth workers is essential. Through our Youth Work Matters campaign, we have raised the profile of youth workers in the Victorian community, and advocated for new investment in youth workers in local communities, especially in rural areas. We have also advocated to make youth work qualifications more accessible to Victorians from culturally diverse backgrounds and lived experience of disadvantage. Strengthening youth work continues to be an advocacy priority for YACVic.

In the lead-up to the 2018 election, it is especially important for YACVic to hear from young people and youth services from around Victoria, to shape our policy priorities heading forward. We have begun consulting with young people and services, and will continue to do so through to November.

Youth Work Matters

In March 2018, YACVic launched Youth Work Matters, a campaign calling for more trained, supported youth workers across Victoria.

Our campaign has asked political parties, the youth sector and the wider community to commit to:

- + A state-wide youth work strategy to put youth workers where they're most needed
- + A new initiative to recruit, train and employ youth workers from diverse communities
- + Employ more youth workers employed to help address our state's priority issues.

Within a month of launching, we signed up over 30 youth-serving organisations as campaign partners. We were blown away by the strength of the youth sector's support for #youthworkmatters Across the campaign we listened to youth workers and young people about the issues that mattered to them. We met with MPs and spread the message of the value of youth work.

We celebrated our biggest win so far in August 2018, when, thanks to our advocacy, the the Victorian Government announced Certificate IV youth work would be included in a list of 50 free priority TAFE courses in Victoria. We're thrilled that the government heard our call and included youth work on the free priority course list, meaning more people can study to become trained youth workers and more young people and communities will benefit.

When we invest in youth work education we invest in a connected, professional sector that supports the future of our Victorian community, something we spent a lot of time talking with our supporters about. We sought out conversations with emerging youth workers and educators to strengthen our voice in our campaigning. The YACVic blog hosted a brilliant conversation between Paul Chalkley, academic at the Australian Catholic University (ACU) and Bridie Keily, ACU Bachelor of Youth Work student, which you can read at www.yacvic.org.au/blog.

The success of #youthworkmatters could not have happened without the support from the sector. We're proud of what #youthworkmatters has achieved and this is just one milestone in our bigger commitment to ensuring that every young person in Victoria has access to trained youth workers and the services they need. If you haven't already joined the campaign, watch our amazing video of real life stories of people supported by youth workers and sign up at youthworkmatters.org.au.

"When we invest in youth work education we invest in a connected, professional sector that supports the future of our Victorian community, something we spent a lot of time talking with our supporters about."

youth work matters







Communications and Media

YACVic Communications delivered many significant projects in 2017–18, such as a website redevelopment, design and branding for the Front + Centre conference, the launch of YACVic's very first app, the launch of the Youth Work Matters campaign and the 'What Matters?' postcard campaign and website.

Key stats

143,563 Total page views on the YACVic website.

13,172 Users over 16,024 sessions viewed pages on www.yerp.org.au.

88% of Front + Centre delegates rated our app 'good' or 'excellent'.

25 Blog posts.

3 Locations in the Southern Mallee that YACVic Comms travelled to (February 2018).

The new YACVic website launched in October 2017 and is a welcome refresh of YACVic's digital presence. It has been well received by our members and the wider audience with almost 144K page views – an increase of 11% from last financial year.

The new YACVic blog, part of the website redevelopment, performed exceptionally well with 11,223 total page views over 9 months in 2017-18, representing an increase in readership of YACVic content by over 1,700%. The blog improves accessibility as it can be read by screen readers and accessed from anywhere, on any device. The top three most popular blog posts were:

- + 'How do I become a youth worker?'
- + '5 things youth workers can do about current media reports on youth crime'
- + 'NDIS 101: Managing your NDIS plan'.

YACVic Communications manages the regular communication with members and our wider audience through a number of email newsletters. Our fortnightly newsletter Announce was received by 2,998 subscribers at the end of June 2018, representing growth of over 11% since October 2017. In February 2018 we launched a new-look Announce after surveying the audience, consulting stakeholders, considering the user experience and creating iterative designs. The refreshed Announce has been well received by the sector and we've had lots of positive feedback.

And lastly we released a video all about YACVic – our first foray into telling our story on film! The video is a neat discovery tour around YACVic and our partner agencies where we talk passionately about what we do and why we do it. Head over to the About page on our website to check it out.









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Mentions in the media across YACVic Core, YACVic Rural and YDAS – up from 25 in 2016–17.

23

Media releases/organisational statements – up from 12 in 2016–17.

Social

Social media continues to be an important platform for us to communicate with our diverse audience and get the word out about what we're doing, why and when. Here's how we did in this financial year:

Facebook

- + We posted 211 times
- + We had **5,005** followers, an increase of 18.8% from 2016–17.

Our top reaching content:

- + **20.1K** Activators applications open announcements (3 posts)
- + 17.9K Youth Work Matters hero video
- + **15.6K** Annika Young Thinker in Residence
- + 14.7K Youth Work Matters launch video
- + 9.2K January 26 statement
- + **7.6K** Youth Work Matters/Nuredin/Write to your MP messaging



4,751 followers | **398** total tweets

487.8K impressions | 679 mentions



Our most popular post was a photo of YDAS staff member Stacey at the marriage equality survey results: **341 reach | 96 likes.**

youth work matters





YACVic Rural

YACVic Rural works with and for young people and the youth sector in rural and regional Victoria. In 2017–18 we focused on strengthening partnership and this has led to many of our wins.

Key stats

1,333 young people participated in YACVic Rural events (a 98% increase from 674 in 2016-17)

231 sector professionals attended trainings across both sites and other regional areas of Victoria

62,548 kilometers travelled

11 sector trainings, 6 policy consultations and 10 youth forums

20.1k people reached by Facebook posts on Activator recruitment, with 894 engagements and 396 reactions (likes, shares and comments).

We want to know what matters to you.

Your state, your say #vicyouth



YACVic Rural's site-based staff in the Great South Coast and Southern Mallee continued to work in partnership with young people, youth practitioners and our partner agencies to:

- + advocate on issues that affect young people and the sector that supports them
- + strengthen young people's community participation and self-advocacy
- + support and resource youth workers and other people who work and volunteer with young people.

YACVic Rural also provided support across Victoria from Mildura to Morwell, Wodonga and Portland, working in partnership with local youth service providers to deliver custom-designed training and consult with young people and the youth sector. In the last 12 months, YACVic Rural partnered with Project Rockit, Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY), Local Learning and Employment Networks (LLENS), the Centre for Excellence in Rural Sexual Health (CERSH), Berry Street Childhood Institute, VicHealth and the CSRIO to strengthen our advocacy and youth participation.

We commenced our new Activators program, working alongside 16 young Victorians aged 18-25 from across rural and regional Victoria. The Activators program provides support, training, resources, networking opportunities and professional development for young rural changemakers over a 12 month period. Current Activators include young Victorians from towns such as Marlo, Wangaratta, Kyabram, Nagambie, Warrnambool, Wonthaggi, Mead, Trafalgar and Bacchus Marsh.

YACVic Rural held 10 youth forums in 2017–18 for over 170 young people. The forums informed our wider advocacy work, including specialist policy advice on rural issues for the Office for Youth. The forums were delivered in parallel with a series of YACVic consultations for the rural youth sector.

Youth Disability Advocacy Service

"I finished my first degree and then I spent a year looking for work. The only job I could get was through a family friend, so I decided to go back and study."

"I saw a homelessness service on the internet but because I have trouble understanding things I wasn't sure if they would help me and I didn't know what questions to ask. Can you help?"

"I felt like a number in a barcode at school. I was only given the choice of VCAL and not VCE. I was also kept out of careers expos and open days."

Key stats

1,502 people learned more about the NDIS through YDAS workshops

122 people supported through YDAS individual advocacy

86 young people with disability supported to plan ahead through Map Your Future

4,157 followers on Facebook

2,043 Twitter followers



Hearing from young people

This year the Youth Disability Advocacy Service (YDAS) Steering Committee stepped up and got involved in some big ways. We met politicians, including Federal Greens Senator Jordon Steele-John, and state Opposition members Steph Ryan and Tim Bull. We travelled to Sydney to take part in a meeting about the next civil society report on the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disability. We got involved in consultations about the rights of children, child safety and NDIS safeguarding and we talked to the UN Youth Representative about issues that matter to young people with disability.

Individual Advocacy

YDAS' individual advocacy service provides oneoff and short term support to young people with disability across Victoria. In 2017-18, the key areas of advocacy were disability services (including the National Disability Insurance Scheme), education and accommodation.

Systemic Advocacy

YDAS produced or contributed to submissions about specialist disability accommodation, careers advice in schools, Australian Census data on disability and NDIS – code of conduct, safeguarding and workforce development.

Young people identified employment, education, accommodation and the NDIS as key issues going into the 2018 state election. We've worked with young people throughout the year to talk through solutions and start selling them to politicians.

NDIS Readiness Project

This year YDAS has been supporting young people with disability across Victoria to get ready for the NDIS thanks to Transition Support Package funding from the Victorian government. Through this project, we have run workshops online, in schools, TAFEs and public spaces for young people and workers; developed a program to support young people to plan for their future on their terms; and created online resources aimed at making navigating the NDIS as easy as possible.

Koorie Youth Council

It's been a big year for Koorie Youth Council (KYC) and a big year for the Victorian Aboriginal community.

Key stats

207 delegates from across the state at the biggest Summit ever hosted

60% of Summit delegates came from rural and regional Victoria

8 deadly KYC staff members

1 establishment of the Wodonga Koorie Youth Network (WKYN). The formation of the WKYN is a direct recommendation by young people from the BLACKOUT: Wodonga, hosted in 2017.

CELEBRATE

CELEBRATE

KOORIE
YOUTH
SUMMIT 2018

13 & 14 JUNE
#OURSUMMIT 18

KYC hosted the fifth annual Koorie Youth Summit held on the lands of the Kulin Nation in Melbourne's CBD at Pullman on the Park. This year's Summit was KYC's biggest event to date, with over 200 delegates attending this special two-day event to 'connect, create, celebrate' together. We created four heartfelt videos celebrating the NAIDOC 2018 theme 'Because of her, we can' at Summit and released them in the weeks following.

Summit continues to be one of the highlights for Aboriginal Victorians and is a time of year that Aboriginal young people lock in their calendars straight away.

KYC continues to have a strong and active presence across both the Aboriginal affairs and youth affairs sectors. KYC has been honoured to be one of 11 members of the newly established Aboriginal Executive Council, a partnership with Victorian Aboriginal organisations and the heads of the Victorian public service, to develop a whole-of-government plan to advance Aboriginal self-determination.

KYC and the Marram Nganyin Aboriginal youth mentoring program continue to support five Aboriginal organisations across the state to deliver Aboriginal mentoring programs in their local communities.

We're proud that KYC is guided by a strong and active Executive and we've been fortunate to add two new roles to our team, Executive Support and Administration Officer and Yarning Education Project Officer. KYC is now an eight person strong team.

We want all Aboriginal young people to proudly create their own future and that's why we continue to advocate for the rights and representation of Aboriginal young people from all across Victoria.



KYC Summit - 'Because of her, we can' videos

This year the Koorie Youth Council brought together 207 Aboriginal young people from across the state to 'connect, create and celebrate' at the fifth annual Koorie Youth Summit. In addition to the delegates who came together from across the state, there were 15 exhibitors, five yarning circles and two keynote speakers. The Summit heard from local and international speakers including co-founder of the We Matter campaign, Tunchai Redvers, multidisciplinary artist and musician, Briggs, and medical anthropologist and change-maker Gregory Phillips.

Emerging from the Summit we saw the creation of four videos highlighting this year's NAIDOC week theme 'Because of her, we can'. The videos, 'Resilience', 'Strength', 'Pride' and 'Always will be' highlight the roles of Aboriginal matriarchs in communities. The stories in these videos are important to share because they ask us to reflect, celebrate and honour the lives and legacies of Aboriginal women.

In 'Strength' we hear Aboriginal young people reflect on the strong Aboriginal women who have encouraged and inspired young people to be vulnerable, independent and strong no matter what challenges are ahead or what adversities have been faced.

In 'Resilient' we hear Aboriginal young people reflect on what their mothers, grandmothers and aunties have been through — from the stolen generation to the Aboriginal referendum in 1967. Women are the backbone of Aboriginal culture as they hold and continue to influence the younger generation today.

In 'Pride' we hear Aboriginal young people reflect on how their matriachs have inspired them to pursue their dreams. Not only are Aboriginal young people reflecting on what has been done but also imagining what is possible for their future.

Being loud, proud and black is not only okay, it is celebrated in the 'Because of her, we can' video series. It is the strength, resilience and pride of Aboriginal women that has and will continue to influence Aboriginal young people across our country.



"Aboriginal women are the backbone of Aboriginal culture as they hold and continue to influence the younger generation today."

Victorian Student Representative Council

The VicSRC has had a busy year. We kicked off the 2017–2018 financial year with our 12th annual Congress – bringing in 15 new Executive students to lead our campaigns on the top five priorities picked by students statewide.

Key stats

17 Student Voice Workshops

62 Teach the Teacher sessions

19 VicSRC Ambassadors

15 Executive students

1,224 *Student engagements*

To further these priorities we partnered with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority to review the real world skills included in the Victorian curriculum. We worked with Minus18 to promote LGBTIQ+ equality and ensure that their resources remain accessible to students. To ensure student voice is taken seriously our Student Executive campaigned tirelessly, making appearances in front of the Minister and on ABC News Breakfast - culminating in a new ministerial order enshrining the place of students on school councils.

Our capacity and reach have both grown with five new staff members – three in all–new positions – for a total team of 10. Our student team has also grown with 19 inaugural Ambassadors in addition to our Executive team. Students have brought their voices to the Education State, to gender equality, to Respectful Relationships, Student Voice Workshops, curriculum forums, to the Herald Sun, the ABC, the Age and 3AW, to the Minister for Education and many more.

We've worked tirelessly to bring student voice to the digital sphere with our Student Voice Hub project and we've spoken to international student voice advocates as youth and student-led protests rise around the world. As we gear up for another Congress to kick off we can't wait to do it all again.





Where We've Been

YACVic Core Broadmeadows Brunswick Camperdown Carlton Collingwood Docklands East Melbourne Fitzroy Frankston Hamilton Healesville Heywood Highett **Hoppers Crossing** Lower Plenty Melbourne CBD Mildura Montrose Moorabbin North Melbourne Pakenham Parkville Portland Richmond Robinvale South Melbourne St Kilda Sunshine Swan Hill Thornbury Warrnambool West Melbourne

YACVic Rural Aireys Inlet Anglesea Ballarat Barham Beechworth Bendigo Birchip Broadford Broadford Camperdown Cape Bridgewater Casterton Charlton Cohuna Colac Creswick Echuca Elaine Geelong Hamilton Hawkesdale Healesville Heywood Kerang Kyneton Lancefield Leitchville Melbourne CBD Mildura Mortlake Morwell Phillip Island Port Fairy Portland

Robinvale Sea Lake Shepparton Swan Hill Terang

Tooleybuc (NSW) Wangaratta Warrnambool Watchem Wodonga Wonthaggi Wycheproof **YDAS** Bairnsdale Bendigo Bentleigh Broadmeadows Brunswick Coburg Donvale Echuca Frankston Geelong Glen Waverley Hamilton **Hoppers Crossing** Leongatha Mansfield Melbourne CBD Melton Mildura Moonee Ponds Moorabbin Nunawading Parkville Portland Sale Shepparton South Melbourne South Morang St Kilda Traralgon Warrnambool Wodonga

KYC Bairnsdale Barmah Caroline Springs Echuca Gariwerd - Halls Gap Geelong Heywood Melbourne CBD Mildura Otways Portland Shepparton Swan Hill Thornbury Wulgunggo Ngalu Wurdi Youang Wyndham

VicSRC Balmoral Bendigo Brimbank Casterton Castlemaine Clifton Springs Daylesford Edenhope Emerald Geelong Horsham Lake Bolac Leongatha Melbourne CBD Melton Mildura Monbulk Mornington Robinvale Wodonga





Financial Report 2017–18

Treasurer's report

The report from the 2017-18 financial year demonstrates YACVic and auspiced partner agencies' growth and continued capability to deliver services and support to young Victorians and the youth sector.

YACVic has maintained a strong financial position throughout the 2017-18 financial year. This is attributed to one-off and ongoing government grants for program delivery. YACVic remains in a strong financial position due to the diligent use of the organisation's resources.

For the 2017–18 financial year, YACVic returned an operating surplus of \$274,364 (2017: \$88,962), increasing net assets to \$1,056,409 (2017: \$782,045). The operating surplus will enable YACVic to grow the membership base and broader awareness of YACVic and partner agencies' programs and advocacy agenda.

As at 30 June 2018, YACVic had cash reserves of \$2,395,812 (2017: \$2,028,866) including term deposits to fund its operations. Our current assets of \$2,538,587 are 1.67 times higher than current liabilities. This ratio is higher than the previous year (+1.35) due to funding received in advance for our expanded activities.

Many thanks to the Board, CEO Leo Fieldgrass and the staff and volunteers over the past year for their efforts in executing YACVic's strategy and ensuring we have a strong financial base to continue to deliver programs and support to the Victorian youth sector.

Benson Saulo - Treasurer



Statement of financial performance For the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Income		
Conferences	337,527	62,712
Member subscriptions	34,698	34,748
Government grants	3,069,614	2,400,831
Other grants	58,047	130,000
Interest received	31,059	26,306
Admin and management fee	6,500	6,200
Other income	308,389	159,616
	3,845,834	2,820,413
Expenditure		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	126,171	67,174
Employee costs	2,314,286	1,891,610
Sector development and consultation	295,094	183,046
Accommodation expenses	160,102	141,327
Administration expenses	208,905	155,081
Communication expenses	88,340	49,382
Publication and printing	9,456	15,769
Project costs	369,116	228,062
	3,571,470	2,731,451
Surplus for the year	274,364	88,962

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents Trade and other receivables Prepayments	2 3	2,395,812 110,895 31,880	2,028,866 403,804 38,159
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,538,587	2,470,829
NON-CURRENT ASSETS Plant and equipment	4	100,285	180,307
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	-	100,285	180,307
TOTAL ASSETS	-	2,638,872	2,651,136
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES Trade and other payables Employee benefits Other liabilities	5 7 6	320,662 126,797 1,068,290	382,099 144,959 1,300,276
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	-	1,515,749	1,827,334
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Employee benefits	7	66,714	41,757
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	-	66,714	41,757
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	1,582,463	1,869,091
NET ASSETS	=	1,056,409	782,045
MEMBERS' FUNDS Retained surplus	-	1,056,409	782,045
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS	=	1,056,409	782,045

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2018

2018

	Retained	
	Surplus	Total
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2017	782,045	782,045
Surplus for the year	274,364	274,364
Balance at 30 June 2018	1,056,409	1,056,409
2017		
	Retained Surplus	Total
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2016	693,083	693,083
Surplus for the year	88,962	88,962
Balance at 30 June 2017	782,045	782,045

Financials

Statement of cash flows For the year ended 30 June 2018

		2018	2017
	Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Receipts from government and members		4,252,574	3,721,580
Payments to suppliers and employees		(3,870,538)	(3,172,346)
Interest received	_	31,059	26,306
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		413,095	575,540
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	_	(46,149)	(72,290)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(46,149)	(72,290)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held		366,946	503,250
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		2,028,866	1,525,616
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	2	2,395,812	2,028,866

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018

The financial statements cover Youth Affairs Council Victoria as an individual entity. Youth Affairs Council Victoria is a not-for-profit Association incorporated in Victoria under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 ('the Act').

Basis of Preparation

In the opinion of the Committee of Management, the Association is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial statements who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the Act.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue

Revenue is recognised on the following basis:

- Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers
- Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.
- Membership revenue is recognised progressively over the period to which the membership relates.
 Any portion of membership fees received relating to the following financial year is brought to account at balance date as membership in advance.
- Government revenue is derived from services and programs performed on behalf of state, commonwealth and local governments. These are recognised in the period in which the services are provided, having regard to the stage of completion of activities and targets within each program as specified in the funding and service contracts. Any funding received for services which have not been performed is recorded as funding in advance in the statement of financial position.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(b) Income Tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(c) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(d) Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all of the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

(e) Property, plant and equipment

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

Property, plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the assets useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

Leased assets and leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or their estimated useful life.

(f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(g) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows are discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds rated AAA or AA by credit agencies, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

2 Cash and Cash Equivalents

2	Cash and Cash Equivalents		
		2018	2017
		\$	\$
	Cash on hand	1,500	1,801
	Bank balances	965,879	1,243,547
	Short-term deposits	1,428,433	783,518
		2,395,812	2,028,866
3	Trade and Other Receivables		
	CURRENT		
	Trade receivables	108,499	401,293
	Other receivables	2,396	2,511
		110,895	403,804
4	Property, plant and equipment		
	PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
	Office equipment		
	At cost	105,983	81,262
	Accumulated depreciation	(66,339)	(47,474)
	Total office equipment	39,644	33,788
	Computer software		
	At cost	70,851	49,423
	Accumulated depreciation	(10,210)	_
	Total computer software	60,641	49,423
	Leasehold Improvements		
	At cost	166,026	166,026
	Accumulated amortisation	(166,026)	(68,930)
	Total leasehold improvements		97,096
	Total property, plant and equipment	100,285	180,307

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018

5	Trade and Other Payables		
	Current		
	Trade payables	106,497	136,856
	GST payable	94,603	140,310
	Sundry payables and accrued expenses	119,562	104,933
		320,662	382,099
6	Other Liabilities		
		2018	2017
		\$	\$
	CURRENT		
	Government grants received in advance	1,024,613	1,263,153
	Deferred membership and registration fees	43,677	37,123
	Total	1,068,290	1,300,276
7	Employee Benefits		
	Current liabilities		
	Long service leave	20,659	18,337
	Annual Leave	106,138	75,141
	Parental leave	<u> </u>	51,481
		126,797	144,959
	Non-current liabilities		
	Long service leave	66,714	41,757
		66,714	93,238
8	Commitments		
	Operating Leases		
	Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases:		
	- not later than one year	90,437	102,216
	- between one year and five years	-	90,437
		90,437	192,653

Operating leases are in place for a property lease commitment. Lease payments are increased on an annual basis to reflect market rentals at a rate of 3%. The lease commenced on 25 April 2016.

9 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Committee of Management, the Association did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2018 (30 June 2017:None).

10 Events after the end of the Reporting Period

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association in future financial years.

11 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the Association is:
Youth Affairs Council Victoria
Level 3
180 Flinders Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Youth Affairs Council Victoria

ABN: 39 774 045 170

Statement by Members of the Committee

The committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 9:

- Presents fairly the financial position of Youth Affairs Council Victoria as at 30 June 2018 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
- At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Youth Affairs Council Victoria will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

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

/ Kerrie Loveless

Benson Saulo

Dated 27 September 2018

Youth Affairs Council Victoria



Independent Audit Report to the members of Youth Affairs Council **Victoria**

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Youth Affairs Council Victoria (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of financial performance, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by members of the committee

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2018 is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist the Association in meetings its financial reporting requirements under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Association and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the Association. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other matter

The financial report of Youth Affairs Council Victoria for the year ended 30 June 2017 was audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on the financial report on 27 October 2017.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Youth Affairs Council Victoria

Independent Audit Report to the members of Youth Affairs Council Victoria

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial reporter, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Acera Melbourne ACCRU MELBOURNE (AUDIT) PTY LTD

Chartered Accountants

GD WINNETT

27 September 2018

Thank you

A big thank you from YACVic, our core and partner agencies to all our funders, partners and dedicated supporters for making our work possible, and to our board and staff for their commitment, passion and expert guidance.

Thank you especially to our members for sharing our vision of a positive future for young people, and to the young people of Victoria for making a difference to our communities and helping us to understand what matters.

YACVic and YACVic partner agency staff in 2017–18:

CEO	Cienan Muir	Kat Daymond	Nikayla Bamblett
Leo Fieldgrass	David Trevorrow	Kirsty Fromholtz	Nina Laitala
Staff	Dermot Ryan	Lachlan Edwards	Peggy Soo
Aisha Trambas	Desney Millen	Laura Donnelly	Penny Stevenson
Andrew Bell	Emily Tester	Leah Van Poppel	Pinchy Breheny
Anna Cerreto	Ewen Rawet	Liz Leahy	Priya Kunjan
Annika McCaffrey	Fiona Campbell	Luke David	Rhiannon Jennings
Banok Rind	Fiona Downing	Matty Sievers	Sam Champion
Becc Brooker	lan Johnson	Mel Gaylard	Savanna Kruger
Benita Bruce	Indi Clarke	Michelle Sibanda	Shaye Chalmers
Brittany Witnish	Jessica Bengtsson	Mija Gwyn	Stacey Christie
Cat Sinclair	Jessie Mitchell	Neil Morris	Thanh Hang Pham
Chris Saxton	Karen Walsh	Nell MacColl	Xavier Martin



