



# Youth Futures Council Records of Discussion

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m AST

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## In Attendance:

Moira Shaw

Nicole Mountain (via Zoom)

Emma Drake

Vivian Huang

Taya Nabuurs

Luke Poirier (via Zoom)

Alex Dalton (via Zoom)

Olivia Batten

Kenzie Lund

Robert Larsen

Emma Huestis

Olivia Batten

John Ployer

Ex-Officio: Alicia Bruce (via Zoom)

Ex-Officio: Brad Colwill

Ex-Officio: Charlotte

Campbell

## Welcome

The meeting commenced at 6:00pm with a welcome and round-table introduction of members, new YFC government staff support Charlotte Campbell and special guest, Finance Minister Heath MacDonald.

## Budget Presentation

Finance Minister Heath MacDonald joined the first half of the meeting to present the recently released provincial budget. Minister MacDonald was pleased to report the new investments which include the Island Advantage Bursary, Island Advantage Bursary for Low and Middle Income Students and the Debt Reduction Grant. The new budget also focuses on investments in Health, Education, Jobs and Businesses, Islanders & Families, Students & Youth, Communities and Housing.

Some additional discussion ensued around the need for life skills learning opportunities within the school system, provincial labour market needs, creating employment opportunities with higher paying salaries, the need for housing infrastructure and additional staff support within the schools to assist students with learning and literacy. Council members were very receptive to having the opportunity to speak with the Minister.

## Communications

Communications and Public Engagement will meet with the YFC Communications Sub-Committee in the coming weeks to discuss ways to improve the Council's communication initiatives. More thought will be put into sharing content and stories on-line as well as developing life skills videos.

# Life Skills

As a follow up to an action item outlined by the Council regarding the need for Island youth to be educated on life skills pertinent to them, the Council took to social media to have a Q&A via Facebook Live with Deputy Colwill where he discussed the recently released provincial budget, specifically the Island Advantage Bursary, Island Advantage Bursary for Low and Middle Income Students and the Debt Reduction Grant. The live stream was well received and had over 11,000+ hits and interaction amongst viewers. The Council agreed it was a success and discussed potential next topics, including landlord/tenant rights or how to manage student debt. There was some discussion around inviting staff with topic expertise to participate in the Q&A's, as well as the consideration of a more informal approach to the videos such as a *peer to peer* conversation.

# Repatriation

Communications staff is seeking out repatriation success stories to share on social media to showcase the many opportunities available on the Island to work, grow and thrive. As a follow up to the *Why PEI* video the Council is encouraged to put forth any ideas they may have for repatriated Islanders who have found success on the Island.

# Get to Know Your Council

The *Get to Know your Council* initiative was put into motion recently following a recommendation at a previous meeting to share more YFC stories. The series was kicked-off by one of our members who shared her story on social media and another who did an Instagram takeover. Council members are encouraged to participate in the coming weeks and are welcome to engage on a media platform of their choice.

# LPAC

Deputy Colwill recently attended the Learning Partners Advisory Council meeting where he presented the 2017 YDay Report. Two Council members attended to speak to the recommendations in the report and respond to questions. The presentation was very well received by the group and they were pleased to see such a focus on experiential learning. Curriculum specialists from the Department of Education will join the next YFC meeting. A job well done to everyone involved!

# Youth Secretariat Act

MLA Sidney MacEwen reached out to the Youth Futures Council to review a draft piece of legislation for a Youth Secretariat for PEI. Mr. MacEwen requested the Council review the document and provide their feedback along with any questions they may have. The Council was encouraged by the document and compiled a list of questions which will be returned to Mr. MacEwen for further clarification.

## Adjournment

**Decision:** The next meeting will be held towards the end of May (in-person) with guests from the Dept. of Education. Once potential dates are narrowed down a doodle poll will be sent out.