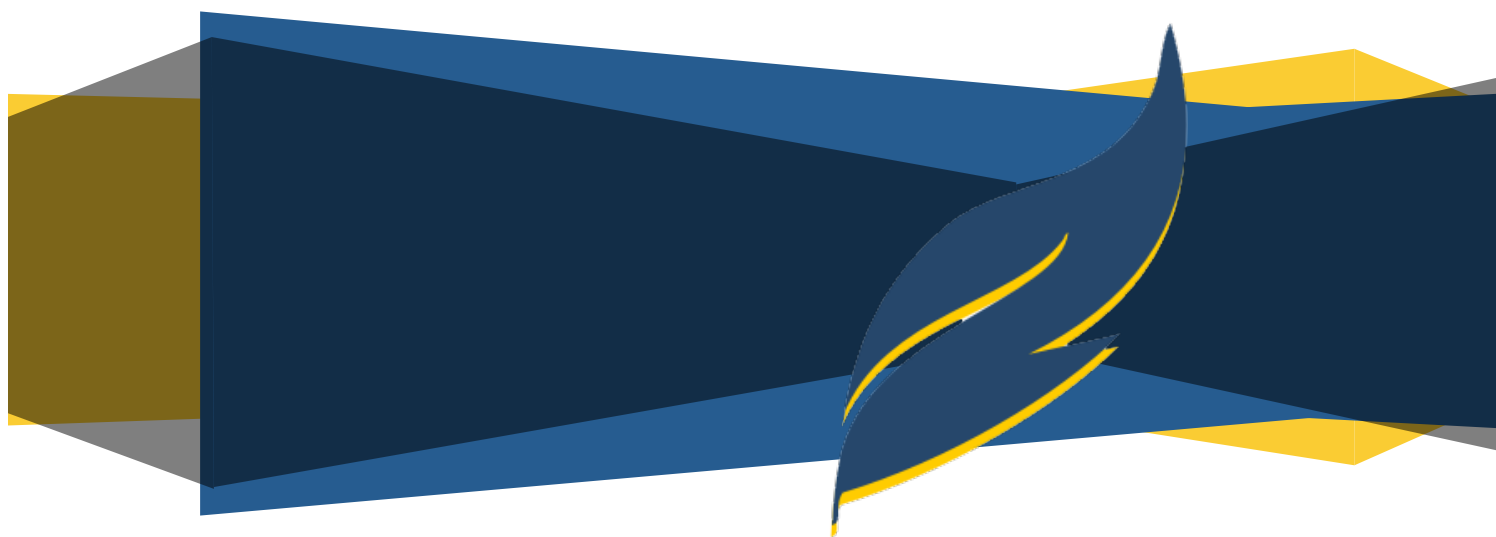


COMMONWEALTH YOUTH NEW ZEALAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2015-16



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2015-16 was a massive year for this organisation. We completed a number of large projects: our strategic direction was finalised in our values statement, we delivered a solid set of events for members, and once again developed another set of young leaders through the execution of the National Student CHOGM Programme.



After receiving a grant from the Ministry of Youth Development's Youth Fund, we are currently progressing the Common Leaders Day programme. This will bring together a range of inspiring young leaders in community, government, national and international fields and shows senior high school students that everyday people can become outstanding leaders. I'm also pleased that a number of former National Student CHOGM participants, and some of our newer members, have taken the lead in organising this project.

Our partnership with leadership development experts, Common Purpose, has also lead to 10 of our members being selected to attend the 33Sixty programme in Malta in late-2015 and in Scotland in April 2016. Not only has it given those 10 inspiring young leaders the capacity to develop their own leadership styles, but it's also presented our members the chance to be involved in a wider range of international-focussed initiatives.

I am proud of the work my team has done this year. Their dedication to the values of this organisation is admirable. On that note, I place on record my thanks to Emma Stilwell, Sandra Ivanov and Gareth Power Gordon, who have all signalled their intention to not seek re-selection in the current roles at the 2016 AGM.

Finally, thank you to the CYNZ Board, and our members and supporters. Without your constant backing, we would not be in the position we are today.

Here's to another exciting year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Aaron Hape'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

AARON HAPE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OPERATIONS

Since the last AGM, the Executive Committee has met in person 9 times, one of those times being a combined meeting with Executive Committee and Board members. All meetings of the Executive Committee met quorum and were conducted according to the Rules.

In February 2016, Brad Olsen, Ellen Jackman, and Anaseini Nuku were co-opted to the Executive Committee. Their terms will expire on 20 March 2016.

2015-16 Executive Committee Members

Executive Director
Aaron Hape

Events Officer
Emma Stilwell

Communications Officer
Jennifer Fellows

General Executive Member
Ellen Jackman*

General Executive Member
Brad Olsen*

Administration Officer
Gareth Power Gordon

Policy Officer
Sandra Ivanov

National Student CHOGM Coordinator
Patrick Lindsay

General Executive Member
Anaseini Nuku*

*Limited appointment until 20 March 2016.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the organisation now stands at 254 individuals, up from 175 members at the 2015 AGM, an increase of 79 members. For the second consecutive year, the executive set a goal of signing up 40 members by the 2016 AGM, so I am very pleased that we have exceeded this goal by double the amount.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

CYNZ's Facebook presence continues to grow. On 31 March 2015, the page had 725 Likes. As at 19 February 2016, 950 people like our page – a 31% increase in that time period.

Our Twitter presence also increased dramatically, from 357 followers on 16 March 2015 to 504 followers on 19 February 2016, a 41% increase.

Unfortunately our website provider now only shows viewership stats for the last 30 days instead of over a whole year. However at the time of writing, our website averaged 201 unique visitors and 604 unique page views per week.

Our monthly updates have had a good response rate. On average, the newsletter is opened by 59.42% of recipients – this is massively above the industry average open rate of 18.42%.

504 Twitter followers



201 unique visitors per week on average



950 Facebook likes



POLICIES

Since the 2015 AGM, the following policies were updated by the Executive Committee and ratified by the Board:

- Police Vetting
- Anti-discrimination
- Storage and Access of Documents
- Sexual Harassment
- Risk Management
- Employment and Volunteering
- Health and Safety
- Conflict of Interest
- Complaints and Grievances
- Bullying
- Media Relations
- Privacy statement

FINANCES

Commonwealth Youth New Zealand Incorporated (Societies Register number 2617072)
Statement of Income & Expenditure as at 7 March 2016¹

Income	\$
Event registration fees	583.00
Membership levies	571.76
Donations	117.00
Interest	0.88
Grants	3,700.00
Total income	4972.64
Expenses	\$
Bank fees	-110.00
Event fees	-100.00
Total expenses	-210.00
Net surplus	4762.64

*These figures do not reflect the anticipated costs associated with the Common Leaders Day programme. These will be included in the 2016-17 financial statements once reconciliation of the Common Leaders day accounts has taken place.

EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

April 2015 saw the first iteration of CYNZ's new Speaker Series events, with guest speakers Cassandra Treadwell, CEO of So They Can, and Ced Simpson, Director of the Human Rights Trust, address our members about the power of global citizenship and how the smallest of gestures can make a world of difference.

To celebrate Youth Week in May, CYNZ hosted a panel discussion on youth councils. Current and former youth councillors from the Wellington region, Alex Bengree, Ben Ogilvie, and Bing Lou, and Wellington City Councillor, Simon Woolf, engaged with a group of over 50 young people on the kinds

¹ This statement was created two weeks before the 2016 Annual General Meeting. In accordance with Rule 21.4, where the Administration Officer must send all documentation to members 14 days before an Annual General Meeting



Roundtable discussion with the Canadian High Commissioner, H.E. Mario Bott.

of work youth councils do in engaging young people in local government issues, how those bodies influence decision-making, and comment on the Commonwealth's push for stronger national and local youth bodies.

In July, CYNZ partnered with CommonYouth Australia and MYCommonwealth Canada to tender a joint submission to the World Humanitarian Summit on how our members how you think youth can better engage in humanitarian issues. We also worked with our friends at the British High Commission to deliver a debate on if the Commonwealth needs a constitution.

August saw the delivery of the 2015 National Student CHOGM Programme, in partnership with the Royal Commonwealth Society Wellington. This year's programme was opened via video link by H.E. Kamallesh Sharma, and addressed by Children's Commissioner, Dr Russell Wills and former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon Phil Goff.

In September we partnered with the Canadian High Commission to deliver a fantastic discussion on biculturalism within New Zealand's multicultural society. One of our members was also lucky enough to be invited to the Commonwealth Games Federation's General Assembly in Auckland to meet HRH Prince Imran of Malaysia, and to unveil the first marker in Auckland's Commonwealth Pathway. We were also able to give 5 of our supporters the chance to attend the 33Sixty programme in Malta. This programme is the successor to 33Fifty, the Commonwealth Youth Leadership Programme, and was held in the lead-up to CHOGM 2015. Some of these participants also attend the Commonwealth Women's Forum, the Youth Forum, the Business Forum, and the People's Forum.



National Student CHOGM Class of 2015

The final event of the 2015 covered arguably the most publicised and perhaps the most diving issue of that year, the referendum on the New Zealand flag. This saw 8 debaters go head-to-head and try to convince each other and the audience on the merits of their positions.

DIRECTORY



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