

NEW GUELPH YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBER INFO SHEET

What is the Guelph Youth Council?

The Guelph Youth Council (GYC) is a group of youth, ages 13 – 18, that strive to preserve and enhance the youth culture in Guelph. GYC meetings are a space where we as young people can gather to have a say in the solutions that shape our community. To accomplish this, the GYC liaises with the City Council, plans and implements various special events and activities for youth in Guelph, engages in leadership training workshops, and advocates for youth-friendly facilities and programming on behalf of youth in our city.



The GYC is sponsored by the City of Guelph and strives to be an inclusive group where youth from diverse backgrounds can collaborate, participate, and feel welcome regardless of cultural background, religion, socioeconomic state, gender, sexuality, or disability.

Guelph Youth Council Meetings

Where and when:

The GYC meets weekly from **4:30 to 5:30 pm at The Evergreen Seniors Centre (683 Woolwich St, Guelph)** from the beginning of September until the end of June.

Our meetings may include:

- Providing a youth perspective by advising community members, city staff, city councillors, and the mayor on programs, facilities and events to ensure that they are engaging and accessible to youth in Guelph.
- Working on longer, multi-meeting projects to see a community event or program to fruition.
- Attending workshops led by local guest-speakers
- Attending team-building and social bonding meetings
 - Leadership retreats, group seminars, other youth-based training opportunities, holiday parties, pot-luck dinners, and more

Who is on the Guelph Youth Council?

Anyone who lives in Guelph or attends school in Guelph between the ages of 13-18 is eligible to join the Guelph Youth Council by filling out the [General Guelph Youth Council Member Volunteer Form and Photo Release](#).

General Members are expected to:

- Attend 1 hour weekly meetings and read any and all pre-distributed meeting materials
- Make an effort to be engaged, participating members of the Guelph youth council and contribute to a positive council environment where everyone regardless of race, age, ability, economic state, gender, sexuality, feels welcome and valued.
- Vote on matters brought up during council meetings

Executive Committee Members Roles:

Every year in September, all new and returning GYC general members will have the opportunity to apply for one of the Six Executive Committee Positions:

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Secretary
- Director - Communications & Public Relations
- Director - Social Activism
- Director - Group Dynamics

The Youth Services Coordinator will announce the selected Executive Committee (based on the submitted applications) annually in October. The Guelph Youth Council Executive Committee is responsible for the daily operation of the Guelph Youth Council, under the direction and supervision of the Youth Services Coordinator and assumes all of the duties of the General Membership, while also assuming additional leadership responsibilities. Please refer to the [Terms of Reference](#) for a more detailed overview of the duties and responsibilities associated with each Executive Committee position.

Youth Services Coordinator

The Youth Services Coordinator is a full-time employee of the City of Guelph and will work to maintain the values of the corporation, while also assisting the Guelph Youth Council in fulfilling their mandate, upholding their values, and achieving their goals.



Benefits of sitting on the Guelph Youth Council:

- Gain valuable experience sitting on a council, and receive volunteer hours to contribute to your mandatory 40 hours of community service.
- Make new friends and social connections within a diverse group of young, like-minded individuals.
- Gain indispensable employment and volunteer connections by interacting with guest speakers and representatives from local community groups and organizations.
 - Support from fellow council members and the Youth Services Coordinator
- Make a positive impact on the Guelph community. By providing your unique perspective in advisory meetings and contributing to programs that benefit the wider Guelph community, you can contribute to making Guelph a more youth-friendly city.

Find more information and Guelph-specific resources for youth:

- Visit <https://youth.guelph.ca/>
- Follow @guelphyouthcouncil on Instagram
- Send all other questions and feedback to youth.council@guelph.ca or by using the feedback form on youth.guelph.ca

