

NEW GUELPH YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBER

What is the Guelph Youth Council?

The Guelph Youth Council (GYC) is a group of youth, ages 13 – 18, that strives to preserve and enhance the youth culture in Guelph. GYC has the opportunity to have a say in solutions that shape our community by communicating with the City Council, planning and implementing special events and activities, engaging in leadership workshops, and advocating for youth-inclusive facilities and programming.

Members from diverse backgrounds are welcome regardless of culture, religion, socioeconomic status, gender, sexuality, or disability.

The GYC is sponsored by the City of Guelph.

Guelph Youth Council Meetings

Where and when:

The GYC meets weekly from **4:00 to 5:30 pm at City Hall** 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 councilors, 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 completion.
- 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 and contribute to weekly meetings.
- Participating members of the Guelph Youth Council will contribute to a positive council environment where everyone regardless of race, age, ability, economic state, gender, or sexuality, feels welcome and valued.
- Vote on matters brought up during council meetings.
- Complete tasks for special events and/or activities

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:

- Secretary
- Administrator
- Treasurer
- Communications Chair
- Communications Producer
- Producer Design Chair
- Program & Events Facilitator
- Photographer Lead

Youth Council members will all have the opportunity to be the Program & Events Chair, becoming the lead for a special event or activity. Youth Council members will have the opportunity to share why they would be a good candidate and members will vote to determine designated roles.

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 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.

The **Youth Services Coordinator** works to maintain, support, and assist the values of 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

