

Round About the NT

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Chair and Vice-Chair's Report: Meeting 4



*Aroha Jennings and Lauren Moss,
Vice-Chair and Chair.*

- A/Chief Executive, Department of Children and Families (previously Department of Health and Families), Ms Clare Gardiner-Barnes; and
- A/Director, Youth Services Branch, Ms Joanne Townsend.

The completed projects have been provided to the Northern Territory Government for consideration and will be made public via the Office of Youth Affairs (OYA) website very soon, so keep your eyes peeled!

We would like to take the opportunity to again thank the Minister for Young Territorians and his colleagues for allowing us the time to convey not only what were Round Table responses, but what canvassed young Territorians were telling us. We also extend the group's thanks to our families, partners and friends who let us test surveys, attended our focus groups, drove us to meetings or who offered an ear, support and encouragement. Most of all, we would like to acknowledge the crazy hard work of OYA staff, Ngaree, Vicki, Gemma and Greg in making the Round Table a valuable and empowering experience, but also in working towards positive outcomes for young people. You guys rock!

We are confident that the 2011 Round Table will be brilliant. We now leave you with wrap ups of each of the projects and as always, the message to speak up, take action and be heard!



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What a year!

The final meeting of the 2010 Youth Minister's Round Table of Young Territorians (Round Table) was held over the weekend of Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 December. Saturday involved a lot of final preparation of presentations, with members spending much of the day practising and gaining feedback. We then headed to Marrara Oval for a game of soccer with some other influential Territorians. The game ended with a draw and a lot of hydration, and you can see some of the hilarity in this newsletter!

Sunday was a lot more serious as the Round Table took to Parliament House, presenting projects to the:

- Minister for Young Territorians, the Hon Rob Knight MLA;
- Chief Executive, Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts and Sports, Mr Jim Grant;
- Chief Executive, Department of Justice, Mr Greg Shanahan;
- Chief Executive, Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services, Mr Ken Davies;
- Chief Executive, Department of Education and Training, Mr Gary Barnes;

This is a Northern Territory Government initiative.

The views expressed within are not necessarily the views of the Northern Territory Government.



Round About the NT



Round Table Soccer Match

On Saturday 4 December, teams descended upon Marrara Oval to play a "friendly" game of soccer. The battle was on as soon as players hit the field. Teams composed of:

- Round Table members.
- Minister for Young Territorians, the Hon Rob Knight MLA.
- Deputy Chief Minister, the Hon Delia Lawrie MLA.
- Other elected members Dave Tollner MLA, Peter Styles MLA and John Elferink MLA.
- Chief Executive, Department of Education and Training, Mr Gary Barnes.
- Executive Director, Department of Children and Families, Ms Clare Gardiner-Barnes and Director, Youth Services Branch, Ms Joanne Townsend.
- National Youth Week Young Member, Ms Larnie McClintock.
- Local DJ, Mr Josh Batten.
- Media representatives: Mr Adam Steer (ABC radio), Mr Grant Galvin (NT News) and Ms Laetitia Lempke (ABC Television).

The heat was unbearable but players admirably sucked it up and played to a well deserved draw. Thank you to OYA staff, Julia Christensen and Clare Gardiner-Barnes for providing the much needed iced water and oranges!



Battle for the ball.

VS



The worn out white and red teams bask in the glory!



*Left: Aaron demonstrates his soccer skills.
Above: All important stretching!
Right: Minister Knight and team talk strategy.*



Presentation Day

Sunday 5 December marked the day which the Round Table had been working towards all year – the presentation of our community based projects. The presentations, held at Parliament House were an opportunity for members to showcase their hard work throughout the year and to discuss findings and recommendations. Nerves were running high for the Round Table, however feedback from the attendees quickly turned into excitement and optimism for the future of the projects! Members were commended by guests for their work and are looking forward to receiving responses. Projects presented were:

- **Advertising of Youth Events in Alice Springs** (*Gavin Henderson and Bec Rowberry*) - investigated the effective promotion of youth events;
- **Skin Deep: Body Image, Self Esteem and Eating Disorder Services in the Northern Territory** (*Lauren Moss, Aroha Jennings and Hannah Woerle*) - investigated the issues and available services in the Northern Territory context;
- **Youth Station** (*Sephyr Crook and Kelvia Johnson*) - investigated the need for and feasibility of a youth station in Darwin's Rural area;
- **Creative Arts in Rural Darwin** (*Joshua May*) - investigated the role of creative arts and its level of need in Rural Darwin;
- **Hearing Whispered Voices: Advocating for change in youth sexual assault services in the Northern Territory** (*Eun Ju Kim-Baker*) - investigated youth sexual assault by assessing service provision;
- **Housing and Financial Literacy Project** (*Celeste Brand and Aaron Dowling*) - investigated financial management and literacy education and support mechanisms in place for young first home buyers;
- **Listen Up and Shout Out, formerly 'Alice Springs Youth Voice'** (*Elsbeth Blunt*) - investigated best practice guidelines for engaging young people in decision making processes; and
- **Health and Wellbeing in Schools in the Northern Territory Education System: A Case Study of Taminmin College and Mental Health Programs** (*Dimity Jessup*) - investigated the feasibility of implementing current mental health education programs into other educational institutions

Projects will be made public soon on the OYA website.

Proceeding the Round Table's final presentations, members and guests attended a lunch hosted by the Minister for Young Territorians. Also in attendance were the families and partners of members and it must be acknowledged once again that the Round Table is very appreciative of all of the support, encouragement and assistance families and friends have provided this year - these were undoubtedly significant factors in the group's success. Minister Knight thanked us for our work this year and for the influence and support of guests, and we would like to thank him again for his attendance at meetings throughout the year and for being available to discuss topics as the need arose.



Gavin and Bec present.



The Round Table with the Minister.



Round Table members during presentations.

CONTACT US!

If you have suggestions on how the Round Table can assist to improve your community please e-mail us at oya@nt.gov.au



Round About the NT

National Youth Week 2011

National Youth Week (NYW) is an annual event that provides young Territorians, aged 12 to 25 years, with the opportunity to express ideas, raise concerns and act on issues. It's also about having a great time in the process with concerts, events and celebrations throughout the week. NYW 2011 will be held from the 1-10 April. The theme, 'Own It', is all about taking an experience and making the most out of it.

Nominations are being sought from youth aged 18 to 25 years to take on the voluntary role of NYW 2012 Young Member for the Territory. The Young Member provides a youth perspective in the planning, implementation and evaluation of NYW. A key role of the Young Member is to promote events to the media in the lead-up to and during NYW.

If you think you would make an outstanding NYW ambassador, we want to hear from you! For more information about NYW, visit www.youth.nt.gov.au or contact 08 8999 3886.

Make 2011 your year to get involved!

2011 Round Table Members

Recruitment of the 2011 Youth Minister's Round Table of Young Territorians has concluded.

New members will be announced soon, so be on the look out - they are going to be awesome!

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"In each of us are places where we have never gone. Only by pressing the limits do you ever find them." ~ Joyce Brothers

"It does not matter what anybody else thinks, thinks or does – it is what you do that matters." ~ Richard Denny

"The flower that blooms in adversity is the most rare and beautiful of all." ~ The Emperor, Mulan



Clockwise: Aroha and OYA staff Gemma, Vicki and Joanne; Members thank Chair and Vice Chair; Sephyr and Kelvia present.



Lauren and family.



Dimity and Kelvia prepare.

Check out www.youth.nt.gov.au for more info about the Youth Round Table. There's also information about services for youth, including grants, activities and events.