

ACT YOUTH WEEK WHAT WE HEARD REPORT



ACT YOUTH WEEK

In 2000, National Youth Week (NYW) became a Commonwealth funded celebration to showcase the lives and experiences of young people across Australia.

In 2015, the Commonwealth Government budget included recurrent funding of \$38,879 for two years to the Community Services Directorate (CSD) for NYW.

The Commonwealth funding for NYW ceased on June 30 2017.

During October 2017, the CSD Youth InterACT Team in partnership with the Youth Advisory Council (YAC) consulted with a range of young people and key community and government stakeholders on the future of Youth Week (formerl known as National Youth Week) in the ACT.

THE CONVERSATION

An online survey was conducted, on the ACT Government website www.yoursay.act.gov.au, which opened from 30 August 2017 to 22 October 2017. A total of 95 people age from 14 to 58 completed the survey.

YAC also conducted five consultations throughout the ACT. These consultations were conducted at Campbell and Lyneham High Schools, Gungahlin College, the Australian National University Campus and at the Uni Lodge. A total of 65 young people were consulted.

WHO ENGAGED

The key stakeholders identified by the CSD Youth InterACT Team and the YAC included:

- Young people aged 12 to 25;
- ACT community members; and
- the ACT Youth Coalition.

Key insights from the community

Based on this report, the key recommendations are:

- 1 Youth Week to remain in line with other States and Territories and be held in April.
- 2 A Youth Week Grants Program be made available in the ACT for young people and the broader ACT community to run events during Youth Week.
- 3 Implement an extensive social media and promotion campaign to gain better traction for Youth Week and its events.
- 4 Ensure events are free, accessible, inclusive, diverse and appealing to young people.
- 5 Having a theme is not necessary. Maintaining the focus of Youth Week on the contributions of young people in our society is quintessential to the success of Youth Week.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Youth InterACT is the ACT Government's youth participation strategy, which encourages participation by young people in the community and provides opportunities for young people to contribute to discussions on youth issues, to participate in Government policies and programs on matters concerning young people.

More information about the Youth InterACT can be found at

<http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/ocyfs/youth2/youth-interact>

The ACT Government is committed to celebrating Youth Week during April.

To support ACT Youth Week celebrations, a 2018 Youth Week Grants round opened on 13 November 2017 and closed on 12 January 2018.

A total of 23 projects received funding for their ACT Youth Week activity. A range of events and activities were held across Canberra during ACT Youth Week, such as, Get UR Head in the Game, Music Woden Block Beats, the Sunset Festival and Belco's Got Talent-Youth Talent show and theatre productions and Jasiri's Fearless Disco.

A list of ACT Youth Week projects can be found on CSD's website at

<http://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/ocyfs/youth2/youth-interact/recipients>

Key Timings

Step 1 – September to October 2017
Face-to-face and online consultations

Step 2 – April 2018
ACT Youth Week celebrations

Step 3 – Late 2018
2019 Youth Week Grants round opens

Step 4 – Early 2019
Grants round closes

Step 5 – April 2019
ACT Youth Week celebrations

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

98

We reached 98 people
via YourSay

95

People completed the
survey

5

Face-to-face
consultations at
Canberra education
institutions

65

Students were reached
at face-to-face
consultations