



## 2013-14 Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

**The Hon Ryan Smith MP**

Minister for Youth Affairs

24 May 2013

# Young people in Victoria

**Just over 1 million Victorians are between the ages of 12-25**



The majority of young Victorians are healthy, active and participating in education, employment and community life.

Young Victorians face different challenges from previous generations that will affect their life experiences into the future, including:

- delayed transition from family life to independent living;
- interaction via social media;
- economic uncertainty;
- a greater sense of personal empowerment; and
- growing and changing communities.

Young people make up 19 per cent of the Victorian population

# Youth Statement – *Engage, Involve, Create*

## Vision

That all young Victorians experience healthy, active and fulfilling lives and have the opportunity to achieve their full potential, participate in the workforce and be involved in their community

### Principles

- Empowering all young people
- Listening, responding to and promoting young people
- Delivering through partnerships
- Remaining relevant for young people
- Understanding families and communities

### Aims

1. Young people are **engaged** – education and training, further education and training pathways, employment
2. Young people are **involved** – decision-making, activities and programs, communities
3. Young people can **create** – change, enterprise, culture

### Priorities

1. Getting young people involved
2. Services that meet the needs of young people
3. Create new ideas and partnerships



## Key Achievements – Youth Portfolio 2012-2013

The Victorian Government has worked in partnership with young people, their families, the community, business and philanthropic sectors – to deliver more opportunities for young Victorians.

Almost 1 in every 5 (200,000) young Victorians participated in Youth Affairs programs in the past year.

Youth Affairs programs provide young Victorians with opportunities to shape and contribute to their communities and the economy through initiatives that encourage:

Volunteering

Mentoring

Greater diversity in career pathways

Enterprise

The responsible use of social media

# Portfolio Overview

Youth Affairs budget for 2013-14 is \$17 million

Youth Affairs	Involve	Engage	Create
<b>New programs</b>			
AFL Rookie Reporter		✓	✓
Get Published	✓	✓	✓
It's There For Life! campaign		✓	✓
Shape It!	✓	✓	✓
Wakakirri Secondary School Challenge	✓	✓	✓
Youth Partner Network	✓	✓	✓
Youth enterprise	✓	✓	✓
<b>Established programs</b>			
Advance	✓	✓	
Be Heard! and SYN media	✓	✓	✓
Engage!	✓	✓	
FReeZA	✓	✓	✓
Involve Committee	✓	✓	
National Youth Week	✓	✓	✓
Scouts and Guides		✓	
Youth Central	✓	✓	✓
Youth Parliament	✓	✓	
Safer School Leavers Week	✓	✓	✓

## Key Achievements – Youth Portfolio 2012-2013

Initiative	Key Achievements
<b>Advance</b>	20,000 young people participated in over 1,900 community partnerships
<b>AFL Rookie Reporter Program</b>	5 young people recruited to work alongside senior AFL editors, reporting on aspects of the game 6 young people will also contribute as intern reporters
<b>Be Heard!</b>	120 young people participated in 10 community radio stations in rural and regional Victoria New partnership with SYN Media to deliver training and support to rural and regional community radio
<b>Centre for Multicultural Youth</b>	Regional offices established in Ballarat and Morwell
<b>Engage!</b>	18,000 young people participated in over 185 Engage! program activities
<b>FReeZA</b>	In the first half of the 2012-13 financial year, more than 81,000 young people across Victoria, including 30 young people who participated in a mentoring program
<b>Involve Committee</b>	18 young Victorians aged 12-25 years provided advice on four topics: social media, career support, role of families as informal mentors and mental health 1,500 young people directly consulted

## Key Achievements – Youth Portfolio 2012-2013

Initiative	Key Achievements
<b>It's There For Life!</b>	Responsible use of social media competition launched
<b>National Youth Week</b>	92 National Youth Week projects were funded across Victoria 20 positive mental health events held in partnership with beyondblue
<b>Safer School Leavers Week Celebration</b>	3 councils provided safer celebration sites for young school leavers in November 2012 6,000 young people participated
<b>Scouts and Guides</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> round of Facilities Grants announced, delivering \$1.4 million for 36 facility upgrades Upgrade of Gilwell Park scout camp site Volunteer training and skills development Funding to encourage greater participation by multicultural communities
<b>Shape It!</b>	New partnership with Foundation for Young Australians created to support rural and regional communities to involve young people Local government youth inclusion grants
<b>Wakakirri Secondary School Challenge</b>	New partnership with the Wakakirri Association to deliver the Wakakirri Secondary School Challenge in September 2013

## Key Achievements – Youth Portfolio 2012-2013

### **Youth Central**

Growth of almost 300,000 unique visitors in the past year with almost 1.4 million unique visitors in 2012

Youth Central brand relaunched for the first time since 2007

New Get Published program

### **Youth Partner Network**

Launched on 29 January 2013

100 organisations engaged

3 roundtable discussions with business, philanthropy and the youth sector held on mentoring, volunteering and career pathways

6 partnerships created

Hosted a Services Connect forum on 4 December 2012 attended by 45 people

### **YACVic**

Delivered a number of policy and research papers on youth issues including use of social media, financial literacy and vocational education reforms in Victoria

Supported the re-launch of the Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory Council as the Koorie Youth Council in November 2012

### New funding for Youth Affairs in 2013-14

\$2 million over four years has been provided to drive a new youth enterprise strategy.

This funding will support:

#### **Youth enterprises**

- Business mentoring for young entrepreneurs
- Business development training for young entrepreneurs
- Investment to develop new enterprises and sustain social enterprises annually

#### **Acknowledging the contribution of young people**

- Sponsoring a Victorian Young Achiever Award category

#### **Safer school leavers' celebrations**

- Supporting safer management of annual school leaver celebrations in three Victorian local government areas

For further information, go to:



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