

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Christchurch Youth Council



CHRISTCHURCH  
YOUTH COUNCIL  
RUNAKA TAIOHI O  
ŌTAUTAHĪ







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# Chairpersons Report

## Jayden Meads

For a year that has been behind screens we've sure got a lot done. We have managed to run a few successful events, still managed to have fortnightly meetings and still championed youth voice whether that was through countless Zoom meetings, having to use different youth spaces to accommodate for physical distancing and a pile load of patience.



This year has taught the team that sometimes we can't have the things we want when we want. We had to compromise, we had to wait and sometimes we had to say maybe next year. But with all of that the 2021 team kept coming back and they still had plenty of charisma along with willpower to keep on going.

On reflection this year has been one of finding our identity and where we fit as an organisation. As our Deputy Chair says "finding our why". The 2021 team started the year figuring out our values. What will CYC be? "CYC will be a Whanau". The team, even though disconnected by lockdowns and changes has built this strong sense of whanau and as someone who has only been around for just under 2 years I can strongly say that this is true. The supportive nature of everyone, the common concern and empathy that every member brings really shapes what CYC is. I'm a believer that anything good starts from within. With a strong connection and passion I believe this will have a water drop like effect spreading into every community. Our why is to be a place where everyone belongs, a group who celebrates together and supports one another. Our why is that Christchurch City will have the strongest youth voice because even though we are young we still have a voice. I believe CYC is only going up from here, ready to champion every youth voice in this city.

I had one big focus this year and that was to make sure CYC was a highly functioning organisation where each young person's ideas came alive. Well, what a year to try and attempt that. I wanted so badly to make every project happen this year but even though this was a struggle we managed to build necessary infrastructure so that next year this dream will become a reality.



# Treasurers Report

→ Joshua Davies

Kia Ora! My name is Joshua and I had the absolute privilege of being appointed as CYC's treasurer for 2021. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges this role has provided me as well as the opportunity to step up and work with the other officers. I would like to extend a special thanks to the Christchurch City Council for their increased support this year as well as our continued support from the Ministry of Youth Development. This year has been an incredibly difficult year with the many challenges and uncertainties that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought upon us, however we are so incredibly grateful for all of the support we have received from our funders this year. Without this support, we wouldn't have been able to achieve as much as we have achieved this year.

\*Additionally, I would like to acknowledge that without the generous support from our funders, we would not be in the position to have our employee who provides so much support to our organisation.\* Looking towards the future, I am excited to see what 2022 will bring for this organisation as well as I send all my best wishes and support to our incoming treasurer.

<b>Christchurch City Council</b>	\$40,000 - Strengthening Communities Fund - This fund is for our employee's Wages as well as the development of our young people.
<b>Ministry of Youth Development Youth Fund</b>	\$10500 - For the development of the the young people in the organisation, events and the wider youth community
<b>Lotteries Communities Matter Fund</b>	\$17,000 - For operations and wages. Our employee works daily to conduct administrative work as well as helping support, mentor, and facilitate alongside our young people.
<b>Community Organisation Grant Scheme</b>	\$6000 - For operations and wages.
<b>Wayne Francis Charitable Trust</b>	\$500 - For Involve Festival



# Employees

## Report

Kate Burgess

I would like to thank every member of Rūnaka Taiohi o Ōtautahi for your hard work, great spirit and tireless dedication this year. We thought at the start of 2021, that it would be smooth sailing and we would be able to have a year filled with events to make up for last year! But unfortunately covid-19 had other ideas for us. So again, this year, the team has worked with obstacles, changed plans, new rules, online and distanced meetings and postponed events. They have managed throughout all of this to work with a smile on their faces, have developed a really positive team environment and great camaraderie throughout the year.

I would like to particularly acknowledge all the officers, Jayden, Amy, Josh and Heidi who have worked really well together, and have supported me throughout the year. Jayden, thank you in particular for making sure that our first priority is the wellbeing of the team, and working really hard to keep morale high throughout the year.

Despite covid-19, we have had a cracker of a year! Highlights for me have included working closely with partners like Youth and Cultural Development and the Linwood-Central-Heathcote community board, to deliver awesome events like Fresh and the LYFE Ball. Also seeing the team do some great development together including mihi training, learning about submissions and consultations and vaccine education.

Internally it has been cool to see the development of a couple of new systems and ways of working with Teams and project proposals, I am really excited to see these develop more next year and become ingrained in how we work.

I would also like to make note of the incredible work Mia Sutherland has done as our Te Pae Pūkari representative. This has been a big job, and you have really made me proud with your tenacity and dedication in this role.

I would like to thank the executive committee for the development opportunities I have had this year including attending Involve, Response Ability Pathways training, online trainings during lockdown and working on the Suicide Prevention Governance Board this year. Having these opportunities allows me to further my understanding of youth development and best practice youth work.

Christchurch Youth Councillor's you should be really proud of what you have achieved this year. I can't wait for another year of new ideas, new young people and fun times. Thanks for keeping me young at heart!

Ngā Mihi nui,  
Kate

# Social Media Update

## + Youth Business Shoutouts!



I'm Katie and I'm a passionate 17 year old who has recently graduated from Burnside High that will be studying a Diploma of Creative Marketing next year at Yoobee Colleges. I have been a general member at the Christchurch Youth Council since June of this year. I've been running weekly youth business shoutouts (businesses either run by youth 12-24 in age or businesses that support youth), as well as the rebrand and overall management of the CYC media, particularly Instagram.

I also did a rebrand for CYC media with a new upbeat colour scheme that reflects creativity and makes things like council seem not (if you wish, dull). Consistent fonts, colours, story covers, CTAs (call to action), using hashtags to increase reach etc. I think it's crucial to have a clear brand identity and so when people hear or think Christchurch Youth Council, an upbeat, change making, youthful, organised, inclusive, and valid council is what comes to mind.

### Youth Business Shoutouts

I reach out to youth businesses and invite them to be part of the series, along with what info I need. From there I take the info and summarise if it's too long, format it, do the graphics and creative side, and lastly make sure it's an accurate representation and that our content has a purpose. It's important to me that what I do is always driven by purpose and that it's actioned upon appropriately. I do it because 1) The idea was already in the pipeline before I joined, 2) I myself am very business oriented and love supporting it, 3) It shows youth what they can achieve and that they're supported, and lastly 4) That we are celebrating and uplifting our rangatahi.

**THIS WEEK'S YOUTH BUSINESS SHOUTOUT!**

### MY SAFE SELF

Do you want more peace of mind that you're safe and protected? Then My Safe Self kits are for you.

MSS are a Yr 13 Young Enterprise business who saw a gap in the market surrounding personal safety.

In response to the gap they sought to provide self defense kits. From conducting interviews in public they found that a lot of people (particularly girls) worry for their safety doing everyday things on their own such as catching public transport and walking at night.

*mysafeself* SINCE '21

My Safe Self Defense Kit

**GET WISER ABOUT PFIZER: COVID-19 VACCINE YOUTH Q+A**

Dr Kim Burgess will be answering young peoples questions about Covid-19, Vaccines and anything else!

Join us tonight at 6pm, check out linktree or FB for event details!

@chchyouthcouncil

**THIS WEEK'S YOUTH BUSINESS SHOUTOUT!**

### STAP

STAP is a company that has created an alternative to the traditional paper business card, allowing users to simply tap a plastic card on a phone, prompting a data transfer directly to the contacts app of the recipients phone.

STAP has had tremendous success, appearing in the Young Enterprise Handbook, their School newsletter, several local newspapers, and being awarded Regional Excellence for both Sustainability and Finance for 2020.

STAP team in front of their new billboard

STAP

**YOUNG PEOPLE: TELL US!**

We want to find what young people (12-30) think about the Covid-19 vaccination.

- First of your friends to have it?
- Getting yours this week?
- Not booked yet?
- Not keen?

Complete a 5 minute survey for your chance to win one of two \$50 prezzicards!

@chchyouthcouncil

**THIS WEEK'S YOUTH BUSINESS SHOUTOUT!**

### HIDDEN GOODNESS

Hidden Goodness is a young enterprise business run by 17 year old entrepreneur Katie Newton. They create baking mixes designed to disguise veggies. Whether you're trying to get more fruits and vegetables into your diet, need to sneak veggies into your fussy little ones, or want a treat that'll leave you satiated, Hidden Goodness has you covered!

Goey Sweet Potato Brownie  
Photography by Kirsten Bridge

HIDDEN GOODNESS

MAORI LANGUAGE WEEK

13-19 SEPTEMBER 2021

TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI

13-19 Mahuru 2021  
Te Wiki o te Reo Māori

## CYC YOUTH BUSINESS SHOUTOUTS

**DO YOU KNOW A BUSINESS THAT'S YOUTH RUN OR SUPPORTS YOUTH?**

**TAG THEM BELOW!**

Written by **Katie Newton**





# The LYFE Ball

## + Linwood Community Engagement

Due to a review of the LYFE Festival, it was concluded that LYFE was something that was originally for youth but became more family oriented meaning less young people attended and there was less draw for them to the event.

In light of this, the Christchurch Youth Council worked with the Linwood-Central-Heathcote community board to develop a project to engage with the young people of Linwood and surrounds to find out what they would like future resources to go towards! This project is youth developed and led and provided opportunities for the young people in CYC to develop their skills in event planning, consultation and engagement, interviewing, budget management, health and safety, data analysis and report writing.

We were able to consult with 566 young people through a variety of ways including surveying, polling, interviewing and an epic LYFE Ball. We provided the Linwood-Central-Heathcote Community Board with a report with recommendations from the young people around events, the Te Pou Toetoe Pool, and Council facilities and services. We would like to thank the community board for putting their trust in us, and allowing us to develop a youth-led process for this!

An event that was in the planning since the end of last year; The LYFE Ball! This event was developed in the planning of the engagement as many young people in the Linwood area missed out on their own ball due to covid-19, accessibility or other reasons! We wanted to survey young people, but in a way that they had fun doing so!

On Friday May 14th, we had a ball at the Woolston Club. We had around 80 young people come along and provided access to free hair and makeup beforehand! We also had a dress and suit drive where we had a whole heap of donations from individuals and St Vinnies. With support from youthtown we set up a space in Eastgate mall where young people could come try on and take home their formal gear for free in the weeks before the ball! The ball itself was a fun event with food catering for all, along with a DJ, lights and fun.



# Meet The MPs

Meet the MPs was an event crafted by Christchurch Youth Council, where young people were able to attend a free and youth friendly 'meet' and were able to ask questions and facilitate discussion with current MPs from across Canterbury. In this event, we also collaborated with a fellow youth organisation PYLAT and were able to, together, bring the idea to life!

In attendance, there was a variety of representation across the political parties sitting in Parliament at the time, which led to intriguing and engaging discussion. For us, this event was presenting the young people of Canterbury with the opportunity to not only openly ask questions and tell their representatives what they want, but to have a backwards and forwards conversation.

Held at Tūranga, this event was incredibly successful and along with providing food and drink for the young people, we also provided an insight and opportunity for your MP's to answer the youths' questions!

We have taken down some notes of what the MP's said are looking forward to doing this again and checking in with the MP's seeing how they have tracked and what they are up to in the year of 2022!





# Covid Response



## Internal Actions

This year, we were a bit more prepared to do some thinking around covid-19. When vaccination started to become a big discussion CYC had some decisions to make, what were we going to do?

We put up an anonymous message board for those in CYC to just share their thoughts about the vaccination, and how they thought as an organisation we should respond.

Some of the things that came out of that were that CYC would be as inclusive as possible, that we would respond with kindness, and that we would provide information and support for those who wanted to know more about the vaccine and potentially engage in services to get vaccinated.

We are now working on a policy to ensure that our organisation is safe and inclusive for any young person!

## Information Collecting / Sharing

One of the first things we wanted to do was see how young people were feeling about vaccination. Find out what worried them, and provide this information to the CDHB and PHO so they could provide good and relevant information for young people.

We developed a survey asking young people how they felt about vaccinations, if they were planning on getting them and why or why not. We were really glad to see young people from all over complete this survey (around 190 respondents) which we were able to pass on to planners of medical services.

We also had the privilege of working with Pegasus and the CDHB to provide a seminar on some youth specific questions around the vaccine. This was a cool opportunity for young people to have any of their questions answered directly by medical professionals!

## Vaccine Drive

Thanks to the support of the CDHB we were able to have a vaccine drive outside a youth event in November.

We had one of the jabba waka come along, along with health professionals from the CDHB and Huia to answer young peoples questions, and vaccinate anyone that was keen to get one!

We loved working with the team, and finding out a bit more about how they engage with communities. We had a fun time chatting to young people, giving away some freebies and supporting youth to get their jab if they were ready for it!



# TEAMS

## What are they?

Teams is a new concept that we developed this year when we came across the problem of having numerous subcommittees and small projects and finding it tricky to keep track of everything effectively at once.

**Teams** was a way that we found allowed us to manage our planning committees and groups through three main bodies with target areas. Those being **Community Engagement**, **Communications** and **Political Engagement**. This also allowed us to better delegate responsibilities and leadership throughout the council!



# A look into what our teams have been up to:

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The community engagement consists of people eager to help, whether this is by engaging in events, engaging with the community, building partnerships and connections and networking with other youth related groups. They often represent us as an organisation at youth audits and trainings, along with conferences and networking with other youth oriented organisations. An example of what you'll find the community engagement team up to when they have their CYC hats on is events like the 3 on 3 Fresh basketball event, which was a fantastic free for all event for youth which was great for getting together and connecting young people from all across the city.

They also ran the LGBTQIA+ Netflix party movie night, along with helping with Meet the MP's, the LYFE Ball and more. Ultimately this team is for connecting with the young people of CHCH and the communities around us!

## POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

This year the political team has focused on our connection with both council and community boards along with submissions on behalf of CYC. We have attended community board meetings and presented in order to develop our relationship and to instigate events and collaborations for the good of youth such as the LYFE Ball that was in collaboration with the Linwood Community Board.

In the future, the political team strives to further the organisations political relationships and stance and to continue growth both within and outside of the council in regards to education around political issues and other things that young people may not know too much about. . Over the course of this year we have been developing online resources like a link tree, and developing social media quizzes and polls as a start to achieving this goal.

## COMMUNICATIONS

When the communications team had a big focus on social media this year, as mentioned earlier, we had some really cool long standing initiatives like business shout outs, as well as a monthly local talent piece from the equally talented Max Anderson.

This year we have been taking some time to work out what works well, and what needs a refresh. We are super excited to go into next year with a communications plan, how we are going to ensure that the young people of Christchurch and all of our stakeholders can easily see all of the cool stuff that we have been up to!

Keep an eye out for our social media game next year!

# Youth Takeover



At the start of each year we do our annual youth takeover. This is where we head out and survey young people on important issues. This year we wanted to base our questions around the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan, we mainly asked young people about Transport, Climate Change and Mental Health.

This year, due to covid, we did a slightly smaller in person youth takeover, we hit the CBD on a hot summers day with surveys and cool drinks in hand. We had the support of the youth advocates from the electoral commission and chatted to young people about the CYC, enrolling to vote and got them to fill out a survey while they were at it.

We were determined to get even more young peoples perspective on these important topics though, and did a massive online survey push. We would like to say a massive thank you to Bryant McIntyre one of our exec members who led this up, and personally got heaps and heaps of young people to fill it out.

We were able to collect just under 300 respondents for this survey who all fed into our CCC Long term plan submission! You can have a read of this on our website.





# Submissions



One of the things that we love to do in the Christchurch Youth Council is ensure that young people are feeding into local and central government! As many young people are not yet old enough to vote, it is so important that their voice is heard in other ways. This year we were really committed to carrying out consultations and doing submissions.

We submitted on the following Central Government Consultations:

- The Inquiry into School Attendance
- The Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Bill

We submitted on the following Local Government Consultations:

- The Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-31
- The Christchurch City Council Long Term Plan 2021–2031
- The Christchurch City Council Strengthening Communities Strategy

With the development of the political team and a council liaison officer, we hope to be able to do even more consultation and submissions next year.

You can request these submissions by contacting our coordinator on [chchyouthcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:chchyouthcouncil@gmail.com)

# CYC's Fortnightly Meetings, and some other new changes



This year we made some changes to how we run our fortnightly meetings along with the location of them entirely! As per usual, our meetings continue to happen every second Monday from 6 till 8pm, for our executive members where general members are also encouraged to attend. For the most part of this year we had been meeting in the (now old) youth space as we had been but seeings as this temporary building has now seen its time to go, we have been meeting at YCD's space on Cashel street.

Other than this, we have also developed a slide show to accompany our meetings instead of projecting the agenda document. The reason we looked into making this adjustment was because we found that the written up document agenda seemed a little dull and wasn't engaging our members so we instead turned to a more interactive slideshow to display our agenda points as we go!

We have also turned to getting our minutes approved and voted on online as to not take up meeting time but still getting the job done. This year has been a year of new things for CYC, with our minutes and agendas getting a refurb.

**Heidi Slade**  
**Secretary**



# Te Pae Pikari

2021 was the first year for the operation of Te Pae Pīkari, the Youth Advisory Committee on the City Council. A member of CYC, myself, along with Selwyn Gamble from PYLAT and Micah Heath from Ngāi Tahu and the Mayor's Mentee programme sat on the board. We were joined by Councillors Anne Galloway, Jake McLellan, Yani Johanson and Dr Melanie Coker.

This board was created in order to give young people a greater say in the operation of the City Council. As a committee, we are able to make recommendations to the council chambers, which gives young people a huge part to play in the development of the city.

This year, we focussed on finding our feet as a committee. It was no easy task - we often struggled to figure out how the council worked and what we could realistically achieve. However, we were able to achieve some small wins as a committee and establish ourselves as a stakeholder in many conversations.

One of our focuses this year was on ensuring youth voice was heard in the facilities Council had and was building. We worked with ReVision at Youth Voice Canterbury to ensure the council would prioritise having youth-friendly spaces audits on their new builds. This was to make sure the city we are rebuilding was going to attract young people. Also, if you get it right for young people, you usually get it right for everyone!

Another focus we took was on ensuring an adequate range of youth voices were taken into account in our decision making. Being only three people, we knew we couldn't advocate for everyone in Christchurch! That's why we collected data from young people on issues they cared about to present back to the City Council. This eventually led to making connections with the monitoring and research team, who we are now working with to research youth voices on an even greater scale - stay tuned!

We're really excited to see what's next for Te Pae Pīkari and how we can continue to advocate for youth voice on the committee. We hope 2022 will be even better than this year!

**Mia Sutherland**

**Executive Member / Te Pae Pīkari Rep**

# A Youth Space Update

Over the last four years we have worked with Gapfiller, Rerenga Awa and Fletcher Living to provide a youth space on the corner of Lichfield and Manchester Streets. This has been an amazing project, with the internal space being used for meetings from heaps of youth organisations. The outdoor space with basketball half court, spray cans, ping pong table and stage were used on a daily basis by young people. Often you could see groups of young people playing basketball or hanging out at all hours of the day and evening!

As well as individuals the outdoor area of the youth space has been used for heaps of events over the years including youth markets, amazing races, training and fun days, and most recently Fresh events. It has been such a privilege to have this space in the centre of town for young people to call their own.

This space was always a temporary space, earmarked for residential living, we knew that one day the day would come that it would no longer be available for the young people of Ōtautahi. Unfortunately that day has come, and in mid November we sadly moved out. We have been welcomed into having our meetings at YCD (Youth and Cultural Development) and we would really like to thank them for their hospitality and amazing support of us!

We would also like to thank Gapfiller, Rerenga Awa and Fletchers for the support over the years. We know how valuable this place was to so many, and will be working hard to try to develop another epic youth space in town for rangatahi!



# Internal Trainings

This year we were lucky enough to have a few internal trainings.

We did some team learning in the wake of the Government offering a formal apology for Dawn Raids, as to what they were and the impact they had in Aotearoa. We were able to partially support one of our executive members Mia Sutherland to head along to the Government's service with some members from PYLAT.

We also did trainings around submissions and consultations, learning about how to do a submission with impact, what the importance of submissions are and the different ways young people can share their voice.

We did trainings around Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and followed this by the Christchurch Youth Council doing some learning around our own pepeha, and updating our agenda and minutes to have te reo throughout it. We now all introduce ourselves in te reo Maori at the start of our hui!

Our deputy chair was able to attend the most recent Code of Ethics Noho Marae, where she learnt about boundaries and ethics working with young people.

With the support of Wayne Francis Charitable Trust, our coordinator along with an executive member from the youth council attended the Involve Conference in Wellington 3 days of learning and connecting all around youth work and development!

We really hope to be able to provide more development opportunities for the young people in the Christchurch Youth Council, we consider this a priority.

# Looking towards 2022!

## **Electoral Commission Collaboration**

Towards the end of 2021, we have been in touch with the Electoral Commission and have been planning to work alongside them in making some videos to not only promote the elections and encourage young people to vote, but to educate the youth masses through short informational videos! This project will involve a vast majority of our members ranging in executive and general who have already put their hand up to help out. As a youth led organisation that works for the youth of Christchurch we believe that this would not only benefit youth in finding more out about elections, the process of them, (whether they be regional or national) and what it is they are actually voting for.

CYC is thrilled to be involved with this amazing initiative, and we can't wait for you to see the results!

## **CYC Promo Video**

This year, we as an organisation have been trying to improve our recruitment process, and trying to up our social media presence along with our presence throughout the city in order to spread the word about who we are and what we do. We have found that this has definitely worked a treat but we were wondering what else we could do!

After this thinking, we remembered that there is currently a Christchurch Youth Council promo video that hasn't been updated for a very long time. With this in mind we have decided to take on the project early next year of making a new and updated video that can be shared on social media, viewed by those who are interested in finding out who we are and what we do, and can be used by us to connect with the youth of Otautahi.

We believe that there will be many benefits of this video, such as an easy youth friendly way for young people to see what we do, and also a way for them to capture the essence and culture of a friendly, outgoing and family like youth council! This video can also be shared with stakeholders and people of the like, as well as when we are seeking to build new connections.

## **Are We There Yet?**

In the middle of the year Simone Blakie came to the youth council to present her idea, her passion project, she was keen to create a youth specific online magazine for the rangatahi of Christchurch.

This was met with a heap of enthusiasm and a team of keen CYC crew to support this mahi! Now we are so excited to be about to launch the first edition! We have a summer edition of the magazine in our hot little hands!

Check it out via our website or at [www.arewethereyet.org](http://www.arewethereyet.org)





**Thank you for  
your support!**

- The Christchurch Youth Council Team of 2021