



South Gippsland Youth succeed in YMCA's Youth Parliament Program

After working on their Prevention of Wildlife Deaths on Roads 2025 Bill since February, the team of six Youth Council members travelled to Parliament House on Tuesday 8 July and successfully debated their Bill in the Legislative Council.

Youth Parliament gives teams of six young people from around Victoria the opportunity to research an issue they are passionate about, draft a piece of legislation and debate it at Parliament House. Successful Bills are then passed on to the Minister for Youth who disseminates them to the relevant MP, who is then able to bring them to the Victorian Parliament. Over 30 Bills from Youth Parliament have successfully been passed into Victorian Government legislation.

As part of the Youth Parliament program run by YMCA, the Youth Parliament Members have been working on a Bill Prevention of Wildlife Deaths on Roads 2025, since February, researching and exploring all aspects of their Bill. On Thursday 11 of July, South Gippsland Youth Parliament team attended Parliament House to debate their bill in the Legislative Council. The clear passion, commitment and knowledge of the team shined through in their debates with multiple members of the Youth parliament House supporting the Bill. The Boroondara City Council Youth Parliament team refuted the bill with incredible push back and valid points, the debate was an edge of your seat experience especially with the Honourable Member Georgie Purcell, the youngest woman in Victoria Parliament in the position of President for the debate the pressure to succeed was on the shoulders of everyone! Finally, after countless hours of research and lack of sleep the team had leading up to the debate we arrived at the voting. It is with great pleasure we announce the Prevention of Wildlife Deaths on Roads 2025 bill passed Youth Parliament! This is an incredible achievement and shows the hard work the team put in to represent South Gippsland.

What youth parliament

Who SG youth parliament team – is this youth council? Hon GP, Council staff

How: supported by council?

Where: Melbourne Parliament

Why: builds young people's capacity to impact the world around them, fosters connection with democracy and institutions, at a time when many youth are disengaged this is a reminder of their creativity, intelligence and the strength they bring to the community. We are proud of SG young people!

Quote attributable to South Gippsland Shire Council Mayor, John Schelling:

“The ArtCubes have been a great success so far, we have seen a number of artists bring fantastic ideas to South Gippsland. I am interested to see what ideas TWOONE will bring, and I will be watching to see how the mural progresses.

The Youth Art Workshop and Artist Talk are also another great opportunity for the community to get creative, and I highly recommend all future and current creatives attend”

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