

StrongerBC Young Leaders Council

TERMS OF REFERENCE

BACKGROUND:

The global pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on youth in British Columbia, and its effects have been significant and far-reaching. Young people and future generations will also shoulder many of the long-term social and economic consequences, and it is therefore critical that government seek input from youth as policies and plans for recovery and the future direction of the province are developed.

In April 2021, the Honourable John Horgan appointed MLA Brittny Anderson as the Premier's Special Advisor on Youth ("the Special Advisor") and tasked her with identifying key youth issues and working across government to better reflect and address youth priorities. To assist in achieving these objectives, the Special Advisor has established the StrongerBC Young Leaders Council ("the Council") to be supported by the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation.

This document sets out the purpose, scope and key details of the Council, which will help guide its discussions and activities.

I. MANDATE

The Council will provide youth from across British Columbia a platform to engage with government and offer the Province a better understanding of the needs and perspectives of young British Columbians on important issues.

Ministries may bring issues to the Council for consideration while the Council will have the opportunity to raise their own priorities.

Topics for discussion cover areas that affect youth today as well as intergenerational issues that may impact today's youth in the future – for example, government-funded career development programming or climate change preparedness and adaptation efforts. The Council may, from time to time, seek advice or perspective from other youth or youth groups in the province.

II. PURPOSE

- a) To highlight important economic and other matters affecting youth.
- b) To provide youth with a forum to identify and address important economic and other issues affecting them.
- c) To act as a channel for government to seek input from youth and ensure a youth voice informs the actions of the Province on issues relevant to youth.

III. VISION

The Council will help Government understand the perspectives and priorities of young British Columbians. Council members will work collaboratively, creating opportunities to share ideas and opinions that will help Government shape its own priorities in the future to better reflect the needs of young people in the future.

IV. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

The Council shall be composed of:

- The Premier's Special Advisor on Youth MLA Brittny Anderson, who will Chair the Council;
- A Vice-Chair, who will be appointed by the Government of British Columbia.
- A maximum of fourteen (14) additional voting members:
 - A maximum of five (5) members from the **Mainland / Southwest** economic development region;
 - A minimum of three (3) members from the **Vancouver Island / Coast** economic development region; and
 - A minimum of one (1) member from each of the following economic development regions: **North Coast & Nechako; Northeast; Cariboo; Thompson-Okanagan; and Kootenay.**

Members of the Council should be no younger than fourteen (14) years old or older than twenty-six (26) years old at the beginning of the calendar year. Allowances may be provided in exceptional circumstances.

The Council membership will seek to represent the diversity of B.C.'s youth on a range of dimensions, including Indigenous, Black and People of Colour, young people living with disabilities, 2SLGBTQQIA+ and other young leaders from underrepresented communities.

V. TERM OF APPOINTMENT TO THE STRONGERBC YOUNG LEADERS COUNCIL

Members will be appointed to the council for a one-year term and may sit for a maximum of three terms. The Council may recruit new members at any time to replace members who resign or whose terms have come to an end.

VI. RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibility of the Council Chair

- a) To Chair all meetings of the Council
- b) To prepare all agendas for the Council with assistance from the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
- c) To represent the Council at other functions and meetings as required

Responsibility of the Council Vice-Chair

- a) Assume all responsibilities of the Council Chair in their absence
- b) Work closely with the Chair to support the development of schedules and meeting materials
- c) Oversee work of the Council and foster positive communication with members

Responsibility of All Council Members

- a) To attend regular and special meetings as assigned
- b) To play an active role on the Council by contributing to discussions or projects
- c) To make every effort to attend all scheduled events and meetings

VII. CODE OF CONDUCT

Members are expected to follow all elements of the [general conduct principles for public appointees](#).

The Council will also:

- a) Co-develop a set of community agreements at the outset of the formation of the council and to be reviewed at the beginning of each new intake.
- b) Strive for consensus in their feedback and advice to government.
- c) Agree that information and ideas discussed at the meeting are confidential and not to be shared outside the meeting, except through agreed-upon messaging.
- d) Meet at least four times a year and engage regularly throughout the year.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

The Council Chair will be responsible for communicating on behalf of the Council, in coordination with the Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation.

Meeting summaries may be published to report and track the activities of the Council.

IX. LOGISTICAL SUPPORT

- a) Meeting support will be provided by the Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation, including venue booking (physical/digital), agenda preparation and distribution, and minute preparation.
- b) The Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation will act as the point of coordination for information from across government.
- c) Members of the Council are to be reimbursed for travelling and out-of-pocket expenses reasonably incurred by them in fulfilling their duties on the advisory council.
- d) These Terms of Reference will be reviewed and updated annually.

X. REMUNERATION

Appointees on the Council will be remunerated in accordance with [Treasury Board Directive 1/20](#).