



LEADERSHIP

ADVOCACY

NILLUMBİK YOUTH SUMMIT

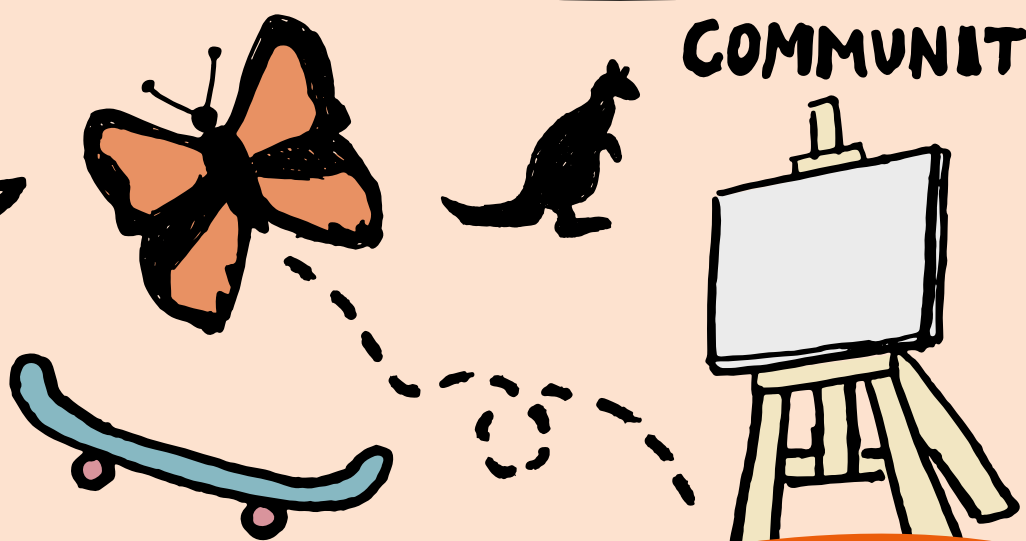


**Youth Summit
Report Card**



CHANGE

COMMUNITY



nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au

YOUTH



Youth Summit Survey feedback and statistics

54 young people

attended the Youth Summit.



100%

felt **confident that they now better understand the challenges and issues** impacting young people.



94%

felt as though they had the **opportunity to have their voices and contributions heard** at the Youth Summit.



94%

felt **confident in their ability to have a positive impact on local community** after the Youth Summit.



“The youth summit gave us all more ways to get involved in the future development of our community”

“The guest speakers were very empowering, motivating, and inspiring”

“I met so many like-minded students”

“It was a great opportunity for young people to connect and discuss topics important to them.”

“There were so many people who have the same opinions and thoughts as me. I learnt more ways to be sustainable and shared some of my strategies to the people I was on a table with”

“It was great to hear what young people in our community have achieved and to know that people who have accomplished so much have the same anxieties that I do”

“I learnt there are some pretty cool people in the community and in other schools already fighting for our rights”

Nillumbik Youth brought together students from across the Shire to participate in the first inaugural Nillumbik Youth Summit, to discuss the topics that matter most to them and their peers.

Fifty-four students from Catholic Ladies College, Diamond Valley College, Eltham High School, Montmorency Secondary College and St Helena Secondary College joined the Nillumbik Youth Council to make recommendations to Council on actions that can be taken to support local young people.

Keynote speakers included writer and transgender rights activist Nevo Zisin, Australian Paralympian Jaryd Clifford, and founder of local charity *Hayden's Helping Hands*, Hayden Rujak; who spoke about the challenges they have faced and the advice they have for young change makers in our community.

Table discussions centred around the topics of Climate Action and Sustainability, Gender Equity, LGBTIQA+ Inclusion, Mental Health, Physical Health and Wellbeing, and Social Connection.

Passionate students on each table were joined by a member of Youth Council and a council officer. Participants demonstrated incredible insight and enthusiasm for creating change in the community, working with Council to make their ideas achievable.

The Youth Summit was an outcome from the *Nillumbik Youth Strategy 2022-2026* in order to address our five key priority areas which will set the direction over the next four years:

1. Healthy and Well

2. Empowered and Engaged



3. Safe Spaces and Places

4. Equipped and Employed

5. Welcome and Connected

Council is committed to continuing to work closely with young people to deliver on each of the recommendations put forward at the Youth Summit.

If you would like to get involved or help deliver on these recommendations please contact us at youth@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

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nillumbikyouth.vic.gov.au



YOUTH



Climate Action and Sustainability

“Students and young people don’t have the opportunity to have their voices heard and implement change. We want Nillumbik to be a greener, safer, and supportive community, and for Council to be a leading local Council when it comes to listening to youth voices and having young people’s ideas at the forefront of action.”

Recommendations

A program to make change-making accessible.
Help passionate young people educate peers and implement school based programs.

Bin stations and gardens in both schools and the wider community.

Educational movie screening ie. ‘2040’ or ‘Regenerating Australia’

Increasing the amount of **veggie patches, composting, and planting of indigenous plants.**

Educational workshops for young people about sustainability, composting, and reusing items.

Introducing **more reusable packaging** that is accessible to all people in the community.

Gender Equity

“Young people face stereotyping, sexism, rude comments and jokes everywhere in schools and the community. We want Nillumbik to be a safe, inclusive and educated community.”

Recommendations

Gender equity working group as a part of Council.

Opportunities for co-ed and single-sex schools to work together and learn from each other.

Workshops for teachers that are led by students and young people.

Introduce pronoun badges in schools.

Produce a handbook on challenging stereotypes, sexist jokes and comments so people know what to do when this happens.



LGBTIQA+ Inclusion

“LGBTIQA+ young people face stigma and bullying. We want Nillumbik to be a more inclusive space for the LGBTIQA+ community.”

Recommendations

Education programs

for parents, teachers, students and community, including comprehensive sex-ed, mental health, and LGBTIQA+ history.

Queer safe spaces.

A youth hub including a place to watch LGBTIQA+ movies, talk to likeminded young people, access programs for mental health and create a safe space for the young queer community.

Comprehensive sexual health education.

This would include inclusive language, separation of sex and gender, gender and sexuality education, healthy sexual relationships, and consent.

Social Connection

“There is a lack of connection amongst young people in Nillumbik due to barriers such as transport, cost, or not feeling safe. We want Nillumbik to be a place for young people to come and connect with each other where everyone is included, respected, and made to feel welcomed and loved.

Recommendations

Activities for young people

including workshops, educational activities, cooking classes and life skills.

A Youth Hub, to provide a space for young people to connect with other young people from the community.

Bring awareness to programs already in the community that can service and support young people, via promotions outside of social media.



Mental Health

“The overarching issue for young people is that we don’t always know how to help ourselves or other people when it comes to mental health. We want Nillumbik to be a supportive safe community that offers support for people who may need it”

Recommendations

A Youth Hub to act as a safe space for young people, with a garden that can be used as a mental health and self-care tool.

Programs that focus on supporting others and teaches young people how to look out for their peers.

Youth events like games nights, exercise days or walks to get to know your community.

An information session to help educate adults and caregivers on what different mental health issues can look like.

Physical Health and Wellbeing

“There are issues for some young people to access healthy food and recreation exercise spaces. We want Nillumbik to be a safe space to be active, where essential resources and recreation activities are available at a lower cost and accessible for all young people.”

Recommendations

Financially accessible options to gyms and sporting centres for students.

Free breakfast and access to fruit at schools for students who face financial barriers or don’t have time at home.

Council to work with young people about the issues of rope swings and bike jumps being removed, as this is stopping young people from being able to participate in free and fun outdoor activities.

