



**ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY OF CANADA
YOUTH NEWSLETTER - November 2016 - Edition #5**

This regular newsletter is distributed by the Royal Commonwealth Society of Canada to highlight Commonwealth-related programs, events or initiatives occurring around the Commonwealth that have a youth aspect or may be of interest to youth or those who support youth. Please distribute freely within your networks.

The RCS Canada is redistributing this information and is not held responsible for any errors that may be present in this digest; always refer to the sponsoring organization to confirm information and deadlines.

8th Commonwealth Youth Parliament to be hosted in Victoria, British Columbia

The Legislative Assembly of British Columbia and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association will be hosting the 8th Commonwealth Youth Parliament (CYP) in Victoria, British Columbia from November 6th to 10th. The CYP is an annual event that is held in a different Commonwealth region each year. Up to 66 young people from across the Commonwealth will experience various aspects of parliamentary democracy and will have a unique opportunity to connect with youth from around the world. Youth parliamentarians will participate in educational sessions led by experienced parliamentary officials, take part in parliamentary proceedings including Question Period, and debate and vote on legislation and motions.

As host, the various Canadian provincial and territorial legislatures were invited to nominate up to 2 delegates each to the CYP. We are excited to hear the outcomes of this meeting!

For more information, visit: <https://www.leg.bc.ca/cyp8/pages/welcome.aspx>

Commonwealth Youth Work Week

November 7 - 13 2016

Youth Work Week celebrates the contribution and achievements of youth workers, youth organisations and young people throughout the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth, in partnership with the Commonwealth Alliance of Youth Workers Associations and Commonwealth Youth Council, will be promoting Youth Work Week 2016 to provide youth ministries, organisations, networks and individuals with an opportunity to highlight the excellent work they do with young people locally, nationally and internationally.

This year's Commonwealth Youth Work Week campaign will showcase the value of sport and arts programmes and approaches in working with young people. The contributions of sport and arts in youth empowerment are:

- The contribution of sport and arts in promoting social-emotional learning.
- The use of sport and arts in developing leaders and enhancing youth participation in the community.
- The value of sport and arts programmes in promoting social justice and access for all.
- The opportunity provided by sport and arts in enhancing the economic empowerment of young people.
- The vision of sport and arts programmes to building partnerships that will work to achieve development goals and targets.

Learn more at: <http://thecommonwealth.org/media/event/commonwealth-youth-work-week-2016>

...and keep an eye out for local and international events!

Commonwealth of Learning - Upcoming MOOC

In the educational field, or interested in education? The Commonwealth of Learning is offering a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) designed for teachers in secondary education, post-secondary education and vocational education. The course, starting in January 2017, is designed for teachers who want to build on their knowledge and practice in teaching and learning with technology. The course has been collaboratively designed by the Commonwealth of Learning and Athabasca University. Course instructors are Dr M. Cleveland-Innes and Dr N. Ostaszewski, from the Centre for Distance Education at Athabasca University in Alberta, Canada.

Course runs: 17 January to 10 February 2016

For more information, visit:

<https://www.col.org/programmes/technology-enabled-learning/introduction-technology-enabled-learning>

New Youth Development Index Spearheaded by the Commonwealth Secretariat Released

A new worldwide youth development index, an initiative of the Commonwealth Secretariat, will help countries make smart investments to improve opportunities for young people, Secretary-General Patricia Scotland has said. The index measures the state of youth development in 183 countries, building on an earlier version created by the Commonwealth Secretariat in 2013. The index shows that over half of the Commonwealth's 52 member countries have an overall youth development ranking of 'medium' or 'low', but that many countries, such as Kenya, South Africa and Malawi, have made the greatest progress globally in recent years. Comparing data sources between 2010 and 2015, 45 Commonwealth countries improved scores in areas ranging from health and education to employment and civic and political participation. View the [Press Release](#) to learn more.

View the new Youth Development Index: <http://youthdevelopmentindex.org/>

2016 Canadian Commonwealth Sport Award Winners Announced

Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) is proud to announce the 2016 Canadian Commonwealth Sport Award Winners. These organizations and individuals are recognized for their exceptional contributions to CGC's programs and operations, as well as having helped promote the organization both nationally and internationally.

The award categories and recipients are:

- Award of Merit – Margie Schuett (Calgary, AB)
- SportWORKS Award – Jennifer Brown (Shoal Hr, NL) & Ryan Pelley (Whitby, ON)
- Outstanding Partner Award – PCL Constructors Canada Inc.

Read more about the contributions of the recipients at: <http://www.commonwealthgames.ca/news/featured/2016-canadian-commonwealth-sport-award-winners.html>

Commonwealth Education Good Practice Award 2018

Nominations and submissions for the Commonwealth Education Good Practice Awards 2018 are now open. The Awards recognise the outstanding contribution and achievements of education professionals and bodies that have made a difference to learners' lives through innovative education and learning for development initiatives and practices.

Any organisation, whether public or private, including Commonwealth ministries of education, educational institutions and civil society organisations advising in or delivering education and learning in Commonwealth countries can nominate themselves or be nominated. The formal and non-formal education sectors span from early childhood education to adult education, including primary, secondary and tertiary education, technical and vocational education and training, and skills development.

Submissions due: February 15, 2016

For categories of the awards and awards criteria, visit:

<http://thecommonwealth.org/media/news/commonwealth-education-good-practice-awards-2018>

Expert in your field? Looking to provide technical expertise? Join the CFTC Talent Bank!

The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) provides technical expertise to the public sector by employing professionals on specialist assignments in Commonwealth member countries.

More than 350 experts are deployed each year on assignments that range from a few days to two or three years in length.

Assignments typically involve a mix of policy advice and guidance, strategy development and implementation, institutional capacity development and mentoring and skills training for senior level officials in a wide range of fields.

Apply to become a CFTC expert here: <http://thecommonwealth.org/jobs/join-cftc-talent-bank>

Harry Hodson Memorial Prize (The Roundtable)

This is an annual award by *The Round Table* in memory of the journal's late Editor, Harry Hodson. It is awarded for a publishable article, contributed by anyone aged 30 years or younger. Applicants for the award should contribute an essay of between 1500 and 2000 words in length on a topic of relevance to the contemporary Commonwealth.

Deadline: December 31st 2016

<http://www.commonwealthroundtable.co.uk/journal/harry-hodson-memorial-prize/>

Get involved in your passions, internationally with the Commonwealth!

The Commonwealth offers the opportunity for youth to get connected and advocate for issues that are important to them. Youth networks also discuss and consult on issues that affect young people and citizens of the Commonwealth, and initiate youth-led programmes that make a difference.

Current networks include:

- [Commonwealth Youth Council](#)
- [Commonwealth Students Association](#)
- [Commonwealth Alliance for Youth Entrepreneurs](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Climate Change Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Sport for Development and Peace Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Human Rights and Democracy Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Youth Gender Equality Network](#)
- [Commonwealth Correspondent](#)

In the coming Youth Newsletters, we will highlight some of the work these networks are doing... but it is never too late to become involved!

Additional Resources:

<http://www.youngcommonwealth.org/>

<http://www.yourcommonwealth.org/>

<http://thecommonwealth.org/our-work/youth>

<https://www.thecommonwealth-educationhub.net/>

If you would like to contribute to this newsletter, email: prgm.advisor.nscf@gmail.com.

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