

Royal Commonwealth Society
of Canada



Youth Newsletter
August 2016 - Edition #4

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.

Applications open for the Queen's Young Leader Award now open!

The Queen's Young Leader Award recognises and celebrates exceptional people aged 18-29 from across the Commonwealth, who are taking the lead in their communities and using their skills to transform lives. Winners of this prestigious Award will receive a unique package of training, mentoring and networking, including a one-week residential programme in the UK during which they will collect their Award from Her Majesty The Queen.

Deadline: September 4th, 2016

See the Award website for eligibility details and to apply! www.queensyoungleaders.com

Apply to be on the Prime Minister's Youth Council!

The Council will advise the Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on national issues such as employment, access to education, building stronger communities, climate change and clean growth. The Council will meet multiple times a year. If you are aged 16 to 24, now is your chance to apply to become one of the Youth Council members.

First wave of applications due: August 12, 2016

Second wave of applications due: October 4, 2016

More information: <https://www.canada.ca/en/campaign/prime-ministers-youth-council.html>

Conducting your PhD in New Zealand

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan – New Zealand offers scholarships to Canadians for study or research at the PhD level that lead to a degree at a university in New Zealand. These scholarships are to be taken up at the start of the 2017 academic year.

Deadline: August 8, 2016

http://www.scholarships-bourses.gc.ca/scholarships-bourses/can/csp_nzl-pbc_nzl.aspx?lang=eng

Young Professional Programme

The Young Professionals Programme (YPP) gives qualified young people the opportunity to contribute to the Commonwealth's work in international development and democracy, and to build their skills in a culturally diverse, professional environment.

Young professionals (YPs) are based at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London, taking up two-year positions in areas of work such as economic policy, human resources and youth. During the two-year period, they provide technical and administrative support to programmes and operations. In addition to living in one of the world's leading cities, YPs benefit from a structured programme of professional development and mentoring, working with high-level decision-makers and technical experts.

Recruitment for the next round of YPP will begin in early 2017, check the Commonwealth Secretariat website for more details: <http://thecommonwealth.org/youngprofessionals>

Call for Nominations - Board of Directors for Commonwealth Games Canada

Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) is seeking nominations to fill four (4) volunteer board positions and eight (8) individual members with passionate, energetic and enthusiastic individuals who are able to dedicate their time and expertise to grow the Commonwealth Sport Movement, Commonwealth Games Canada and our Canadian sport system.

CGC is the international franchise holder for the Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Sport Movement in Canada, and an active, contributing member of the Canadian sport community. Led by its volunteer Board and supported by professional staff, CGC is committed to strengthening sport in Canada and throughout the Commonwealth. CGC is the only Canadian sport organization that delivers both high performance sport programs in Canada and sport for development programs abroad. It leverages the transformative powers of sport to inspire and make a difference in countries around the world.

Deadline for application submission: September 4, 2016

To learn more, visit: <http://www.commonwealthgames.ca/news/call-nominations-board-directors.html>

What do we do about FGM? - Health and Education online discussion

FGM is globally recognized as a violation of the human rights of girls and women. It reflects deep-rooted gender inequality, and constitutes an extreme form of discrimination against women and girls. It is usually carried out on minors and as such is a form of child abuse. FGM also violates many other human rights including rights to security, to be free from torture and in too many cases the right to life.

How health and education policies can end the scourge of female genital mutilation (FGM) will be the big question on the Commonwealth's Health and Education online hubs this month.

To participate in the online discussion, until August 19, 2016, visit: <https://www.thecommonwealth-healthhub.net/community-discussions-2/fgm/>

Commonwealth Youth Council Monthly Theme - Youth Engagement in Sports and Activities

The Commonwealth Youth Council is the organization that represents the youth of the Commonwealth and is one of the largest youth-led organization in the world. Their goals are to work towards supporting and engaging in youth-led initiatives, and each month they highlight a different topic/issue that youth are contributing to across the Commonwealth.

This month the theme is Youth Engagement in Sports and Activities, looking at how sports and community activities promote youth development in communities across the Commonwealth countries. Various initiative that is occurring in other Commonwealth countries across the Americas and Caribbean nations. In Canada, we wanted to present the diversity of our people and sport activities from coast to coast to coast, by creating a compilation of Canadian youth involved in sport!

We are asking you to assist in this initiative by either:

- Sharing a 30 second video of yourself explaining what sports means to you
- Show us what you do! Share a short video of you engaged in a sporting event/workshop!
- Send us a picture with a hashtag (#) showing one word that represents what sports means to you (example: #BuildingConfidence)

In the end, a 5 minute video compilation will be created and shared across in Canada and across the Commonwealth to show how Canadian utilize sport for youth development!

If you are interested send in your videos/pictures to: adenhamza1@gmail.com OR ammanihanafe@gmail.com

Please include the following information:

Region; Organization/Club/School; Name; Age (if a youth between the age of 14-29)

Deadline: August 5th, 2016

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](#)

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/>

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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