

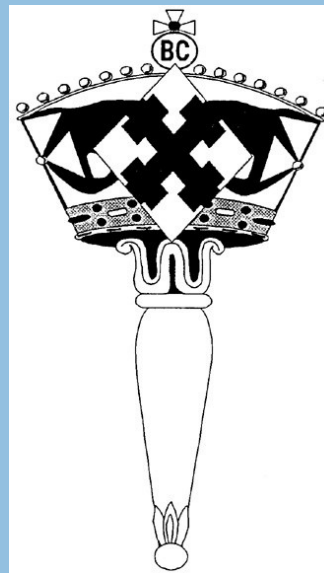
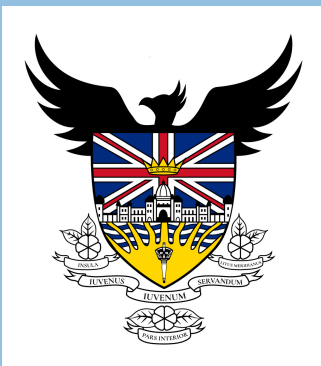
British Columbia Youth Parliament (BCYP) is about youth taking responsibility and initiative to make a positive impact in their communities. BCYP is a non-profit, non-partisan, parliamentary education and service organization. BCYP is an extraordinarily unique organization - for youth and by youth.

For a full year, 97 members pool their resources, creativity and determination for a common purpose: to advance, better and improve the youth of British Columbia. BCYP brings together youth from across the Province and unites them to fulfill the motto of "Youth Serving Youth". The youth of BCYP reach out and make a difference across British Columbia.

Why?

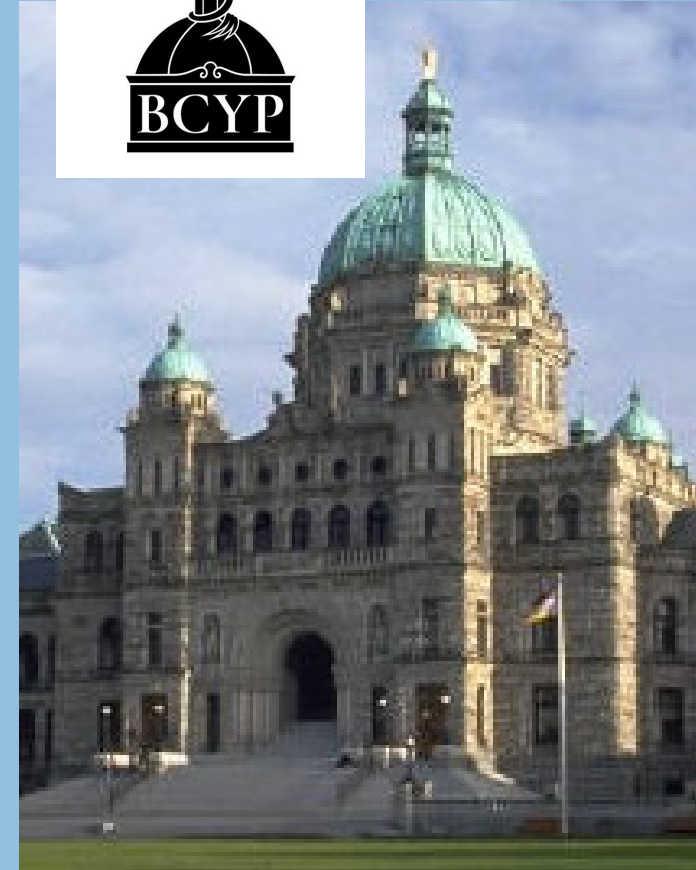
Because they Can!

And more importantly, because they care.



BCYP is unique in that it is not simply a "mock" or model parliament - the legislation members debate translates into real action in the community.

BCYP Session and all BCYP events will follow all BC COVID-19 safety protocols .



BRITISH COLUMBIA YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Youth Serving Youth

CONTACT US

For more information on BCYP and its projects, visit our website:

www.bcorp.org

or contact the Premier:

premier@bcyp.org

For application info contact our Registrar
registrar@bcyp.org

Why We Are a Parliament

British Columbia Youth Parliament began as the TUXIS Older Boys' Parliament in 1924. It became the BC Youth Parliament in 1974, upon the admittance of girls, and 2018 marked its 90th Session.

Each year, between December 27th and 31st, 95 young people from across BC gather at the

Legislative Chambers in Victoria for BCYP's annual session. Members sit as independents; they do not represent any political party and they vote according to their own consciences. They learn about parliamentary process, debate topics of interest, and plan activities for the coming year.

Proposed activities are presented in the form of government bills. The debate is led by a Cabinet of experienced youth parliamentarians who spend months before preparing to present their plans. First-time members are also able to raise issues through debate on government legislation and by writing and presenting Private Members' Resolutions dealing with issues ranging from local to international in scope.

Once BCYP's bills are passed they must be put into effect. This is where BCYP differs from other youth parliaments in that BCYP is not a "model" or "mock" parliament - the legislation members pass translates directly into positive action in the community.



Youth Serving Youth

BCYP members plan and participate in group service events organized around the province. Members come together to volunteer with different organizations or special events, or provide service to the community in ways of their own devising. They volunteer with summer camps, food banks, charity walks, soup kitchens, community support services, and other service organizations.

As well, all over British Columbia throughout the year, individual members of BCYP perform solo acts of service in their communities and lend a hand through their involvement with other organizations. Across the province, BCYP members help others in myriad ways, limited only by their imaginations and the will to carry out the projects they envision.



Community Fundraising

Each year BCYP organizes a variety of fundraising events across the province. Members work in groups and in their communities to raise the funds required to run BCYP's projects and cover its operational expenses. They also engage in service-related fundraising, working in groups and individually to raise money for a variety of causes.

Members participate in a variety of fundraisers such as pledge events, car washes, and BCYP's annual auction. Members also solicit donations from local businesses and prominent members of their local communities.

Regional Youth Parliaments

To increase the number of youths who are able to participate in Youth Parliament activities, BCYP members organize and run Regional Youth Parliaments in various regions of the province. Through these events, BC Youth Parliament furthers its goals of promoting community service, education in the parliamentary process, and training in public speaking and debating.

More local in scope than BCYP, Regional Youth Parliaments hold weekend-long Sessions aimed at high school students between the ages of 14 and 18. Regional Youth parliament members gather to discuss local, national, and international issues in a parliamentary setting.



Camp Phoenix

Camp Phoenix is BCYP's most ambitious project. It involves BCYP members organizing and running a summer camp for children from across BC who would otherwise be unable to live the summer camp experience. It is about pushing our limits and redefining terms like "hard work" and "commitment". It is about truly making a huge difference in the community.

This project is fully initiated, developed, and staffed by volunteer members of our organization. Our fundraising and efforts throughout the year come together to send up to 50 children aged 8-12 to enjoy a very special week of their summer and their lives. Camp Phoenix moves to different campsites across BC so that it provides the opportunity for children from all regions of the Province to attend. This major project can comprise almost half of BCYP's annual budget. This project if held will comply with all BC COVID-19 safety guidelines.