

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

This year Australia celebrates its Centenary of Federation.

During the centenary year all States and Territories in the Nation are conducting major 'centrepiece' events, supported by the National Council for the Centenary of Federation.

As its key celebratory event, Western Australia's focus will be on our young people – not only from WA, but also across the nation, with a very exciting Centenary of Federation Youth Festival. This will commence with a National Conference of Young People (for 18-25 year olds) from 21-23 September, leading into a series of innovative Youth Festivals from 24-29 September 2001.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF YOUNG PEOPLE

Perth 21-23 September 2001

Theme: "Imagine ^{your} Australia"

"Young people, recognising the achievements of the past, celebrating the present and creating a vision for the Australia of tomorrow."

This National Conference of Young People is an opportunity for 18 to 25 year olds from around Australia to come together to develop a vision for the future as Australia moves into the third millennium and the second century of Federation. Young people will be able to take time to consider, from a youth perspective, questions about our history, national values, our roles and responsibilities in a local and global context, the future role of governments and the skills, imagination, creativity and innovation that they see as necessary to move us forward.

High profile keynote speakers, facilitators, special guests along with the results of a national web based consultation with young people will resource delegates in their work. These will give direction and stimulus to workshop sessions and assist in developing a *National Youth Declaration* along with strategic recommendations to put this visionary statement into practice in their own communities.

At the conclusion of the conference, delegates will present the *National Youth Declaration* and their recommendations to His Excellency the Right Reverend Doctor Peter Hollingworth AC OBE, Governor General of Australia and key representatives from all levels of government, local, state and federal. Delegates will take home recommendations for action and new and supportive networks built amongst a group of outstanding young Australians.

Local government, youth and community organisations across the nation are asked to support this most significant initiative by sponsoring one or more young people as delegates to this gathering of young leaders.

Delegates should be aged between 18 and 25 years and be nominated and sponsored by local government, youth organisation, service club or other community organisation. A person above this age range, with an interest in and commitment to young people and youth issues, accompanying a youth delegate, would also be welcome to attend.

The conference will be held over two and a half days at the Sheraton Perth Hotel, with the opening session to be held at the Perth Concert Hall.

Conference Fees

All delegates

The conference fee of \$200 (plus GST) includes:

- ◆ Official reception at Government House on Thursday evening prior to the conference commencement.
- ◆ Tea and coffee on arrival (Friday, Saturday and Sunday).

- ◆ Morning and afternoon tea (Friday, Saturday and morning tea on Sunday).
- ◆ Light luncheon (Friday and Saturday).
- ◆ Conference dinner, including beverages on Friday night.
- ◆ Conference kit and conference tee shirt.
- ◆ Copy of the conference proceedings on CD-ROM.

Travel

Country & Regional W.A. Delegates

WAGR has generously offered free transportation for country and regional delegates travelling from areas serviced by WAGR train and bus services. Travel confirmation is required at least six weeks in advance of the travel date and tickets will be issued direct to delegates. Details of this and accommodation options will be available by visiting the web site – imagineoz.com.au – or by contacting the Conference Coordinator on 9228 0808.

Who Should Attend?

While the accepted definition of “youth” is 12 to 25 years, “duty of care” considerations have led to a recommended age for delegates of 18 to 25 years.

To assist the selection of a delegate, sponsors might ask potential delegates to make a case for sponsorship and address a set of criteria such as the following:

- local participation in the organisation of youth events, facilities or initiatives.
- association with a local youth group, Youth Advisory Council or similar organisation in their community.
- interest in youth issues or youth development.
- shows leadership and/or acts as a role model to other young people.
- is able to represent the views of the local youth community with enthusiasm.

It is important that as wide a range of young people as possible attend the conference to make sure the broadest range of views and backgrounds are represented in the development of the declaration and recommendations.

It is also important that delegates have the ability to represent their communities and all young people, and that thought is given to opportunities through which delegates might bring the *National Youth Declaration* and recommendations back to the sponsoring community and its young people.

Imagine your Australia Survey – imagineoz.com.au

We strongly recommend that all delegates chosen log on to the web site and complete the Imagine your Australia survey before attending the conference. The results of this survey will be used by the delegates in writing the National Youth Declaration.

Nominations

We are keen to see young people from all backgrounds and all parts of Australia at this national gathering of the nation’s young people.

Opening Session Program

The following timetable highlights the first session of the conference which will be held at the Perth Concert Hall on the Friday morning. Confirmed speakers include:

- ◆ Master of Ceremonies -James Fitzpatrick, 2001 Young Australian of the Year
- ◆ Lieutenant-General Peter Cosgrove AC MC, 2001 Australian of the Year
- ◆ Ms Sandra Hill – Indigenous artist and historian
- ◆ Professor Geoffrey Blainey AC – Chairman National Council and historian
- ◆ Professor Geoffrey Bolton AO – foremost historian on Federation
- ◆ Ms Mia Handshin – former Youth Representative to UNESCO
- ◆ Ms Shelley Gare – freelance journalist
- ◆ Mr Jason Yat-Sen Li – international lawyer and Young Republican
- ◆ Governor General of Australia, His Excellency the Right Reverend Doctor Peter Hollingworth AO OBE

8.00 – 9.00	Entertainment (Forecourt - St George's Terrace)
9.00 – 9.40	Opening Session Master of Ceremonies James Fitzpatrick, 2001 Young Australian of the Year Welcome to Country Welcome Address <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lieutenant-General Peter Cosgrove AC MC, 2001 Australian of the Year
9.40 – 10.25	History is a Personal Thing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Sandra Hill• Professor Geoffrey Blainey AC• Professor Geoffrey Bolton AO
10.25 – 10.55	Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two Tonne Budgie Productions
10.55 – 11.40	The Future Through My Window <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms Mia Handshin• Ms Shelley Gare• Mr Jason Yat-Sen Li

11.40 – 11.55	Address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor General of Australia, His Excellency the Right Reverend Doctor Peter Hollingworth AO OBE
11.55 – 12.10	Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> STEPS Youth Dance Company
12.10 – 12.15	Close <ul style="list-style-type: none"> James Fitzpatrick

On the Sunday morning the National Youth Declaration will be presented to the Governor General of Australia, the Premier of Western Australia and representatives from all levels of government in each state.

Full details of the conference program for all days and all registration information is available by visiting – **imagineoz.com.au**-

If you require more information on the National Youth Conference please call:

Libby Winchcombe	Julie Coleman
Conference Co-ordinator or	Project Manager
Westrek	Centenary of Federation Youth Festival
(08) 9228 0808	Department Community Development –
conference@westrek.com.au	Youth Affairs –PH 9476 2000

SUGGESTIONS FOR SPONSORSHIP / FUNDRAISING

The following are some suggestions on how to access funding or reduce the costs for delegates to attend the conference.

- ◆ Local Government to cover accommodation **or** travel expenses **or** conference fee
- ◆ Approach your local service organisations such as Rotary, Lions or Apex for sponsorship of the conference fee - \$220
- ◆ Approach local Chamber of Commerce or local businesses for support with accommodation costs – a variety of accommodation options exist from budget to 5 star
- ◆ Holding a community fund-raising event – to cover travel expenses
- ◆ Approach larger companies such as The Grain Pool, Wesfarmers Dalgety or mining companies etc who operate in your local area for support to cover travel or accommodation expenses
- ◆ Use WAGR support with travel
- ◆ Have delegates stay with relatives or friends in Perth during the conference etc.

By going to a variety of sources to secure funding no one organisation will carry all the financial costs. It also makes this a total community effort in sending a delegate who will be responsible for reporting back to all community groups who have supported their attendance at the conference.

REGISTRATION OF INTEREST FORM

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF YOUNG PEOPLE PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA 21 – 23 SEPTEMBER 2001

Name of Organisation

Contact Person

Position

Postal Address

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.....PostCode

Phone

Fax

E-mail

We are interested in sending a delegate to the National Youth Conference.

Please forward a Conference Information Kit YES / NO

Comments

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Please fax / email Registration of Interest Form for the Conference to :

The Conference Coordinator
Westrek
Fax: (08) 9228 0818

Email : conference@westrek.com.au