



AIDE MEMOIRE

2021 Youth Advisory Group member update

Date:	18 January 2020	Priority:	Low
To:	Hon Chris Hipkins	METIS No:	1245838
From:	Patrick McKibbin	Security Level:	In Confidence

Purpose

This aide-memoire provides you with updated advice on Education Report [METIS 1245838 refers] in relation to the proposed 2021 membership of the Youth Advisory Group (YAG).

Summary

1. On 3 December 2020, an Education Report [METIS 1245838 refers] was delivered to your office which sought your agreement to appoint 4 new members to the YAG for 2021 and advised that should you agree it would bring the total number of YAG members to 13.
2. On 3 January 2021, the Ministry received a resignation from YAG member Adrienne Hunt. This resignation has now been accepted which alters the advice contained in Education Report [METIS 1245838 refers].
3. If you agree to appoint the 4 new candidates recommended, YAG 2021 will have a total of 12 members.

Recommended Actions

- a. **note** the resignation of Adrienne Hunt (16 years old), Whanganui; **Noted**
- b. **note** the change in demographics for the YAG's proposed 2021 membership; **Noted**
- c. **sign** the thank you letter for departing member, Adrienne Hunt (Annex 1) or make amendments as required; **Signed**
- d. **agree** to publish the amended draft press release (Annex 2) announcing new members and confirming the YAG 2021 membership. **Agree** **Disagree**

YAG 2021 Member Demographics

4. On 3 January 2021, Adrienne Hunt s 9(2)(a) sent the YAG Secretariat her resignation letter. Adrienne's reasonings for resignation were personal. s 9(2)(a).
5. Adrienne's resignation means the YAG will no longer have the voice of a young person s 9(2)(a).
6. If you agree to the proposed appointments in Education Report [METIS 1245838 refers], YAG will collectively represent the demographics outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Updated demographics for YAG's proposed 2021 membership

Location	Education type	Advocacy / Lived experience
<u>North Island</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auckland x2 • Waikato x2 • Taranaki • Manawatū-Whanganui x2 • Wellington x2 <u>South Island</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tasman • Canterbury • Otago 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home-schooled • State, co-education • State, girls' school • State integrated • Māori medium • Boys' school • Boarding school • Tertiary • Te Aho o Te Kura Pounamu 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well being • Equity • Community voice • NEET • LGBTQIA+ • Learning support • Immigrant • Refugee • Disability • Environment • Pathways • Mental health
Age (years old)	Gender	Ethnicity (can identify more than one)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 x 14 • 1 x 15 • 4 x 16 • 2 x 17 • 4 x 18 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Males • 5 Females • 1 Gender Diverse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 x Māori • 2 x Pākehā/New Zealand European (only) • 2 x Pacific Peoples • 3 x Asian • 1 x European

7. We recommended the appointment of an additional member (Rei Denee) for their specialist knowledge and skill. We previously advised you that this appointment would bring the total number of members to 13, however, the total number will now be 12.
8. The YAG Terms of Reference states that if vacancies should arise, the Ministry will select a young person from previously shortlisted applicants to bring the full number of members back to 12. Should you agree to appoint Rei Denee as recommended, we will not be seeking to replace Adrienne.

Next steps

9. A thank you letter for departing member, Adrienne Hunt, is attached (Annex 1) for you to sign or make amendments as required.
10. An amended draft press release to announce new YAG members is attached in Annex 2 for your consideration.

Annex 1: Letter for departing member, Adrienne Hunt

Adrienne Hunt

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Adrienne,

Youth Advisory Group Member 2020

I would like to thank you for your insightful contributions to the Ministerial Youth Advisory Group over the past two years.

When you first applied to be a member of the Youth Advisory Group it was noted by the panel that you wanted to share your views on the importance of learning valuable life skills at school, one-on-one learning support and the role that schools should play in helping students to set and achieve their life goals. Thank you for maintaining your voice around these important issues.

I also want to acknowledge the voice you provided for young people s 9(2)(a) drawing on your lived experience. It was, and still is, important to have this perspective heard by those who are shaping our education system to ensure that we have equitable outcomes for all children and young people in New Zealand.

COVID-19 had a big impact on New Zealand society in 2020. Thank you for voicing your experience through this period and the effect you saw it having on the workforce and trade course options in your local area. The insights that you and the group provided, I believe, have had a positive impact for children and young people throughout the country.

I wish you all the best for your continued success in 2021.

Yours sincerely,



Hon Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education

Annex 2: Press Release announcing new members

Four new members appointed to the 2021 Ministerial Youth Advisory Group

Minister of Education Chris Hipkins says four young New Zealanders will join the 2021 Ministerial Youth Advisory Group (YAG). The YAG provide young peoples' insights as part of achieving equitable and excellent outcomes in education.

"I am delighted to announce that Caelan Harris, Jayden van Dyk, Daisy Tumataroa, and Rei Denee will be part of the 2021 Youth Advisory Group. They will join the eight current members, sharing their own experiences and ideas on issues and opportunities that are important to them" says Mr Hipkins.

Minister Hipkins also acknowledged outgoing YAG members Watene Campbell, Nathan Farr, Adrienne Hunt and Kate Morris and for their contribution over the past years and wished them all the best in their future endeavours.

"Working with this group over the last three years and hearing their experiences has been insightful. They challenged the Ministry's and my own thinking, tested ideas and shared their thoughts on what it's like to be a young person in education. Their contributions have informed policy and implementation changes."

The 2021 Youth Advisory Group members are:

- Caelan Harris, Hamilton (new member)
- Jayden van Dyk, Hamilton (new member)
- Daisy Tumataroa, Taumarunui (new member)
- Rei Denee, Wellington (new member)
- Tanin Cain, Auckland
- Bella Tran-Lawrence, New Plymouth
- Fine Aholelei, Auckland
- Tara Shepherd, Dunedin
- Maru Taiaki, Fielding
- Raiyan Azmi, Wellington
- Moeka Koyama, Motueka
- Okiarano Tilaia, Christchurch

"I look forward to meeting the group again next year and continue the work that has already started to make a difference for all learners in New Zealand."

The 2021 Ministerial Youth Advisory Group will hold its first meeting in February this year.

Go to [Ministerial Youth Advisory Group](#) for more information.

Contact:

Minister Hipkins — Press secretary and contact number