

Alice Springs Town Council

Tuesday 17th June 2008

Facilitated by YouthTraX

Youth Forum 2008

Session 3

WHAT THE YOUTH OF ALICE SPRINGS ARE LOOKING FOR IN THEIR COMMUNITY

- Initiatives to stay in town rather than move interstate

- Education
- Entertainment
- Opportunities
- Community
- Relationships
- Services
- Facilities
- Accommodation

- Community Unity

- Multicultural community events
- Free concerts
- Support local talents i.e. music & arts
- Inter town activities
- Inter school activities i.e. joint school local magazine/web
- Improved relations with police

- Entertainment - Large recreation centers including:

- Paintball
- Skate parks
- Go karts
- Laser zone
- Computer café for youth
- Graffiti centre
- Crisis centers
- Pool tables
- Video games
- Table tennis
- Aquatic centre
- Mini golf
- Motor bike areas

- Youth Centers - Run by youth for youth, including:

- Youth services Information
- Indoor & outdoor activities
- Programs
- Crisis care
- Medical care
- Religion - Youth groups
- Help & support with employment,
- Help & support with education
- Help & support with young parenting
- Self awareness & value support

- Education
Respect for themselves, others & elders. Multi school activities, racism, library upgrade, training/work for the dole, recognition of local talent, Community workshops, opportunities to stay in town
- Government
Communication from Youth to Government, Government to youth & youth to youth. Round table link with local government, Advertisement, youth representative in Town Council, Improved Police public relations, Road safety, Justice System, Medical availability
- Town Community
Recognition & promotion of local talent, Public amenities, Camp dogs, town cleanliness, community workshops
- Transport
Taxi drivers, public buses
- Entertainment
Sexist sports, gambling, free activities, blue light discos, advertisements re local events, multi cultural activities,

FUNCTIONAL COMMUNITY

Current things that help improve the dynamics of Alice Springs

- Communication – Youth Forum, Clontarf, Youth Round Table,
- Police presence in public areas
- Entertainment
 - Bass in the Dust
 - Cinema
 - Sporting facilities
 - Local show
 - Todd Mall markets
 - Religion - youth groups
 - Blue light disco's
 - Finke dessert race
 - Fireworks
 - Croc Fest
 - Camel Cup
 - Bangtail Muster
 - Rodeo
 - AFL
 - Gun Clubs
 - Motercross
 - Masters Games
 - National Indigenous TV
 - Parks

- Transport

Free in-town shuttle bus
Youth night bus
Cheaper taxi rates for students
Taxi drivers to undergo duty of care course

- Education

For young parents
For homeless
For jobless
For refugees
Night School
Library upgrade

- Work opportunities

Support for school leaver

- Hospital

Recreation area for youth whose parents are ill
Youth/ Teenage ward

- Retail

Late night shopping & longer business hours
Shops to suit age groups -ie: lollies & smoothies, clothing & sporting

"We are looking for a hub of youth services that gives us somewhere to go to enjoy recreation, somewhere to go to forget about our problems, somewhere to get emotional support and somewhere to get advice for our future."

(Student unknown)

Youth FORUM 08 – Attendees
Alice Springs Town Council

	NAME	AGE	GROUP/SCHOOLS
1.	Maddie Hicks	15	St Phillips
2.	Toni McCarthy	15	St Phillips
3.	Ella Donovan	15	St Phillips
4.	Geordie Lelliott	13	St Phillips
5.	Simeon Shepherd	16	St Phillips
6.	Liam Blakeley	15	St Phillips
7.	Rhys Cardinal	15	St Phillips
8.	May Tabart	15	St Phillips
9.	Brylei Phillips	13	St Phillips
10.	Tara Mitchell	15	St Phillips
11.	Louise Robertson	15	St Phillips
12.	Anjuli Jackson	15	St Phillips
13.	Evan Smith	15	St Phillips
14.	Judd Boaz	15	St Phillips
15.	Paul Solsman	16	Centralian College
16.	Thomas Ambrose	16	Centralian College
17.	Jessie Perston	17	Centralian College
18.	Jimmy Mason	15	Centralian College
19.	Timothy	16	Centralian College
20.	Reggie	16	Centralian College
21.	Cliffy	16	Centralian College
22.	Patric	21	Centralian College
23.	Shaun	31	Centralian College
24.	Cindy Schultz	18	Centralian College
25.	Marcella Remedio	13	Alice Springs High School
26.	Richie Ebatarinja	13	Alice Springs High School
27.	Norman Impu	12	Alice Springs High School
28.	Clary Lowe	14	Alice Springs High School
29.	Rowan Martin	14	Alice Springs High School
30.	Bruce Impu	15	Alice Springs High School
31.	Rhbair Woodr	14	Alice Springs High School
32.	Thomas Everett	13	Alice Springs High School
33.	Ingrid	14	Yipirinya
34.	Alex	14	Yipirinya
35.	Mathew Raggett	16	Yipirinya
36.	Amy Sherrin	18	Youth Round
37.	Jessica Newlang	13	Anzac Hill high School
38.	Jackie Foster	14	Anzac Hill high School
39.	Josh Wishart	15	Anzac Hill high School
40.	Geoff Bilanovic	14	Anzac Hill high School
41.	Riccilee Curtale	14	Anzac Hill high School
42.	Mark	14	Anzac Hill high School

Facilitators Overview

It was with great pleasure and also great trepidation that I accepted His Worship The Mayor's (Damien's), invitation to facilitate the Alice Springs Town Council Youth Forum.

Damien had consulted with key stakeholders and there were specific questions that they wanted the Youth to address.

I consulted with Youth Workers, School Counsellors and some youth as well as conducted some internet research on other Youth Forums prior to the day. This research highlighted the need to establish with the participants on the day that it was in fact their forum and that they had control in discussing the issues that were important to them.

To that end after a brief welcome to the youth at beginning of the day, Damien was escorted from the room, the doors were closed, the day's program thrown away and the youth encouraged to set the agenda.

What followed was a day of animated whole group discussion and brainstorming, small group break out sessions and ongoing interest, participation and interaction by all.

The first breakout session encouraged the youth to think about what makes a community in the broader sense.

The second break out session focused on Dysfunctional and Functional community attributes and how that related to Alice Springs.

The third session was all based around what the youth are looking for in their community of Alice Springs.

Although the youth were not given a list of questions that we the adults might think are important and want answered in the discussion and breakout sessions those issues were all addressed.

I believe the fact that they were generated by the young people themselves gives them legitimacy and highlights what are the real priorities, issues and concerns of the youth of Alice Springs.

The youth asked if they could form an Advisory Group for Alice Springs Town Council so that their voice can continue to be heard in the community.

The youth appointed a group of leaders who would like to be part of that Advisory Group.

They are anxious that the discussions continue and that they are considered a stakeholder group when decisions about their community are being made.

It was a pleasure to be involved in the day and see that the youth of our community are interested, concerned and wanting to be part of the way forward for the town of Alice Springs.

Coralie Boyd
Manager YouthTraX

Youth Forum – Alice Springs
Tuesday 17th June 2008

Attendees: Approx 50 Students
Schools Involved: 5
Ages: 12 - 21
Facilitators: 10 Adults
Collated by YouthTraX

Session 1

WHAT MAKES A COMMUNITY & WHAT ARE YOUR PRIORITIES?

- Youth & adult entertainment
- General community events
- Job opportunities for youth
- Leadership
- Improved education for youth & for homeless, underprivileged
- Public safety
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Reduced crime
- Reduce family violence
- Inter-town activities
- Inter-school activities
- Tourism
- Nationalism
- Multiculturalism
- Reduce racism
- Environmental care
- Zoning
- Emergency accommodation
- Public transport
- Youth centers, in town & out bush

Session 2

DYSFUNCTIONAL COMMUNITY

Things that are of concern and in need of improvement in Alice Springs

- Youth crime due to boredom
- Youth substance abuse due to boredom
- Public graffiti due to boredom
- Racial tension
- Environment
 - Energy usage, recycling, water consumption, smoking in public areas, nuclear waste
- Families (esp. young & single parents)
 - Breakdown of the family unit and dynamics, parent & children education, childcare, emotional support, young mothers support,