

# 2017 WODONGA COUNCIL'S YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



*Are you aged between 18 to 24 years and live, work or study in Wodonga?*

*Are you passionate about creating positive change within your community?*

*Would you like the knowledge and resources to make a real difference?*

*Then Wodonga Council's Youth Leadership Program may be for you.*

**Now in its ninth year, the Youth Leadership Program focuses on leadership development through skills sessions, guest speakers, training opportunities, creating an individual development plan for each participant, one-on-one mentoring, community projects, developing new networks and support from the program co-ordinator.**

### **Program objectives**

The program aims to provide opportunities to further develop the leadership skills of participants, focusing particularly in areas such as:

- Decision-making;
- Leading others;
- Conflict resolution;
- Communicating effectively;
- Influencing others;
- Influencing change;
- Project management;
- Displaying initiative; and,
- Building relationships with community leaders, community members and other professionals.

## Program

The Youth Leadership Program is six months of structured individual and group learning opportunities. As the group may include people actively involved in employment, training or education, participation will occur outside of business hours and in the participant's own time.

The program will require a time commitment of approximately eight hours per fortnight which must be considered before applying.

## Cost

As part of Wodonga Council's commitment to the development of young people, all reasonable costs associated with the Youth Leadership Program will be covered for participants.

This will include:

- Costs associated with the opening retreat (accommodation, transport, food, activities and guest speakers);
- Mid-program trip to Melbourne (transport, accommodation, speakers and some meals);
- Program meetings (venue and food);
- The graduation (venue, food and guest speakers); and
- Any relevant training offered.

Date	Time	Activity/presentation	Presenter
Thursday, May 4 to Sunday May 7	All day (four days)	Opening Retreat ( <b>compulsory</b> ) Getting to where you need to be Overcoming the Obstacles Networking: How to connect with people that matter	Donna Richards Eliza Ault-Connell Tammy Atkins
Wednesday, May 17	5.30pm to 8.30pm	Talent Dynamics	Elyln Martin and Rod Fraser
Saturday, May 27	9am to 4pm	Speak with confidence, impact and credibility	Universally Speaking
Wednesday, May 31 Wednesday, May 31	5.30pm to 8.30pm	Bendigo for Homeless Youth Project Outward	Luke Owens Laura Owens
Wednesday, June 14	5.30pm to 8.30pm	Emotional Intelligence	Anthony Nicholson
Wednesday, June 28	5.30pm to 8.30pm	The Power of Storytelling	Sophie Weidon
Wednesday, July 12	5.30pm to 8.30pm	Presentations	Participants
Wednesday, July 19 to Friday, July 21	All day	Various	Melbourne trip
Wednesday, August 2	5.30pm to 9.30pm	Finding your inner compass: Part 1	Elyln Martin and Rod Fraser
Wednesday, August 16	5.30pm to 8.30pm	Productivity increase through increased awareness	Geoff O'Neill
Wednesday, August 30	5.30pm to 8.30pm	Decide your own destiny	Nathan Hulls
Wednesday, September 13	5.30pm to 8.30pm	Diversity and inclusion	Rachel Habgood
Wednesday, September 27	5.30pm to 9.30pm	Finding your inner compass: Part 2	Elyln Martin and Rod Fraser
Wednesday, October 11	5.30pm to 8.30pm	Where to from here?	Panel
Wednesday, October 18	5.30pm to 9pm	Final debrief ( <b>compulsory</b> )	Not applicable
Wednesday, October 25	6pm to 8pm	Graduation	TBC

## 2017 Leadership Program Speaker Bios

**DONNA RICHARDS** has a background in community services, business and training, with a specific interest and experience in planning, evaluation, coaching and mentoring. Donna has worked for Department of Health, held senior executive positions and has been a member of government advisory groups and mentoring groups. Her most recent role was as the Executive Director of the Country Women's Association of Victoria.

[CWAOFVIC.ASN.AU/](http://CWAOFVIC.ASN.AU/)

At the age of 16 **ELIZA AULT-CONNELL** nearly died from meningococcal disease. She had both her legs amputated above the knees two days after contracting the disease. Later she had to make the decision to have most of the fingers on each hand removed. She was in hospital for six months and in 1998, she acquired prosthetic legs. Eliza has gone on to compete at the 2002 Commonwealth Games, 2004 Olympic Games, 2004 Summer Paralympics and 2006 Commonwealth Games.

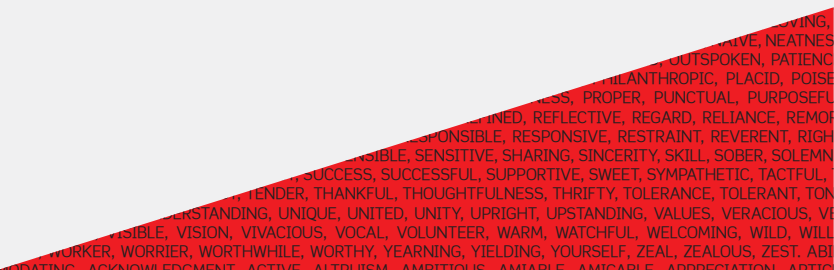
[EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/ELIZA\\_AULT-CONNELL](http://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/ELIZA_AULT-CONNELL)

**TAMMY ATKINS** is an active member of a number of local groups and former Councillor for the Rural City of Wangaratta, a Victorian Farmers Federation member, a graduate and former board member of the Alpine Valleys Community Leadership Program, and a graduate of the Australian Rural Leadership Program. Tammy currently runs her own consulting business.

[TAMMYATKINS.COM.AU/](http://TAMMYATKINS.COM.AU/)

**KAT BENNETT** was a member of the inaugural youth leadership program of 2008. Kat has gone on and worked in various community development roles at Wodonga Council as well as at Gateway Health where she is currently the Early Year's Health Promotion Coordinator. Kat has also sat on the board for YES Youth and Family Emergency Services for the past 9 years; as well as sitting on boards and committees with the YWCA Albury Wodonga, the Albury Wodonga Volunteer Resource Bureau and the North East Young Professional Network. Kat is also a yoga and meditation teacher and was recently voted in as a Wodonga Councillor.

[LINKEDIN.COM/IN/KAT-BENNETT-99537B49](http://LINKEDIN.COM/IN/KAT-BENNETT-99537B49)



**ROD FRASER** has been in business since he bought his first one at age 18, straight out of school. Rod is a Master Practitioner NLP, a certified Gazelles International Coach, a Demartini Values Accredited Facilitator & Demartini Method Facilitator.

**ELLYN MARTIN** is inspired by helping people to grow, learning and connection. She started her working life in education and has an extensive background in organisational development, leadership development, facilitation and coaching. Ellyn is a Demartini Values Accredited Facilitator & Demartini Method Facilitator.  
[BUSINESSGROWTHSTRATEGIES.BIZ/](http://BUSINESSGROWTHSTRATEGIES.BIZ/)

**UNIVERSALLY SPEAKING** is a local business, specializing in building businesses, teams and organisations through effective communication and influential behaviour. The focus of this session for the leadership program will be on effective presentation, public speaking & communication skills.  
[UNIVERSALLYSPEAKING.COM.AU/](http://UNIVERSALLYSPEAKING.COM.AU/)

**LUKE OWENS** established the Bendigo for Homeless Youth campaign to address the fact that up to 700 children and young people in Bendigo have no safe place to sleep at night. Luke hoped to raise \$100,000 by Christmas 2012 to contribute to a community housing project. Harnessing a team of more than 100 volunteers, Luke staged charity fundraising dinners, concerts and pub gigs, produced a mini-album and even collected money at traffic lights. The final figure raised will astound you.....  
[FACEBOOK.COM/BFH2012/](https://FACEBOOK.COM/BFH2012/)

Growing up in a small country town, **LAURA OWENS** had always been passionate about helping those around her reach their full potential. In early 2015 Laura got together with a group of friends who realised that change was also needed globally. As a group of five young women, they decided to found Project Outward; with the intention of working internationally to break the cycle of poverty for women and their families.  
[PROJECTOUTWARD.COM/](http://PROJECTOUTWARD.COM/)

**ANTHONY NICHOLSON** has been working with young people in a variety of roles for over 20 years. These have included spending three summers in the US as a camp counsellor, a recreation officer at the YMCA in the NT, an outdoor educator with Outward Bound Australia and youth worker at the City of Wodonga, where he has coordinated the Youth Leadership Program for the last eight years.

When **SOPHIE WELDON** was 14 years old she experienced firsthand the profound impact that one story can have. She became best friends with a former refugee called Adut, whose story of survival changed not only her life, but the lives of her friends and family. Sophie and Adut became Australia's first Youth Representatives for the UN Refugee Agency and Sophie turned Adut's story into a book called 'Tears of Hope' and an animation called 'What if?'. Adut's story sparked Sophie's passion to value, record and archive stories in order to create more empathy and connection in Australian society.

**HUMANKIND.ENTERPRISES/**

Propel Your Life is a success coaching business established by **GEOFF O'NEILL, AARON WEST AND ADAM NICHOLSON**. Geoff has spent over 15 years as a leader, coordinator and innovator constantly investing in building young people's lives. The coaching business is seeing people reach their peak performance in fields from teaching to sport, from managers to at risk youth to business owners.

**PROPELYOURLIFE.COM.AU/CONTACT/**

**NATHAN HULLS** is a passionate motivational speaker, entrepreneur, mindset coach and mentor. His career so far has spanned business, media, politics and community leadership. When he was just 12 years old he started his first business, mowing lawns, washing cars, doing odd jobs and selling his toys to his friends. By 21 he was doing deals, building online businesses, getting involved in politics, sitting on boards and trading foreign markets.

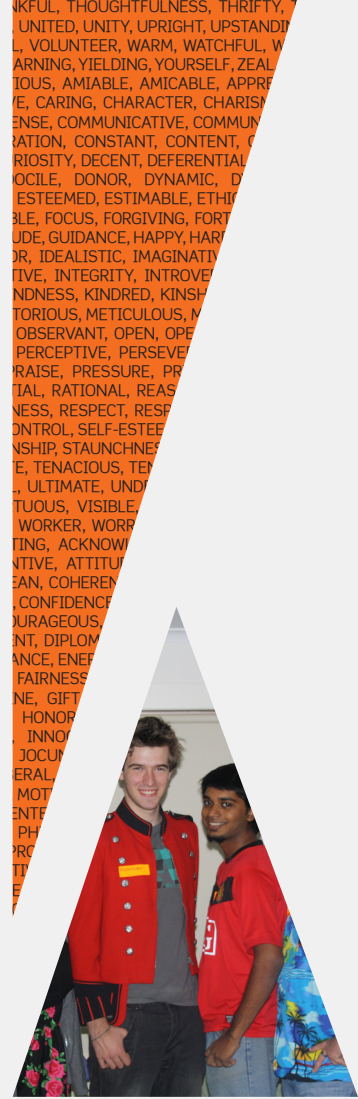
**NATHANHULLS.COM/**

**RACHEL HABGOOD** is the team leader of Youth services at Wodonga Council. Rachel studied locally and has worked for several years with local young people and people from refugee backgrounds. Rachel is passionate about assisting people to have a fair go in life and to reach their full potential.



# Applications close March 31, 2017. Visit [wodonga.vic.gov.au/ylp](http://wodonga.vic.gov.au/ylp) for an application form.

Alternatively, contact Wodonga Council's youth services officer Anthony Nicholson on:  
Phone: (02) 6022 9703  
Mobile: 0448 538 563  
Email: [anicholson@wodonga.vic.gov.au](mailto:anicholson@wodonga.vic.gov.au)  
[facebook.com/wodongayouth](https://www.facebook.com/wodongayouth)



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