



Stratford District Youth Council

Meet the team...



Cynthia Cook

Hi! My name is Cynthia Cook and I'm 20 years old. This is my third year of Youth Council. I am the office administrator for Central Taranaki Employment Trust. I am a certified competent communicator through Toastmasters International. I am also studying through correspondence. I have a three year old daughter named Danni. I joined Youth Council to help make a positive difference in the community. I would like to see the youth of Stratford take pride in themselves, their achievements and their community.



Laura Lambkin

My name is Laura Lambkin. I am 13 years old. I go to Stratford Primary School. I joined Youth Council because I wanted to get more involved with the community and to help with my public speaking. I like horse riding, playing netball and hanging out with my friends. I play netball, I am in the year 8a team. I do modelling with Becky Walsh and its heaps of fun. Youth Council is a really fun job to do and there are some really awesome people in it.

Shane Rooyackers

Hey, I'm Shane. I'm 15 and go to Francis Douglas Memorial College. I've been a Youth Councillor for three years. I joined the Youth Council to get involved in the community and to learn new skills. My interests include golf, music, reading and Youth Council work. At school I'm a year 11 currently doing NCEA level one. I would like to see the Youth Council get more involved in issues that affect young people in our community and help make Stratford a more positive and active place for youth.



Astyn Buckland

Hello my name is Astyn Buckland. I am 14 years old and was born on the 7th July 1993. I currently go to Stratford High School. I play netball for Stratford High School 3A and we are currently on the top of the table and are winning our grade. I joined Youth Council because I wanted to be a part of Stratford's improvement, to get my voice heard and so that the needs of our youth can be met. I'm a happy outgoing person who is not afraid to go out of my comfort zone. I'm really easy to get along with. I love music, singing and dancing. I play the flute and have a really approachable face.



Paul Haenga

Hello my name is Paul Haenga. I am currently enrolled at Stratford High School. I play rugby for Stratford High School E grade and we have won most of our games. I wanted to join the Youth Council so I could make a difference for the youth of Stratford. I am a part of our schools Kapa Haka and my hobbies include surfing, trail riding, rugby and lots more. I hope to get our name out and no doubt youth will see me in the future.



Cameron Grierson

Hey, I'm Cameron, I'm 17 and I go to Stratford High School. I joined the Youth Council 3 years ago and for the past year I have been Chairman. This has been a great (but scary) experience as I have been thrown out of my comfort zone. I originally joined Youth Council after attending a youth forum and decided I wanted to be a part of it. At school I take graphics, maths, chemistry, accounting and physics. I'm hoping to attend Canterbury University next year to study Mechanical Engineering. At school I am also the treasurer on the student council. Anyone who knows me knows that I love doing anything with motorbikes, I own two and am building/restoring two. As far as Youth Council goes, it would be great to see it continue into the future and start to branch out into other areas.

Jayne Gulliver

My name is Jayne Gulliver, I am a 6th former at St Mary's School. I am 17 and do many things outside of Youth Council. I play six different sports and have represented Taranaki in two of them. My goal in life is to be the best I can. I don't give up on people and that's part of the reason why I joined council. I joined the Youth Council because I wanted my school to have a say in what the council does. I would like to see the Youth Council involved in more government issues to have a say in what youth do.



Ngawai Matthews

Kia Ora the name's Ngawai Matthews and I am currently sitting my third term on the Youth Council. I joined the Youth Council because I wanted to be apart of all the projects, learn new skills and be an active voice for the youth of Stratford. Meeting FastCrew, the recent Wellington Roadtrip and the many laughs we have had are the highlights for me in the Youth Council. So a bit about me I am currently studying correspondence Maori through Te Waananga o Aotearoa. I am a huge sports fanatic, my main passion is Volleyball. I have been playing for 8 years and coached for 2. I am the youngest Toastmaster member of Stratford. When I finish my gap year I would like to join the Navy and begin my University bachelor of Media Studies. I love the journalism world and I have had the great opportunity of interviewing international star King Kapisi, Blindspott and being one of ten youth to be Press Gallery for this years Youth Parliament. I encourage youth to get out there and follow their dream, the Youth Council is just one of the many opportunities they can take.



Michael Goble

My name is Michael Goble and I am 12. My hobbies are playing rugby, golf, model car collecting and drawing. I play rugby in the winter months on Saturday morning for the 12th grade. I play golf on Monday afternoon. I have a lot of cars. My favourite rugby player is Chris Masoe. The All Blacks are the best rugby team in the world. I have two brothers called Stephen and Henare. I also have two sisters called Ielish and Theresa. I have a Mum and Dad and one niece. I love Burger King and KFC. My eyes are brown and my hair is black.



Savarna Pease

Hi...my name is Savarna Renee Pease. I am 12 years old and I am turning 13 in September. I am a Year 8 at St Josephs School, Stratford and have lots of cool friends. I am going to go to St Mary's Diocesan School next year. I am going to go for the music scholarship and I will hopefully get it. At school I am Margaret Mary (House) Leader. My hobbies are violin, bagpipes, guides, youth group and netball. I have been playing violin for nearly 4 years now and have been in three comps. I play the violin for my church band (Baptist) and also my school church. I live with my Nana and Pop and brother (Nathan) and my sister (Anna) lives with my Gran & Pop in Eitham. This is because my Mum passed away when I was 3 years old. I wanted to become a Youth Councillor because I wanted to know more about what is going on in Stratford. When I am older I would like to be a teacher or work in an orphanage.

Alison Matthews

Hey, my name is Alison Matthews but I'm usually called Ali. I am 14 years of age and I attend Stratford High School. I am currently in my second year of Youth Council and so far the experience has been better than I thought. I have lots of people to thank that have helped me through this experience, it's been great working alongside you - thank you! My interests are listening to and playing music, socialising with family and friends, St John's, Youth Council work, sports and working at the Northern Dairy where I love to work because I get to talk to lots of different people. I enjoy going to school, working, singing at church, playing saxophone and playing netball. As a Youth Councillor I would like to see more youth getting involved in who we are and what we do. When I leave school I want to become a Navy medic. If you want to know what Youth Council do - approach one of the team and we will inform you. You won't regret it.



Carly Theron

My name is Carly Theron, I am 6th form at Stratford High School, and I am currently working towards NCEA level 2. I play netball for my school and in my spare time I enjoy singing, dancing and eating candy. I have many responsibilities outside of school and the Youth Council including my part time job and being a member of the worship team at my churches youth group. I joined the Stratford District Youth Council because I want to help the youth of Stratford become more aware of the world around them and I want to give something back to my community. In the future I would like to see the Youth Council become more involved in the serious issues facing youth today.



Gareth Power-Gordon

Hi I am Gareth Power-Gordon. I am 14 years old and have been on the Stratford District Youth Council for 3 years. I have three brothers. I attend New Plymouth Boys High School. I am in year 10 and like sport but am only involved in rowing. I see the Youth Council being a great stepping stone in life and it is awesome to be part of this great group of people. The Youth Council rocks and Stratford is just awesome.



Liam Barr

Sup! My name's Liam Barr and I'm a 13 year old student at St Joseph's School, Stratford. In my spare time I like to hang out with my mates and play rugby. I belong to the Stratford Rugby Club and play for 12th grade. I also play basketball for my school and am in the A team. I joined the Youth Council because I, like my fellow work mates, would like to improve the youth of Stratford. I would like Stratford to improve its youth by cleaning up our streets.