



ROTORUA LAKES
COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera o ngā Roto o Rotorua

2024 Rotorua Youth Council

End of Year Presentation

Our PURPOSE

Youth voice in Council decision-making:

"It's not just about us sitting in a room talking. We're here to ensure youth perspectives are part of the decisions being made about our city."

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS:

Youth Engagement Strategy:

- We developed the strategy through research and by surveying 182 young people in Rotorua.
- This strategy aims to bring more youth into civic participation, making sure that young people across different communities can have their say.
- It has helped shape our work and guide the focus for future youth engagement in the rohe.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS:

Long Term Plan Submission:

- We had the opportunity to contribute directly to the Council's Long Term Plan.
- We provided feedback on issues that matter to young people, from sustainability to community development.
- It was a big milestone for us to represent youth in a formal submission process.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS:

Festival for the Future:

- Attended Festival for the Future with other young leaders from across Aotearoa.
- This event was an amazing opportunity for us to network and connect.
- We fundraised and organised our attendance.
- We learned how other Councils and youth groups were engaging with their communities.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Workshops and meetings:** We've held regular workshops to develop our skills, including sessions on leadership, civic responsibility, and the history of Te Arawa.
- **Civic participation projects:** In addition to our submission work, we've been involved in projects aimed at making civic engagement more accessible to youth.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Action the Youth Engagement Strategy:** Bring the strategy to life through actionable steps
- **More meetings:** Increased frequency to stay engaged
- **More bonding:** Strengthen group connections earlier on for better collaboration
- **Continued engagement:** Keep diverse youth voices at the forefront

personal reflections

thank you!
any questions?

