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KERRY SHINE MP

State Member for Toowoomba North

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Calling Toowoomba North young people: make your voice heard!

Young Toowoomba North people with a passion for the local community are being urged to get amongst it at the 16th annual YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament.

Member for Toowoomba North Kerry Shine today encouraged locals aged 15-25 to put up their hand before nominations close on 24 February.

“Youth Parliament is an incredible opportunity for young people to experience what it’s like to sit in Queensland Parliament and speak about the issues they care about,” Mr Shine said.

“It’s a great honour to represent your community in Parliament and I’m glad young people get the chance to stand in the chamber and talk about what matters to them.

“As a Youth Member, they’ll get an inside look at what it’s like to be a parliamentarian – from learning about parliamentary rules to developing bills, they’ll debate the issues affecting young people in Queensland.

“I’d urge young people in Toowoomba North who are passionate about making a difference or just want to try something new to nominate for the program which runs from April to September.”

Minister for Community Services Karen Struthers said 93 young people will be selected, representing the 89 state electorates and four positions for Indigenous electorates.

“It’s a great way for young Queenslanders to develop the skills and confidence needed to become our future decision-makers and that’s why I’m encouraging all interested to get involved,” Ms Struthers said.

“It’s open to all young Queenslanders – male and female, city and county, Indigenous and non-indigenous – we’re looking for a variety of young people with a variety of opinions.”

Ms Struthers said the Bligh Government is building a bright future for Queensland young people.

“In addition to the Youth Parliament, the Government supports the Queensland Youth Forum and regional youth forums, the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award and Bridge Award, the Indigenous Youth Leadership Program and others that develop Indigenous youth leadership,” Ms Struthers said.

“We are committed to continuing to listen and engage with young people, so that government continues to respond to their needs.”

For more information or to nominate for Queensland Youth Parliament, visit www.ymcaqyp.org.au

For more information, please go to www.communities.qld.gov.au/sportrec

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