

MyNT Charter

July 2016

Multicultural Youth NT (MyNT)

MyNT is a youth-led organisation which builds the capacity of young Territorians to be active members of their community.

We envision empowered young people, equipped with skills and resources, working together to make their ideas reality.

Values

Cultural Diversity - *Including all, celebrating our similarities, uniqueness and how we all fit together.*

Social Justice and Human Rights - *A fair Australia that respects the rights of all young people*

Participation - *Young people learning, deciding, and doing it ourselves in meaningful ways*

Collaboration - *Working with others to achieve our common goals*

Empowerment – *Supporting young people to become active within their communities*

Objectives

Tackling / solving youth issues

Make young people's ideas a reality

Giving young people a voice

Celebrating youth in a positive environment

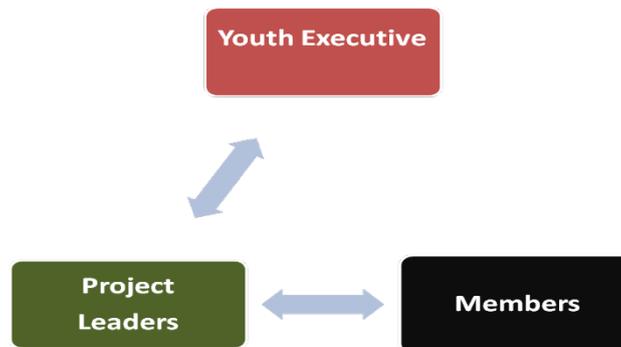
The 4 **objectives** will be embedded in all the work of MyNT.

MyNT is a non-profit organisation. The assets and income of the organisation shall be applied solely in furtherance of its above-mentioned objects and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the organisation except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the organisation.

In the event of the organisation being dissolved, the amount that remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to another organisation with similar purposes which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.

MyNT Leadership Structures and Responsibilities

There are two groups of leaders within MyNT: The Youth Executive who are responsible for overall governance and mentoring, and the Project Leaders, who are responsible for implementing projects.



- **Youth Executive**

- Six office bearers: Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, 2 General Executive Members (GEMs).
- The Youth Executive takes overall responsibility for organisational development through formulating and regularly reviewing strategic plans. In doing this, the Youth Executive should ask themselves the following questions:
 - How are we involving members?
 - How are we doing support and development? (i.e. learning and sharing skills)
 - How are we working for the sustainability of MyNT?
- The Youth Executive will be responsible for ensuring mentoring and support for project leaders

Term of Executive Members

- Each member of the MyNT Executive is appointed to serve a 2-year term, which shall commence on a date set by the executive. They are eligible to reapply at the end of their 2-year term while they are still under the age limit (15 - 25 years old inclusive).
- If an Executive member turns 26 in the middle of their term, they will be allowed to continue until they finish their term.
- The term of executive members is staggered, such that the Chair and Vice-Chair positions become vacant on a year alternating with the rest of the positions.

Selection and Appointment of Executive Members

- Applications for the vacant executive positions will be called for in mid-March each year, with incoming Executive officers commencing their term on 22 April. The date can be extended by the executive if need be.
- Young people between the ages of 15 and 25 (inclusive) who reside in the Northern Territory are eligible for membership of the MyNT executive.
- Applications for membership into the executive must be made in the manner directed by the executive, and must address the applicant's:
 - o reasons for applying
 - o past history with youth activities and initiatives
 - o preferred position(s) on the executive
- The selection committee will be composed of the members who are not applying for a position that year.
 - o The selection committee must be composed of at least 3 members, and must form an odd number
 - o In a case where the selection committee consists of less than 3 people or of an even number, the selection committee can invite MyNT mentors to be part of the committee with voting rights.
- The selection committee must meet within 2 weeks after the deadline for applications. MyNT staff and mentors may be invited to be present at the meeting on an advisory capacity, but shall not have any voting power, unless granted voting powers as per above. No other person shall be present at the meeting.
- The selection committee must have regard to the following in making their selections:
 - o The applicant's past history and engagement with MyNT and/or other youth activities in the NT
 - o The applicant's skills, past experiences and general areas of interest that are of relevance to MyNT
 - o The applicant's preferences for executive positions and the current vacancies
 - o General attributes of the applicant, including the compatibility of their individual values with those of MyNT
- In making the selections, the selection committee can have regard to information on the applicant from sources other than their application itself.
- Wherever possible, selections shall be made by consensus. However, if consensus does not appear possible after lengthy discussions, selections can be made by majority vote.
- A member of the selection committee must inform all applicants of the outcome of their application as soon as practicable after selections.
- Once the successful applicants have accepted their positions, an official announcement of the results must be made prior to, or on the date that the new executive commences their term.

Inauguration of the New Executive

- The outgoing executive committee must set a date for the official handover to the new executive. On that date, the newly appointed members will be deemed to be inaugurated as Executive Members of MyNT.
- The new and outgoing executive may be formally and publicly recognised in a community event hosted by MyNT.

Casual Vacancies

- If a member of the executive resigns from their position prior to the end of their term, the executive may appoint a new member to fill the remainder of the term (i.e. the new member will not serve a full 2 year term. The position will be made vacant at the conclusion of the original member's 2-year term).
- The procedure for selections of the new member shall be either by co-option or by following the same procedure as for the annual selections.

Meetings of the MyNT Executive

- The MyNT Executive shall meet regularly throughout the year, twice a month.
- Meeting dates shall be set by the Chair and Secretary, in consultation with other members of the executive.
- At least 3 members of the executive will form the quorum for an executive meeting.
- Meeting shall be chaired by the MyNT Chair, and in his/her absence, the Vice-Chair. Where neither the Chair nor Vice-Chair is present, another member of the executive may be called on to chair the meeting.
- MyNT staff members, project leaders, mentors, and interested members of the public may be invited to be present at and address the meeting, but shall not have any voting rights. Attendance at executive meetings by Project Leaders and project team members must be welcomed and encouraged by the executive. Such members may obtain an invitation to attend executive meetings by making a request in writing to the Chair or Secretary. However, the Chair may decline a request to attend a meeting or a portion thereof if the meeting is to involve sensitive or confidential matters, which must be discussed *in camera* (in private). If such an invitation is to be refused, the Chair must inform other members of the executive of his/her decision.
- All Executive meetings must be minuted and provided to the executive in draft form prior to the following meeting.
- Minutes can be provided to members of MyNT upon request, however details of any matters discussed *in camera* must be redacted.
- At the commencement of each meeting, minutes of the previous meeting must be moved and seconded as per the procedure outlined below.

Decision Making Procedure

- Motions made and MyNT Meetings shall be moved and seconded by 2 voting members. The member chairing the meeting cannot move or second a motion.
- Prior to moving a motion, the chair must give all members the opportunity to express their opinions.
- At the conclusion of the discussion, the chair must call for a vote on the motion.
- Decisions at executive meetings shall be made by consensus wherever possible. The Chair may call for decisions by voting if consensus does not seem possible.
- Each member of the executive shall have 1 vote.
- Where the votes are tied, the Chair shall have a casting vote.

● **Project Leaders**

- o The number of Project Leaders is dependent on the number of projects being carried out.
- o Their role is to oversee projects and lead teams of young people in successfully carrying out the project.
- o The MyNT executive, mentors and staff members will provide mentorship and support to the project leaders in carrying out their projects.
- o Each Project Leader must supply to the MyNT Executive (via staff members), a list of team members involved in their project.
- o Each Project Leader will be required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with MyNT.

● **Sub-Committees**

- o The MyNT Executive may from time to time appoint sub-committees for different purposes.
- o In forming a sub-committee, the executive must specify its objectives and reporting guidelines.
- o The executive may appoint its own members, project leaders or other members of MyNT into the sub-committee. The executive may appoint a chairperson for each sub-committee or request the members to internally elect a chairperson.
- o Members of the sub-committees shall serve a term specified by the MyNT executive.
- o Sub-committees must, through their chairpersons, make regular reports to the executive on their progress.

- **Membership**

- Any young person aged between 15 and 30 (inclusive), resident in the Northern Territory and is one of the following is eligible for membership into MyNT.
 - Members of the MyNT Executive
 - Project Leaders
 - Members of Sub-Committees
 - Project team members (Project Leaders will supply a list of team members to the Executive for inclusion as Members)
- MyNT subscribers are the target market for the communications team to create a wider reach of MyNT activities.

- **Mentors**

- Past members of the MyNT executive can be invited by the MyNT executive to serve as mentors.
- Mentors shall serve until:
 - They resign and the resignation is accepted
 - They are excused by the MyNT executive

- **MyNT Alumni**

- Past Executive members, project leaders and staff may be invited by the MyNT Youth Executive to be part of the MyNT alumni.
- Members of the MyNT alumni shall have no specific responsibilities to MyNT but form part of the growing MyNT network.