New Westminster
Minutes

Mayor's Youth Climate Leadership Team

Wednesday, November 19, 2025
4:00 p.m.

Council Chamber, Second Floor
New Westminster City Hall, 511 Royal Avenue

Present:	Mayor Patrick Johnstone, Facilitator Juno Avila-Clark Elizabeth Cavanagh Uliana Chernykh Shreeya Jagadeesh Leo Li Max MacInnes-Cann Lili Mizuno Justine Rosendo Lucille Stathis
Staff Present:	Leya Behra, Deputy Director, Climate Action Karmen Cloete, Office Assistant Rob McCullough, Manager, Museums and Heritage Services Laura Sampliner, Manager, Climate Action Sophie Schreder, Executive Assistant to the Mayor Sheena Soon, Planner Kristin Unger, Committee Clerk Paolo Zenone, Youth Program Coordinator
Absent:	Ruqaiyah Clouden Irene Lu Mahsa Soltani

1. CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. and it was recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsurrendered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. It was acknowledged that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. It was recognized that, as a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

2. MINUTES

MOVED and SECONDED
THAT the Minutes of the Mayor's Youth Climate Leadership Team meeting held on October 15, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED

3. PRESENTATIONS & UPDATES

3.1 Site Signage Review and Discussion

Discussion took place and staff noted that three interpretative signs will be installed at the Glen Brook Ravine project site, outlining (i) the history of Glen Brook, (ii) the rain garden project undertaken by the Youth Climate Leadership Team (YCLT), and (iii) information on the daylighting process and background on the YCLT.

It was further noted that images of the signs will be posted on the YCLT website, along with an external link to the Homegrown Pigeon Society, the organization that will continue the work associated with the Glen Brook Ravine project.

Team members provided the following feedback on the draft signage:

- Sign 1: include a map or current photograph to help situate the historical images, and incorporate suggested language refinements;
- Sign 2: Team members will liaise with City staff to provide a substitute illustration that includes the necessary technical elements;
- Sign 3: the importance of including image captions was emphasized and it was noted that the full name of the artist should be included in the copyright, and consideration was given to the inclusion of a QR code, though concerns were noted regarding accessibility and long-term viability; and
- Team members highlighted the importance of placing signs in chronological order – past, present and future – and raised accessibility concerns regarding the placement of a seating log directly in front of one of the signs.

3.2 Future of the Youth Climate Leadership Team

Mayor Patrick Johnstone advised that the next phase of the YCLT is currently uncertain, noting that future planning will take into account the timing of the school year and feedback received from current Team members.

Discussion took place and Team members expressed a desire to receive an email notification should a motion regarding the future of the YCLT be brought forward to Council. It was further noted that the Homegrown Pigeon Society is currently planning its first meeting to be held on November 29, 2025 at the New Westminster Public Library.

4. PROJECT WORK

4.1 Wrap Up

Certificates of participation and gifts were presented to Team members.

4.2 Activity

Team members participated in an activity to personalize their tote bags.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned (6:00 p.m.).