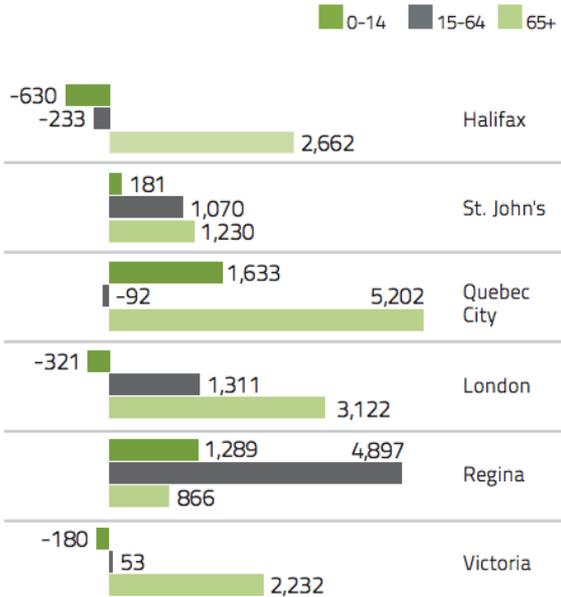




HRM Youth Advisory Council

Presentation by iMatter Halifax

What is the necessity?



Halifax youth are underrepresented

55 000 between 15-24 (2011 Stats Canada)ⁱ

Only one councillor below the age of 35

Halifax is aging and losing young peopleⁱⁱ

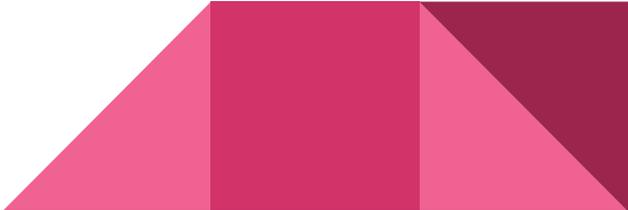
2011-2031, population aged 18-29 supposed to drop 25%

18.7% Unemployment in ages 15-24 (2013)

97% of the workforce growth from 2006-2012 were aged 45+

Halifax issues are youth issues

Transportation, climate action, employment, etc.



What are the benefits?

- Increased political involvement
- Increases in voter turnout
 - Voters aged 18-19 had a 15% showing, those aged 20-29 had an 8% showing
- Improved trust in the municipal
- Will educate youth on municipal issues
- Provides insight to the Council on new issues or how current ones pertain to the younger people of Halifax



Logistics: Connection with Regional Council

- 2 Councillors sit on the Council
- Youth Council members will make their reports personally to Council
- Want to foster a feeling of importance (not just there as tokens but are taken seriously)

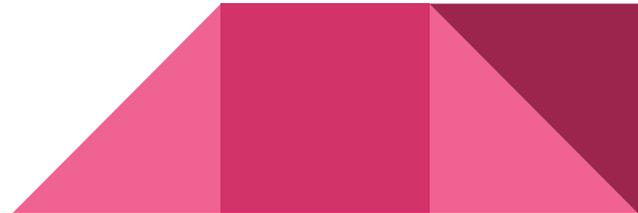


What we have to offer:

- New and fresh political ideas
- Political interest that is just looking for a venue
- iMatter: previous political experience. Extensive environmental research regarding the HRM



iMATTER



Logistics: Engagement of all of HRM

- Open to all 16 districts to ensure a broad representation of HRM youth
- A maximum of 3 members from each district
- A maximum of 16 members on the council
- Outreach to different communities to ensure diversity
- Subsidizes travel for youth outside of Halifax Center or further than the reliable reaches of Metro Transit



Logistics: Specific details for the proposal

- Youth council will advise on youth-specific issues and issues that are important to youth
- Work on youth civic engagement
- Present proposals to regional council
- Ages 15-24
- Monthly meetings
- Internally elected chair
- 1 year mandate, maximum 2 years on council
- A search committee made up of councillors and youth



Examples of Canadian Municipal Youth Councils

Edmonton Youth Council: main objectives are to provide feedback and input to the city councillors, committees and works on projects around the city to specifically benefit youth, thorough mandate

Toronto City Youth Council: mirrors the Toronto City Council, has varying branches that could be a future structure for HRM if it grows

Canadian Coalition of Youth Councils: currently includes Toronto, Mississauga and Markham but it provides a framework for future national youth collaboration

Why it's important youth are involved in the creation:

- We know what's going to work best for us
- We can encourage greater participation in the youth council
- We have connections



Cited

i - Statistics Canada. 2012. *Focus on Geography Series, 2011 Census*. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-310-XWE2011004. Ottawa, Ontario. Analytical products, 2011 Census. Last updated October 24, 2012.

ii - Beaumont, Hilary. "Why young people leave." *The Chronicle Herald*, 24 August 2013.

iii - Roy, Jeffrey. "Voter Engagement in Halifax." School of Public Administration, Dalhousie University, 16 January 2015.