



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - May 5, 2020 **SUPERINTENDENT'S YOUTH COUNCIL - LEADERS IN ACTION**

Grande Yellowhead Public School Division's Superintendent's Youth Council (SYC) affords students opportunities to build positive working relationships with others across the Division, lead by example in their schools, provide valuable input on education initiatives, and participate in leadership opportunities. This is the third year for the SYC, under the leadership of Carolyn Lewis, Superintendent of Schools for Grande Yellowhead Public School Division (GYPSP).

The 2019 - 2020 SYC included 33 student and teacher members from each of GYPSP's five high schools and The Learning Connection Centres. New and returning members were chosen from those who demonstrated a diverse range of interests, identities and perspectives, who were passionate about and willing to share experience, knowledge and skills, and were interested in leadership opportunities both at the Division and school level.

This year's members had the opportunity to participate in meetings with Superintendent Lewis, received facilitation training at their respective high schools with Teacher Consultant Mary Andreassen, and were exceptional in their discussion-facilitation roles at the Community Engagement events held in Evansburg, Edson, Hinton, Jasper, and Grande Cache.

Prior to school closures in March due to COVID-19, selected members also participated in leadership opportunities outside of GYPSP, including attendance at the Fall Public School Board Association Student Voice Conference in Edmonton and a week-long conference in Ottawa with Encounters with Canada at the Terry Fox Centre.

The GYPSP Superintendent's Youth Council engages students as leaders for change within their communities and Grande Yellowhead Public School Division. Superintendent Lewis remarked how much she appreciates the input to her decision making by these outstanding young people. "These are the leaders of tomorrow and I am honoured that I can spend time with them. They are the reason why I do what I do - it's all about our amazing students."

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