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Wednesday 5 February 2025

Eugene Whakahoehe  
Tumu Toihau  
Ngāti Kuia  
Via email: [tari@ngatikuia.iwi.nz](mailto:tari@ngatikuia.iwi.nz)

Kia ora Eugene and team,

**Youth Parliament 2025**

The next Youth Parliament will occur this year, with Youth Members of Parliament (MPs) participating in a tenure programme from Monday 28 April 2025 to Friday 29 August 2025. This includes attending a two-day Youth Parliament event in Wellington on Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 July 2025. The Youth Parliament programme gives young people the opportunity to understand and be a part of the Parliamentary process and connect with their communities. It will be a significant opportunity for up to 123 young people living in Aotearoa New Zealand to gather the views of their peers and bring young peoples' voices to Parliament. A further 20 young people will also report on the activities of Youth MPs as a Youth Press Gallery.

Every MP is selecting a Youth MP to represent their community. I'm seeking applications from interested young people belonging to Ngāti Kuia to be included in my Youth MP selection process for Nelson.

Young people who are interested in becoming my Youth MP can send an application to my office by 12pm Friday 28 February. Applications can come in any format – such as a letter, speech, video, performance, essay, or artwork. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to present a speech at a selection event in March.

I'm looking for a young person who is:

- aged 16 – 18 years old (inclusive) as at Friday 28 February 2025
- active in the Nelson community or region, or looking for ways to become active
- able to attend Youth Parliament on Tuesday 1 – Wednesday 2 July 2025 and commit to the Youth MP tenure, from Monday 28 April 2025 to Friday 29 August 2025 (training will be offered at the beginning of this tenure)
- interested in youth issues, government decision-making processes, and/or social change
- able to seek the views, opinions, and ideas of their peers and represent them at the two-day Youth Parliament 2025 event
- prepared to work within the protocols and behavioural expectations of Youth Parliament 2025.

Like New Zealand Parliament, Youth Parliament will benefit from a range of voices, so I encourage young people with diverse backgrounds, abilities, and identities to step forward. Pastoral care will be provided and accessibility requirements such as NZSL interpretation/translation will be provided for.

If you have any questions or would like more information on Youth Parliament 2025, please contact the Youth Parliament Project Team at [beheard@youthparliament.govt.nz](mailto:beheard@youthparliament.govt.nz). Alternatively, please contact my office on 03 539 0480 or [nelson@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:nelson@parliament.govt.nz)

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Boyack  
MP for Nelson

