1. Introduction
2. The Philosophy Behind YLC
3. Community Centered Workshop Design
4. Overview of Workshop Process
Introduction
Engaging Young People in Regional Government

- Young people rarely get to participate in policy making.
- Regional government influence and authorities not widely known.
- Explaining policy areas to young people sparked enthusiasm for change.
- Young people are eager for opportunities to engage with Council staff.
Youth Voices Matter: The Value of Lived Experience

Logic or subjective experience? Statistics are important, but don’t tell the whole story.

Emotional understanding essential, subjective knowledge as “truths that are felt” (Kierkegaard)

Young people’s personal stories hold the power to make their truths felt.
Community Centered Workshop Design

- 20 hours of workshops
- Young leaders take ownership over project
- Adaptation and flexibility
- Workshops held in young leaders' spaces
- Bilingual workshops
- Staff across the Council contributed expertise
- Incorporate feedback & findings into future workshop design
- Demonstrate how young leaders' work will have impact
Overview of Workshop Process

Workshop 1: Introduction

Workshop 2: Connecting Stories with Quantitative Data

Workshop 3: Exploring Interview Results

Virtual Workshop 1: Identifying Main Findings

Virtual Workshop 2: Exploring Careers at the Met Council

Workshop 4: Preparing Presentations
Conclusion

- Recognition of value of youth engagement
- Future engagement with young people