YOUTH TAKING CHARGE.

A conversation with young organizers mobilizing youth in Metro Vancouver

CALLS TO ACTION FOR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Communication & outreach:

Jargon, complex concepts, and policy language are a huge barriers to youth engagement. Communicate honestly about realistic change and timelines, and use simple and clear language. Bring decision making processes out into community (ie. Council meetings in community centres). **Show up & listen:** Support youth initiatives with time and resources. Believe youth when they identify unmet needs, and trust in community-led solutions.

Champion issues affecting youth:

Housing, mental health, employment, and affordability are all real and pressing issues for local youth and young adults. Creative and community-led solutions are needed to be enacted on now.

Just take a step: Youth want to see systems change to address the root causes of inequity - show your commitment by taking small steps.



Jahmira Lovemore (she/her) is an Afro-Caribbean woman born & raised on the traditional lands of the Anishinabewaki, Huron-Wendat and Mohawk Nations. She is a cocreator and organiser of Black in BC Mutual Aid, as well as a member of the Hogan's Alley Society. Her work is centered on uplifting Black people, particularly those marginalized in the Lower Mainland. She focuses on the creation of new systems that can help everyone thrive in our ever-evolving world. Kathleen Zaragosa (she/her) is a Filipina-Canadian settler born and based on unceded Coast Salish territories. She is the co-founder of Sliced Mango Collective, a Filipinx youth arts organization in "Metro Vancouver" aiming to build community and connect to heritage through art, performance, and local advocacy initiatives. Since obtaining her BA at UBC studying language and music, her work as a community researcher and musician (among many other hats) instills the belief that everyone has a story—a voice—worth sharing. Jenny Tan 陳美希 (she/they) is a settler and first-generation immigrant of Singaporean, Hokkien, Hakka, and Teochew descent. She is the Director of Partnership and Events at HUB Cycling, where she helps to make cycling more accessible to more people. Jenny is also the cochair of the Renters Advisory Committee of the City of Vancouver and was previously a journalist with Vancouver Co-op Radio and Postmedia. In her free time, Jenny is an amateur artist and used to sing with the Vancouver Chinese Singers.

