



## TOWN OF GIBSONS

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### Town of Gibsons' Selects Council Youth Representatives

February 12, 2019 – The Town of Gibsons has named two Elphinstone High School students to its new “Students on Council” program.

Sacha Stipeć, a grade 12 student with extracurricular activities that include music, track and field, the junior Rotary Club and volunteer service with the Gibsons Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, will be the first appointee. Jason Lewis, a grade 12 student who is active as a youth representative for the NDP, as well as on Elphinstone’s student council, will be the alternate. They will be officially welcomed and sworn into their new positions at Gibsons’ next council meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 7:00pm.

*“I am pleased to welcome Sacha and Jason to their new positions,” said Mayor Bill Beamish. “The Student on Council program is one that I have observed in other communities and found to be extremely beneficial for both the students, who gain a greater understanding of how local government works, and Council, which gains valuable insight into the perspective of a group that’s often left out of community discussions.”*

The inaugural term for the Youth Representatives will run until June 2019. It will then be evaluated and modified as necessary in preparation for the next term, which will run from September 2019 to June 2020. Youth Representatives will be provided with an honorarium of up to \$75 per meeting attended, with the funds placed in an education reserve for the student.

*“During the first term of appointments, we will work with the two students to improve the program,” added Beamish. “This will become their legacy for students who follow, as well as a model for other communities to implement.”*

In total, five students applied to be Gibsons’ first Youth Representative to Council.

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