



## TOWN OF GIBSONS

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### Town of Gibsons Swears in Council Youth Representatives

**November 21, 2019** – The Town of Gibsons has appointed two Elphinstone High School students, Eilis MacKenzie and Gravity Guinard, to its “Students on Council” program for 2019 - 2020.

The Gibsons’ “Students on Council” program was introduced in February 2019 as a way to provide an opportunity to include and involve students on Council. As a Youth Representative, the students will provide a youth perspective on matters being considered at council and committee meetings, raise awareness of the positive contributions of youth in our community and advocate for and on behalf of youth in the Town of Gibsons.

Our Youth Representatives are co-sponsored by the Gibsons Rotary Club and they are provided with an honorarium for attending council and committee meetings, with the funds placed in an education reserve for the student and paid at the end of their term.

Eilis Mackenzie, is a grade 12 student with extracurricular activities that include wrestling, cross country running and the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. She is also a co-founder of the local *Youth for Climate Action* movement, which recently hosted a town hall meeting that brought together many local politicians to discuss concerns from youth about climate change. Eilis is also a member of the BC Greens Youth Advisory Council.

Gravity Guinard, a grade 11 student, is a member of the Elphinstone Environmental Club, sits on the high school’s student council and boasts a GPA of 99%. She is interested in improving local transit and banning single-use plastics on the Sunshine Coast. As well, Gravity would like to start an entrepreneur training program for youth in our communities.

Eilis and Gravity were officially welcomed and sworn into their new positions at Gibsons’ council meeting on Tuesday, November 19, 2019.

*“I am thrilled to welcome Eilis and Gravity to their new positions,”* said Mayor Bill Beamish. *“They are both deeply committed to combatting the climate crisis, which is a core objective of this Council. Additionally, as students who are extremely active in various aspects of their high school community, I believe they will provide Council with valuable insight into the concerns and aspirations of their peers.”*

In total, six students applied to be a Youth Representative to Gibsons’ Council for the 2019 – 2020 term.

To view the Youth Representative to Council Terms of Reference, [please click here](#).

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For more information, please contact:

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