



MEDIA RELEASE

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Council's new Youth Hub

Alice Springs Town Council is announcing a pilot youth initiative designed to provide a positive and educational space for young people – the new Library Youth Hub.

CEO Robert Jennings said *"This exciting new Youth Hub is designed to provide a positive educational space for young people, after a clear gap in other youth services was identified. The 'Meeting Place' building was specifically sought for its CBD location, accessibility and will be equipped as a committed satellite-space for positive youth engagement and learning."*

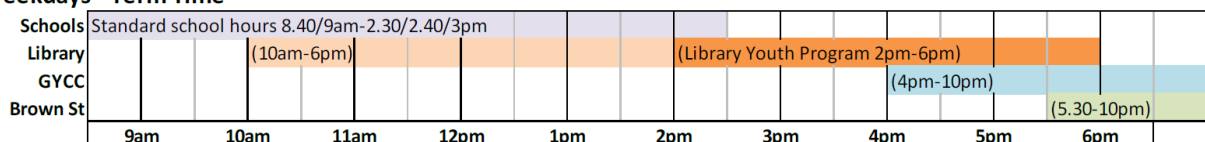
"Elected Members have heard the concerns of the community on public safety; this new initiative is an example of Alice Springs Town Council working within its local government capacity to provide supplementary services to help address a complex community issue" said Robert Jennings CEO.

Whilst law - including patrol and enforcement - is the mandate of the NT Government, Council can play a role in offering ancillary services to support a community wide approach. This new program sits alongside many other successful youth programs at Council, such as the Splash Parties, Desert Hoops Basketball, Geek in Residence and the many offerings the Library runs, both in and out of school holidays.

A gap in services for youth was identified by Library Youth Officers, whilst then working on a constructive and educational program designed to re-engage young people. Council is working collaboratively with other complementary service providers including Central Australian Youth Link Up Service, Alice Springs Meeting Place Foundation, Bush Mob, Alice Spring Youth Accommodation & Support Services, Tangentyere Council, Chamber of Commerce and the NT Department of Education. Staffed by experienced youth workers, the opening hours will be 2pm to 6pm on weekdays and 10am-1pm on Saturdays. The 6 month pilot program is due to commence in early April 2020 with an evaluation upon completion.

Diagram of identified gap in youth services

Weekdays - Term Time



Ends

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