



## July, 2021

Welcome to this issue of the Youth Parliamentarian - your alumni newsletter for updates about the Youth Parliament of Manitoba. In this issue, you will find a recap of our recent **YPM100 Cabinet Retreat**, the **Sustainability Town Hall**, and an **alumni spotlight** featuring **Kiran Dhillon**.



Cabinet members at the YPM100 Cabinet Retreat

### Cabinet Retreat!

On July 17th and 18th, we held our annual Cabinet Retreat for the newly-selected Cabinet to bond, become oriented with their roles, and unwind outdoors. Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, we were unable to hold the usual overnight retreat at Rock Lake Camp. However, we still managed to have two fun-filled days at Assiniboine Park and Kildonan Park! Cabinet members participated in ice breakers, team meetings, and played field games.

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Sustainability Town Hall. (Clockwise from top right): Minister Dan Vandal, Minister Sarah Guillemard, David Ringham (moderator), Cosette Beaudin (moderator).

### YPM holds a Sustainability Town Hall!

On July 15, we held a virtual town hall featuring Minister Dan Vandal (federal Minister of Northern Affairs) and Minister Sarah Guillemard (provincial Minister of Conservation and Climate). The event was moderated by our own Cabinet members, Cosette Beaudin and David Ringham. In the town hall, the Ministers answered questions submitted by participants and discussed work that the provincial and federal governments can do to take action against climate change.

### Alumni Spotlight: Kiran Dhillon



Left: Kiran Dhillon attending YPM. Right: Kiran Dhillon

### Kiran Dhillon (83rd to 86th Sessions)

Kiran joined YPM in the 83rd Session in 2004. She subsequently served on Cabinet for three years: as the PS to Foods in the 84th Session, the Minister of Public Relations in the 85th Session, and the PS to Justice in the 86th Session. Her initial interest in YPM came from seeing her older sister Amy and cousin Meena participate. In fact, Kiran is one of 11 siblings and cousins from her family to attend YPM over an 18-year span!

She attended a joint program at the University of Winnipeg and Red River College to earn a degree in Communications and a diploma in journalism in 2011. Following graduation, she worked as a television, radio, and web news reporter at the CBC and CTV in newsrooms across Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Regina, Vancouver, and Toronto.

In 2018, Kiran moved to New York City to pursue a Master's degree in Journalism from Columbia University. While at Columbia, she travelled to India to conduct in-depth reporting on the country's mental health epidemic. You can read some of that work, [published in The Guardian, here](#).

Following the completion of her Master's, she worked for Bloomberg, and now works as an on-air reporter for CBS New York. Last month, Kiran, along with a team at CBS, was nominated for an Emmy Award for reporting on a shootout in Jersey City that killed a police officer in December 2019.

Reflecting on her accomplishments as a journalist, Kiran recalls a moment from 15 years ago, as Minister of Public Relations for YPM, when a reporter from Global News arrived to cover Session. When asked when the segment would air, the reporter provided both East and West coast times. Initially taken aback by the time zones, Kiran realized that the segment would be broadcast on *national news*. This moment, which she describes as being one of "pure joy", was one of her earliest forays into the world of journalism and opened her eyes to the incredible reach journalism and public relations could have.

Kiran's advice to members today: "Enjoy the process of life and don't try to rush your journey. We all feel like we aren't moving fast enough or doing enough, but try to enjoy every step of your journey as it happens. If you align yourself with your goals and work hard, everything will work out. Don't forget to have fun along the way!"

You can find Kiran on Twitter [@KiranDhillonTV](#)



Cabinet of the 100th Session

### Stay involved!

We would love to keep you involved in the community! Here are two ways:

1. **Share your YPM experience.** We are writing a YPM history book in commemoration of the 100th anniversary! Alumni stories are *invaluable* in helping us construct and contextualize the organization's past. If you would like to share, please fill out the google form ("Share your YPM Experience") below, or email [speaker@ypmanitoba.ca](mailto:speaker@ypmanitoba.ca) to set up a video interview.
2. **Stay connected.** Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). Like our page on [Facebook](#)! If you are receiving this email, you are on the Youth Parliamentarian email list. However, if you know someone who is an alum of YPM but *isn't* receiving these emails, please encourage them to join the mailing list!

Share your YPM Experience

Join our mailing list

Cheers,

Deborah Tsao

Speaker, 100th Session of the Youth Parliament of Manitoba

