



THE YOUTH PARLIAMENTARIAN

A Newsletter for alumni and community members

February 2025

Welcome to this issue of the Youth Parliamentarian – your monthly newsletter for updates about the Youth Parliament of Manitoba. To receive more live updates, follow us on social media! Link found at the bottom of this newsletter.

In addition to **Hear Hear!!**, **Stay Connected**, and **Support YPM**, in this issue you will find

- **Recap: 103rd Session**
- **Meet the Team: YPM104 Executives**



Recap: 103rd Session

The 103rd Session of YPM was a perfect conclusion to a year that was filled with engaging activities and precious time spent together with our community. We set a (recent) record with 94 participants roaming the hallways of Kelvin High School and debating in the Legislative Chamber!

Youth parliamentarians had the opportunity to debate three engaging bills prepared by Cabinet members throughout the months of August to December. These bills included: The Voters for Open and Transparent Elections Act, The Child Protection Act, and The Equity in Education Act. Backbenchers and Cabinet members had the chance to write two additional bills during the first two nights at Session and ultimately produced The Good Samaritan AI Act and The Government Transparency Act.

The youth parliamentarians did not spend their lunch time alone! Members from the Liberal Party, New Democratic Party, Progressive Conservative Party, and Green Party joined us for luncheons, where the youth parliamentarians could ask questions about life in politics. Former MLAs also joined us for the annual Bear Pit. Thanks to Jerry Storie and the Association of Former Manitoba MLAs, we were joined by Sarah Guillemard, Myrna Philipps, Gord Mackintosh, and Jon Gerrard for many fun and serious questions.

Session would not have been opened or prorogued without our amazing dignitaries. Alan Campbell graciously returned once again as Honorary President. He has helped us countless times with overnight accommodations at WSD schools and is continuing to help explore cost reducing measures in transportation. Alicia Dueck-Read joins us this year as Lieutenant Governor, responsible for opening and proroguing the Session. In addition to her role at Session, she also joined a Cabinet meeting in October and brought us lots of treats for Halloween! Doris Young served as our Traditional Knowledge Keeper. She enlightened us with many stories that serve as great life advice and brought a unique perspective to help us engage more actively in reconciliation.

Throughout the 103rd Session of YPM, we welcomed 94 youths from 17 different communities across Manitoba. This group of youths are a beacon of light that will

lead us into the year 2025 and the 104th Session of YPM.

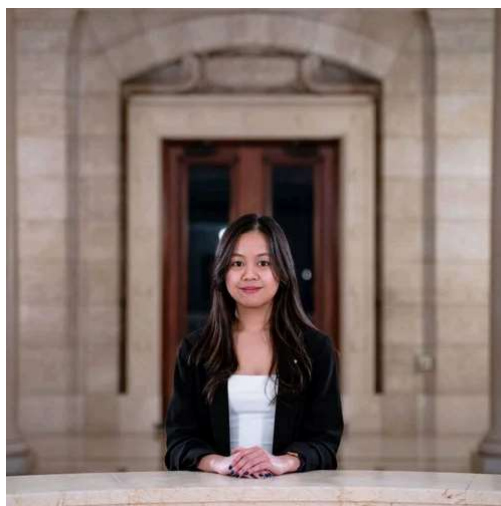
Meet the Team: YPM104 Executives

Elected by the members, meet your YPM104 Executives!



The Executives of the 104th Session. From L—R: Madison Jones, Charlize Medina, Jourmae Abengoza, Lien Huynh, Xiao Zhang

Premier – Charlize Medina



Charlize joined YPM in the 97th Session as the Member from Trinity. She then served four years on Cabinet as the Parliamentary Secretary to Human Resources,

the Minister of Publications, and the Registrar General before being elected to the Executive in 2023. During her time on Cabinet, she presented two bills – the Community Service Act and the Cashless Society Act.

As Premier, Charlize serves as the Chairperson, providing leadership and oversight. In this role, she guides the organization's strategic direction, leads the planning and execution of Session, and presides over meetings of the Executive, Cabinet, and general membership.

Speaker – Xiao Zhang



Xiao joined YPM in the 98th Session as the Member from La Prairie. He then served two years on Cabinet as the Minister of Supply and Service and Minister of Revenue before being elected to the Executive in 2022. During his time on Cabinet, he presented the Online Video Game Regulation Act.

As Speaker, Xiao serves as the Past Chairperson, providing continuity and guidance. In this role, he fosters connections with the organization's alumni network, oversees the bill-writing process, and presides over sittings and debates during Session.

Deputy Speaker – Madison Jones



Madison joined YPM in the 100th Session as the Member from Québec. He then served two years on Cabinet as the Minister of Supply and Service and Minister of Revenue before being elected to the Executive in 2024. During his time on Cabinet, he presented the Affordable Housing Supply Act.

As Deputy Speaker, Madison serves as the Director of Finance, ensuring YPM's financial health. In this role, he oversees the organization's financial standing, manages the budget, and administers the organization's scholarship programs.

Deputy Premier – Jourmae Abengoza



Jourmae joined YPM in the 99th Session as the Member from Abbotsford. She then served three years on Cabinet as the P.S to External Affairs, Minister of Public Relations and Minister of Human Resources before being elected to the Executive in 2024. During her time on Cabinet, she presented the Child-Friendly Operating Systems Act.

As Deputy Premier, Jourmae serves as the Vice-Chairperson, leading YPM's public-facing engagements. In this role, she oversees the organization's recruitment strategy, external relations, and communications, while also managing the registration framework for Session.

House Leader – Lien Huynh



Lien joined YPM in the 100th Session as the Member from Northwest Territories. She then served three years on Cabinet as the P.S to Publications and Minister of Public Relations before being elected to the Executive in 2025. During her time on Cabinet, she presented the Voters for Open and Transparent Elections Act.

As House Leader, Lien serves as the Director of Procedures, supporting YPM's organizational processes. In this role, she chairs the organization's by-law review committee (SOBLOC) and oversee the logistical planning of Session.

HEAR HEAR!! Voice your opinion on the newsletters

Thank you for those who have provided feedback to the Newsletter! The writer of this issue (Xiao) will be implementing these changes! Feedback is more than welcome by clicking the blue button below!

Voice your opinion here!

Stay Connected: Get in Touch

If you have any comments about this newsletter or simply want to connect, feel free to reply to this email and your message will come to me (Xiao). YPM is always happy to hear from our alumni, supporters, and friends in the community.

You can also stay connected by following us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#), and liking 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](#)!

Support YPM: Donate

YPM is an independent, non-partisan, non-denominational charity. We receive no direct government funding for our operations and financial aid provisions, and rely entirely on member registration fees and donations from individuals and corporations. We are deeply appreciative of all donations, and thank all of our donors for helping us empower and educate youth across Manitoba.

Not every young Manitoban who wishes to participate in YPM could due to financial barriers, if you wish to sponsor a member, or establish a scholarship fund, please reach out to us!

DONATE NOW

Cheers,

Xiao Zhang

Speaker, 104th Session of the Youth Parliament of Manitoba



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