



Think Globally. Act Locally!

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

PO Box 6118 – Clifford Gardens, Toowoomba QLD 4350
(22 Vacy Street, Toowoomba QLD 4350)
Ph 07 4639 2135; Email: office@hopeaustralia.org.au
Website: <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au>
ABN 48 036 173 161

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 30 March 2021

Re: HOPE's 2021 Youth Summit to Inspire Youth to Participate in Community Action!

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc., alongside St. Ursula's College, is proud to announce the Youth Summit for 2021, created to inspire young Australians to participate in sustainable action in their own communities.

Students from years 9 to 12, whether enrolled in high school or home-schooled, are invited to attend this free, virtual event where they will gain a greater understanding of the environmental and societal issues impacting their region, as well as the resources and skills to combat them.

The Youth Summit will be held on Zoom from April 19th to 22nd, with daily sessions running from 4 to 5pm.

Students will be given the opportunity to hear from government, industry, academia and community group representatives on matters of environment, social justice, heritage and animal welfare. Each presentation will be followed by a Q&A session.

Mr Frank Ondrus, President of HOPE Inc., said: *"With today's youth being our leaders of tomorrow, it is vitally important to arm them with information and contacts that will help them better understand issues and provide opportunities to deal with them."*

The event aims to inspire students to become more aware and active in any way they can. Whether it is volunteering in their communities, joining or starting their school issues-based club or junior landcare group, or becoming a member of HOPE Inc. and/or other community organisations, every action makes a difference.

Early expressions of interest from youth of the region are sought.

Students are asked to register their attendance to one or more Zoom sessions by directly emailing their name, school and year level to office@hopeaustralia.org.au.

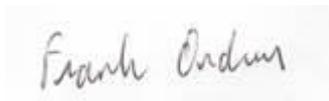
And, once the speakers' program is finalised, a copy will be forwarded to registrants.

The Youth Summit will run alongside the Citizen Science PhotoVoice project where students are encouraged to take a photo, create a video or draw a picture of an environmental issue that is important to them. They are then asked to give their creative medium a voice by writing a title, a sentence or a short paragraph.

The PhotoVoice project will give students the opportunity to discuss their most pressing environmental concerns at the Youth Summit and find ways to navigate these issues in their own lives and communities.

Submissions for the PhotoVoice competition are due by 31st March 2021 and are to be submitted to HOPE via email, Google Drive or any other easily accessible platform. Students are asked to include their name, year level and school in their entry.

For more information on the Youth Summit visit <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au> or email office@hopeaustralia.org.au .

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Ondrus". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph. 07 4639 2135

Written by Meg Bowyer – HOPE Media Officer NSW