

Dear Mayor and Council,

My name is Logan Clarke, a recent graduate at Whistler Secondary School.

I am writing this email on the behalf of all the youth in Whistler that rely on the youth center.

Ever since I moved to Whistler, I fell in love with this amazing sense of community. Living in the mountains, connected to all the nature that this ecosystem comes with, along with the amazing people that live here too.

One of the main things that I have grown to love is the youth center. It's the heart and soul of Whistler's community, and more importantly, it connects all the youth in the region. The staff are so kind, warm, and welcoming, and after living here for 3 years, I have realized how much they do for this community. They provide so much care, to each and every person, and they will always make sure that everyone is being treated the same. They will always make your day way better. I really do love all the staff here. They are like our parents. I think that this is so special, and places all around the world can learn from the staff here in Whistler, as they are great role models.

I mainly grew up in West Vancouver, and remember going to the Hollyburn country clubs youth center I felt so excluded from everyone, and the staff never once introduced themselves. The Whistlers youth center is the opposite of that. It's actually crazy to me how amazing, and inspiring the staff are here. I only have positive things to say about the service that is provided here. From movie nights, pool festivals, mario kart racing on their wii, games, and even skateboarding. The youth center also provides children with food, and cooks dinners on all the days that they are open.

I'm emailing because I think it's important to address how amazing this organization is. I think that whistler should provide them with more funding, so they can give youth more opportunities here. Two years ago I took part in switch day: where skiers tried snowboarding, and snowboarders tried skiing. How cool does that sound? They provided each and every person attending that day with a free ski pass for the day, and Whistler Blackcomb sent out a handful of coaches to teach us. It was truly amazing. It also gave youth that may not be able to afford to ski or snowboard, a free lesson on the mountain. I will remember this day for the rest of my life, and I'm sure all the participants will too.

One request that I have is having a Movie day in Vancouver at park royals Movie Theatre. The youth center used to go to the movie theater in Whistler a lot, which was awesome. But without a movie theater in Vancouver, or Squamish, how are youth supposed to watch new films that have come out. Not everyone's families have cars, or can afford to go to the city.

Finally, I hope you consider funding the youth center even more, so they can reach more people in this community. Their services changes the lives of so many youth from not even Whistler, from all across the globe. All the staff pour so much love, time, and effort into helping teens in this corridor, and I think that with increased funds they can reach even more possibilities.

Thanks,

From Logan Clarke
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