



supported by  **HYUNDAI**<sup>®</sup>

## About Youth of the Year (YOY)

**Youth of the Year** is a national initiative celebrating youth leadership and achievement at BGC Clubs across Canada. Youth of the Year aims to foster strong BGC ambassadors and build capacity for Clubs to support more youth leaders in their communities.

Club youth ages 15-21 are encouraged to apply for Youth of the Year by submitting written responses and a video showcasing their achievements, service, and leadership to their Club, school, and community. From the first round of evaluation, seven youth are selected as **Regional Youth of the Year** and **Indigenous Youth of the Year**. All seven youth will receive media, leadership, and public speaking training. A second and final round of evaluation will take place to determine one final winner to receive special recognition as BGC Canada's **National Youth of the Year**.

## YOY Prizing & Benefits

Five Regional Youth of the Year and one Indigenous Youth of the Year will **each** receive a:

- \$2,000 CAD scholarship
- Personal laptop

One National Youth of the Year winner will receive a:

- \$10,000 CAD scholarship
- Personal laptop

Other benefits of participating in YOY include:

- Professional development and leadership training
- Networking opportunities with peers, BGC Canada Board and executives, corporate partners, and government officials
- Travelling to YOY celebration event and speaking engagements
- Enhancing professional profile as a youth leader and BGC ambassador
- Highlighting YOY experiences and skills on résumé

## YOY Role

The purpose of the YOY role is to act as a BGC youth ambassador, speaking passionately about the organization and its impact to corporate partners and other audiences. As YOY, you will tell our Club story to help with fundraising initiatives, educate Canadians on the power of the BGC Club experience, and advocate for issues facing youth in Canada.

The role of YOY requires a **1.5-year commitment** (from April 2022 to September 2023) and involves participating in face-to-face or virtual events at a local, regional or national level. After the 1.5-year commitment, YOY will have the opportunity to continue to be a youth ambassador or spokesperson for the BGC Club movement where available.

## YOY Selection Process

YOY from across Canada are selected based on the following criteria:

- Active Club member
  - Current Club staff and/or volunteers who have previously spent time as a Club member are eligible to apply as well
- Aged 15 - 21 years old (as of January 1, 2022)
- Demonstrated leadership qualities such as:
  - Embodiment of [BGC values](#)
  - Positive impact on those around them
  - Volunteerism (within Club or community)
  - Personal growth/demonstrated improvement
- Willingness to travel to various BGC Canada events
- Ability to participate in virtual and/or in-person leadership training and Celebration Event
- Willingness to commit to the 1.5-year role (from April 2022 to September 2023) as a youth ambassador and spokesperson for the BGC movement on a local, regional, and national level
- Completed application submission with all required sections and supporting documentation

*NOTE: Selection criteria are subject to change without notice.*

## Application Submission

To apply, complete the online application on the [Scholarship portal](#), which includes:

- General information about who you are
- Written responses to YOY questions
- Short video telling a YOY story
- A reference letter from a Club staff
- And a second reference letter from anyone (e.g. teacher, coach, Elder, family friend, employer, mentor, or another Club staff, etc.)

Ask a Club staff for a printed copy of the application form.

Applications must be submitted by the due date. Late applications will **not** be accepted.

Application Tips:

- Be yourself, be authentic!
- Find something unique/different about you

## Annual Competition Timing

<b>January – March:</b>	Youth nominations open through scholarship portal
<b>April:</b>	Round 1 of selection process; Regional and Indigenous YOY determined YOY 1.5-year commitment begins (April 2022 – September 2023)
<b>May:</b>	Announcement of Regional and Indigenous YOY at National Conference
<b>May – July:</b>	YOY training sessions and filming video vignettes at Clubs
<b>August:</b>	Round 2 / final selection process
<b>September:</b>	YOY Awards celebration event and announcement of National YOY winner

**If you have further questions, feel free to reach out to your Club staff! Good luck!**