

# NEWS RELEASE



**The Hon. Graham West MP**  
Minister for Juvenile Justice  
Minister for Youth  
Minister for Volunteering  
Minister Assisting the Premier  
on Veterans' Affairs  
Member for Campbelltown

**Wednesday 1 April 2009**

## **MINISTER TAKES PART IN YOUTH SUMMIT**

NSW Minister for Youth, Graham West, today joined young people from Campbelltown at a youth participation and environment summit, as part of this week's NSW Youth Week celebrations.

Mr West said the FuturesPARK Youth Summit, held at Campbelltown Arts Centre, involved young people coming together to discuss how they can get involved in their community, and discuss concerns about the environment.

"The FuturesPARK Youth Summit is a great example of young people getting involved, being heard, and sharing their views on issues that affect them," Mr West said.

"The day involved educational workshops and addresses from inspiring guest speakers, including a 12-year-old boy who has his own environmental series on Channel 31.

"The NSW Government has coordinated and supported the Youth Week in NSW program for the past 21 years. This year, the NSW Government allocated almost \$240,000 to councils across NSW towards the cost of staging Youth Week activities and events.

"Since its inception in 1989, Youth Week has been transformed into a highly professional week of celebrations and events, driven almost entirely by young people themselves.

"Nearly every aspect of Youth Week is organised and designed by young people and coordinated by a Young People's Advisory Committee – from the promotional material and the website, to the events and activities themselves.

Mr West said that this year's Youth Week, held from 28 March to 5 April, is expected to be bigger than ever before, with hundreds of activities, events, exhibitions and workshops being held across the state.

"The success of Youth Week is testament to the creativity, hard work and passion of thousands of young people from all over NSW.

"It's also a great opportunity for young people to come together, to have fun, and to let the community know what's important to them."

Youth Week in NSW is again this year supported by major sponsors, NSW Motor Accidents Authority through its 'Arrive alive' campaign and *beyondblue: the national depression initiative*. The theme for this year is 'Make a Move'.

For more information on what's happening in your area, visit [www.youthweek.nsw.gov.au](http://www.youthweek.nsw.gov.au).

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