

# Youth Week 2019 Proclamation and Youth of the Year Announcements City Council Meeting Monday, April 29



## Attending the Presentation:

### Mayor, Danny Breen introduce

- Lori Letto, Youth & Volunteer Services Fieldworker
- Jack White, Junior Youth of the Year 2019
- Anna James, Senior Youth of the Year 2019

### Mayor, Danny Breen read Proclamation

*City of St. John's      PROCLAMATION      National Youth Week 2019      May 1 to 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019*

#### *Whereas:*

*There is an increasing interest in intentional youth development through recreation in Canada that is founded on a substantial and growing body of research to support the role of recreation in the positive development of youth. Meaningful youth engagement through recreation emphasizes access, equity and social justice and leads to positive youth development.*

#### *Whereas:*

*National Youth Week reminds us all of the valuable contributions that recreation and parks can make to youth development and that youth can make to community development and with the knowledge that National Youth Week is endorsed by a network of agencies and individuals committed to the positive development of youth;*

#### *Therefore be it resolved:*

*that I, Danny Breen, Mayor of the City of St. John's, in recognition of these benefits and values, do hereby proclaim May 1 to 7 as National Youth Week.*

### Youth of the Year Awards

The City of St. John's Youth of the Year awards are designed to honor young people in St. John's who through their volunteer contributions, extracurricular activities and community involvement, help make St. John's a better place to live. It is with great pleasure to announce the Junior and Senior Youth of the Year

### Mayor, Danny Breen read Youth of the Year's bio's

#### **Junior Youth of the Year: Jack White**

- a grade nine student at Beaconsfield Junior High.
- outstanding academic
  - Principals List maintaining above 90% overall average
  - Numerous Heritage Fairs and public speaking awards
  - Award winning math competitor
- volunteers his time both at school, and in the community
  - Global Leadership Team
  - Breakfast Program
  - WE Day
  - School announcements, outdoor cleanups and events set up
- Jack's fundraising and awareness efforts include:
  - Food Hampers for thanksgiving
  - Anti-bullying campaigns
  - Terry Fox Run
  - LGBTQ awareness
- Jack also finds time to participate in
  - Young Liberals – assisting in campaign offices
  - Youth Masses at Corpus Christi by serving as a reader
  - Encounters with Canada
  - Plays trumpet, piano and musical theatre

- School basketball team
- Selected for Atlantic Boy Choir and National Boy Choir of Canada
- Robotics Team
- Duke of Edinburgh Program
- Aquarena Lifeguard Program

His teacher Ms. Bussey quotes “what makes him really stand out as a student and young man is his big heart. Jack cares deeply for his teachers, fellow students, people in the community and his environment. There is no job too big for him and he welcomes every challenge with an eager disposition and a big smile.”

**Senior Youth of the Year: Anna James**

- is a grade 10 student at St. Bonaventure’s College
- Presidents Honour List maintaining above 90% overall average
- Annas volunteer activities and experiences include:
  - Student Council President
  - Retreat Leader
  - Service Trip to El Salvador
  - Founded the nonprofit organization called “Share Music”
  - Computers for Seniors Program
  - Serves breakfast at The Gathering Place
  - Tutor
  - Inclusion participant support
  - Dance teacher’s assistant
  - Cantor at school and with Mary Queen of the Peace Church – leads hymns
  - Director and mentor school Camerata, junior high choir
- Annas achievements
  - Kiwanis Music Festival Vocal Rose bowl Winner
  - Canadian Conservatory of Music Lillian and Don Wright Travel and Study Scholarship Recipient
  - Numerous Speak off awards
  - Awards for the highest marks in the province for Conservatory Canada Theory, History and voice exams.
  - Vocalist in the CBC music class national challenge
- Annas training and skill development
  - Montreal Leadership Camp
  - Rotary Adventure in Citizenship Program
  - Ignatian Family Teach in for Justice in Washington DC
  - Completing Gold Duke of Edinburgh
- Anna also finds time to participate in
  - Teaching and taking Voice, piano and theory lessons
  - Participated in more than 20 musicals both community and professional levels
  - Dances and currently completing intermediate classical ballet exam
  - Plays on Newfoundland Provincial soccer team and St. John’s Rep team.
  - School cross country, tennis and badminton teams

At such a young age, Anna has an excellent record of leadership but more than that she is a genuine person who truly cares about people, her school and her community.