



Dear Katrina,

My name is Toby Thorpe and I am the Youth Coordinator of the [UN Education for Sustainability recognised Centre of Expertise](#) for Tasmania and Team Manager of the [Zayed Huon Energy Futures Team](#) at Huonville High School. I have recently been invited, together with Josh Hale at Huonville High School, and Harry Tunks and Josh Rayner from New Town High School, to attend the 14th global [Conference of Youth](#) (COY) in the lead up to the annual UN 24th Climate Change [Conference of Parties](#) (COP), held in Katowice, Poland between November 29th and December 14th. It is an amazing opportunity and an honour to be invited and we are reaching out to you to ask for some financial support.

[COY](#) is an official event of YOUNGO, the youth-constituency to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ([UNFCCC](#)). It is an annual international gathering of over 1000 young people passionate about sustainability and climate change, and occurs prior to the annual UN Climate Change Conference COP. From involvement and training at COY, recommendations from the voice of youth will be included in the agenda of COP, the summit involving 20,000 delegates who lead global climate action. COP is the very conference where the Paris Agreement was created in 2015.

More than just an opportunity to learn, this is a major platform for us, as representatives of Hobart City, Tasmania and Australia, to shape global action on this issue. We will showcase the innovative work that Tasmanian youth have been leading, focusing on the work the Huonville High School Zayed Energy Project and the Youth Climate Change Conference focussed on the Sustainable Development Goals of Climate Action and Life below Water, in collaboration with the EFS Centre of Expertise held in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie (June 2018). New Town High School will share their Young Person's Plan for the Planet.

Our presentations will provide a unique opportunity to promote Tasmania as a renewable energy state and our students as forward and innovative thinkers that are readily taking action for the future. We hope that our networking and interaction with hundreds of other students, innovators, educators, leaders and delegates from all around the world will enable us to provide positive leadership for Tasmanian youth.

Huonville High School has continued to maintain connections with other Zayed Sustainability Prize recipients. Our friends at the Green School in Bali along with Croatia (Vladimir Nazor School) are planning to make a joint presentation and will meet and work with local high schools near the COP 24 to create a message of solidarity for climate action. There is also a

network of schools around the world (USA, Poland and Peru) who are engaging on site. We look forward to sharing our progress extensively on social and local media.

To cover the essentials of this amazing trip, the estimated cost is \$35,000, for four Tasmanian student leaders along with two accompanying teachers and a parent. We have been successful an Inspiring Australia grant for \$20,000 and we are looking for further funding of \$15,000.

Your donation would be greatly appreciated to help us to attend this phenomenal event. I have attached our bios and further information on the conference. If you require additional information, please contact me through the contacts below. Any further suggestions for support would be appreciated.

We hope for your positive consideration of this unique opportunity to represent Tasmania at this global forum. This will be a valuable opportunity for the Council to promote its vision as an advocate for climate action with a climate aware community.

Regards

Toby Thorpe

Youth Coordinator

United Nations Regional Centre of Expertise

Nel Smit

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