



MEDIA RELEASE

YOUTH INSPIRE GAMES!

The youth of Bendigo have been enlisted to help make the Games a 'Games for the Youth'.

A Youth Forum will be run today at the Town Hall attracting over 50 young people from Bendigo schools and youth organisations. The purpose of the forum is for young people to help formulate a plan to run youth events coinciding with the 2004 Commonwealth Youth Games.

Michelle Pryde, Director for the 2004 Commonwealth Youth Games, said the City is keen to ensure the Games provide an exciting youth element to the week of the Games.

"Although the ceremonies and sporting competition will be outstanding events, we felt it was important to give the youth of Bendigo the opportunity to add their own flavour to the Games."

"Today at the Youth Forum we will work together to identify youth events and to setup working groups so that young people can run the events themselves," said Ms Pryde.

Guest speaker for the Youth Forum Jason Cameron, Sponsorship Manager and Player for the Bendigo 'Hume & Iser' Braves, said he was thrilled to have the chance to encourage the participants.

"My role today is to inspire and motivate these young people to get involved and learn and develop skills that will help them for the Games and beyond. I'm a great believer in having a goal and keeping focused – you never know what opportunities will come your way in life," Mr Cameron said.

The Youth Forum has attracted support from Office For Youth, Scripture Union and many other youth organisations in Bendigo.

Photo opportunity at 11.30am, Friday 23 July with Jason Cameron at the Town Hall.

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