



## About the BGYN Leadership Council

The BGYN Leadership Council is a group of Burlington high school student representatives who are enthusiastic about championing the environment locally.

Serving on the Council provides a great opportunity for eco-minded youth to play a key role in creating and providing impactful opportunities for other youth in Burlington to get involved in helping to make a positive difference in the community.

It's a perfect way to cultivate leadership and various other skills, get first-hand experience of the inner workings of a local not-for-profit organization, have fun, make new friends and contribute to your high school volunteer requirements.

*What you can expect as a BG Youth Leadership Council member:*

- ✓ Attend monthly council meetings and plan fun & informative monthly BGYN “drop in” sessions (such as hands on workshops, guest speakers, field trips, native species plantings, etc.) alongside the BG Youth Program Coordinator
- ✓ Chance to learn about how the non-profit industry works from an “inside” perspective through attending board of directors/advocacy committee meetings
- ✓ Collaborate with & get to know other council members to share your passion and run coordinated environmental campaigns at your school
- ✓ Promote BurlingtonGreen eco-action opportunities to your high school peers
- ✓ Exciting opportunity to participate in planning/executing youth focused events (including the occasional Youth Eco-Summit w. speakers like David Suzuki, Jane Goodall, and Rob Stewart)
- ✓ A certificate of participation as well as a professional/academic reference
- ✓ Lastly, you can expect a fun, encouraging, creative atmosphere in which YOU can make a positive environmental difference right here in Burlington

\*Please see the “BGYN Leadership Council Terms of Reference” document for more specifics including the requirements to receive a BurlingtonGreen certificate/reference.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Judd at [sarah@burlingtongreen.org](mailto:sarah@burlingtongreen.org)

## BurlingtonGreen Youth Network (BGYN) Leadership Council Terms of Reference

### Purpose:

- To provide dedicated, environmentally conscious high school youth an opportunity to connect and collaborate on environmental ideas and projects with other like-minded students in Burlington
- To give youth an opportunity to increase their level of responsibility & commitment to the BGYN, by taking a leadership role in creating positive environmental change in Burlington
- To empower all Burlington youth (both internal and external to the BGYN) to recognize their valuable role in helping the planet locally
- To incorporate youth into planning and executing initiatives associated with the BG triple A approach (Advocacy, Action, and Awareness)
- To support the professional development of youth by providing space to cultivate various skills

### Roles and Responsibilities:

- Attend & participate in monthly Council meetings at the BurlingtonGreen office or elsewhere in Burlington (must attend at least **6 meetings**)
- Organize & attend monthly “drop in” sessions for the BGYN alongside the BG Youth Program Coordinator (sessions may include relevant guest speakers, workshops, eco-action project such as litter clean ups, tree planting, invasive species removal, etc.)
- Act as an ambassador and support volunteer recruitment and training for our eco-action opportunities (Clean Up, Tree Planting, Event Greening)
- Organize/implement BGYN campaigns at home, at school and in the community
  - Act as a liaison (in terms of advocacy and other forms of informational relay) between the Council and school
- Contribute to online Slack “BGYouthNetwork” platform



### **Meetings:**

- Council meetings will be held once a month, typically on the first Thursday of each month between 4:00PM and 5:00PM
- Meetings will be chaired by a Council member on a rotational basis
  - This will include:
    - Preparing a meeting agenda
- All meetings will be documented via recorded minutes prepared by a Council member
- Decisions will be made by consensus (i.e. members are satisfied with the decision even though it may not be their first choice)
  - If not possible, Council meeting Chair will make final decision

### **BGYN Drop-In Sessions:**

- Drop in sessions will be held once a month, typically on the first Thursday of each month between 5:00PM and 7:00PM (this will vary according to guest speaker availability, dates of community eco-action opportunities, etc.)

### **Term:**

- The Terms of Reference will be ongoing until terminated by agreement between the parties or until the Council Member graduates high school

### **Membership:**

- To be eligible to participate on the Leadership Council, all applicants must complete the “BGYN Leadership Council Application Form,” at which point BurlingtonGreen staff will review all applications and select Council members using an established criteria and scoring system
- Applicants must currently attend a Burlington high school

### **Review:**

The Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually (End of July)

### **Amendment, Modification or Variation:**

- This Terms of Reference may be amended, varied, or modified in writing after consultation and agreement by Leadership Council members and BG’s Program Coordinators

**Interested? Fill out the [Application Form](#) today!**