

# THE ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY

Western Australia Branch

## SPEECH & LEADERSHIP CONTEST 2017

To be held at  
The Constitutional Centre of Western Australia  
Havelock Street, West Perth  
on Friday 21 July 2017

We are honoured to have Professor Lyn Beazley AO, FTSE, Western Australian of the Year (2015) as Executive Chair of the Contest, which has been conducted annually since 1968. The Contest promotes a sense of self confidence, self-reliance and community involvement and seeks to develop leadership among young people, particularly those who may not presently see themselves as leaders.



### THEME FOR THE CONTEST - 'A peace-building Commonwealth'

*At a time of increasing instability and uncertainty in the world, the Commonwealth family of nations in its rich diversity becomes an ever more-needed source of strength and hope for all its members and reaffirms the Commonwealth Charter principle that 'international peace and security, sustainable economic growth and development and the rule of law are essential to the progress and prosperity of all'.*

The Contest is open to all students throughout Western Australia from Years 9 – 12. All inclusive of metro, regional and remote areas, all are encouraged to enter.

### There are two Entry Divisions

Junior Division – Years 9 and 10 and Senior Division – Years 11 and 12

### The Contest consists of 3 components:

1. **Prepared Speech** (6mins) addressing the theme: 'A peace-building Commonwealth'
2. **Impromptu Speech** (3mins) **'Senior Division only'** topic selected at random.
3. **Interview** (10mins) with the Leadership Panel.

### AWARDS and CASH PRIZES

#### 3 Awards are given in each division:

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|--|-------|
| Overall Winner - receives the Governor's Award           | \$500 |
| Speech Section - receives the Dr Ken Michael Award       | \$250 |
| Leadership Section - receives the Malcolm McCusker Award | \$250 |

The panel members and adjudicators are distinguished and notable leaders in their respective fields from the areas of education, government, corporate and defence.

Our records show that not only the Winners' but also the Finalists', of our Speech & Leadership Contest go on to greater things and in many cases become leaders in our community.

### What our previous entrants had to say about their experience:

*Thank you for the many opportunities through my involvement in the Speech and Leadership Contest back in 2013, and as a Young Fellow of the RCS. I have had public speaking opportunities at events such as the Commonwealth Day Youth Rally. I feel so grateful towards the RCS, and truly appreciate the efforts the RCS has put in to each event I have been involved in, as these opportunities have undoubtedly helped me to*

*Thank you for the mentorship and support that the RCS has provided for me this year. I have valued the opportunities that all of you have given, which have developed me into a stronger leader and global Citizen..... Ben, Finalist 2015*

### CASH PRIZES