



# ANTARCTIC YOUTH COALITION

## CITIES CONNECTING THROUGH ANTARCTICA

### STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

We are a membership-based organisation for people living in the Antarctic gateway cities of Cape Town (South Africa), Christchurch (New Zealand), Hobart (Australia), Punta Arenas (Chile) and Ushuaia (Argentina). The Antarctic Youth Coalition is youth-led and youth-focused; however, we welcome support from people of all ages.



### OUR VISION


**We want cities to come together to embrace the values of Antarctica for the protection of our shared futures.**


### OUR MISSION


**To build a network of young custodians across the five Antarctic gateway cities, advocating for Antarctica's future by promoting sustainable communities and connected urban identities.**

### OUR FOCUS

**Our focus is the five Antarctic cities and the young people who live within them. We believe that by activating and empowering Antarctic youth we can create a sustainable future for Antarctica and the southern parts of the world.**

 Antarctic Youth Coalition

 [antarctic-cities.org/ayc](http://antarctic-cities.org/ayc)

 [antarcticyouth.coalition](https://www.instagram.com/antarcticyouth.coalition)



2020-2022

STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

# ANTARCTIC VALUES

"We want cities to come together to embrace the values of Antarctica for the protection of our shared futures." Below are some values that we observed on our founding expedition to King George Island/ Isla 25 de Mayo and that capture the overall spirit of the Antarctic. We believe our cities can learn from these values and apply them to create a more connected, sustainable future.

## 1) International Cooperation and Collaboration

King George Island is a clear example of people from different cities and countries coming together to work towards a common goal - understanding Antarctica and the role it plays in our planet. We visited, participated in scientific work, and learnt from people at a Chilean, Russian, Korean and Uruguayan base. Science between these bases was shared, allowing their work to contribute to a better understanding of Antarctica and a better future for the continent.

We want to bring this value back to our cities, maintaining communication between the gateways and sharing ideas on how together, we can act as custodians for Antarctica to protect the future that we share.

## 2) Care and Protection of our Environment

'Take only memories, leave nothing but footprints' is a mantra that applies strongly to Antarctica, the most pristine and fragile environment on planet Earth. Being respectful to the environment around us was critical. However, our world is connected; our actions in our home cities can, and do impact the condition of the Antarctic environment. In order to effectively care for and protect Antarctic ecosystems, sustainable practices need to extend beyond what we do in Antarctica and into what we do in our everyday lives.

## 3) Science and Learning

Since the signing of the Antarctic Treaty in 1959, Antarctica has been a continent dedicated to scientific research. This science has led to many breakthroughs in the understanding of our planet and our changing climate. However, the purpose and benefits of valuing science in Antarctica can only be maintained through effective science communication and education in our cities.

We want to make sure this science is clear, informative and accessible. Sometimes science and thus the importance of our connection to Antarctica, can be filled with jargon and overwhelming amounts of words on a page. We hope to encapsulate the scientific values of the Antarctic by ensuring that science, our connections to Antarctica, and the role we play as custodians are effectively shared with our cities and youth.



# STRATEGIC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following strategic goals and objectives have been designed to guide our coalition through the first 3 years of its mission.

## STRATEGIC GOALS

### SG1: BUILD YOUTH ENGAGEMENT NETWORKS IN THE FIVE GATEWAY CITIES

**OBJECTIVE 1A**  
Grow membership, source funding and develop organisational structure.

**OBJECTIVE 1B**  
Form an online community in which members can interact and information can be shared.

#### **SUCCESS INDICATOR 1**

A) Formation of developed and effectively functioning, city-based memberships that are overseen by an international leadership team.

B) Evidence that the Antarctic Youth Coalition is recognised and supported by stakeholders and youth in the gateway cities.

### SG2: CREATE NEW CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THESE ANTARCTIC CITIES

**OBJECTIVE 2A**  
Host international events across the cities.

**OBJECTIVE 2B**  
Design a common visual identity across cities.

**OBJECTIVE 2C**  
Create a series of online short stories on Antarctic cities and Antarctic values.

#### **SUCCESS INDICATOR 2**

Evidence of any strengthened social, cultural, ecological or political links established and acknowledged in the gateway cities.

### SG3: FOSTER A SENSE OF ANTARCTIC CUSTODIANSHIP IN THESE CITIES

**OBJECTIVE 3A**  
Incorporate Indigenous stories, knowledges and draw from principles of caring for land/territory/country.

**OBJECTIVE 3B**  
Encourage sustainable urban practices in our cities.


**OBJECTIVE 3C**  
Design an education and communication strategy including bilingual materials for engaging a range of communities.


**SUCCESS INDICATOR 3**  
Interaction with our membership indicating an increased understanding of what it means to be a custodian and an increase in their sustainable practices.




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