



What is RYLA? A weekend leadership experience for youth. April 15-17

Rotarians recognize that today's youth will become tomorrow's leaders. Preparing those future leaders is a significant task. The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program was adopted formally by RI in 1971 and gives the opportunity for youth leaders in our communities to come together to further their leadership skills.

Rotary Clubs in District 7010 annually select and sponsor young people to participate in a weekend leadership training workshop. The "award" is the opportunity to participate in a hands-on, active, and fun weekend. Participants complete a 'personality profile' survey which is used over the weekend to help students understand their own communication and leadership style. Leadership skills will be developed through challenges involving team work and problem solving. Recreational programs such as campfires and a coffee house add to the fun.

RYLA aims to:

- Demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for young people who are our future leaders
- Provide an effective training experience for selected youth leaders
- Encourage leadership of youth by youth
- Recognize publicly young people who are rendering service to their communities

RYLA provides young people an opportunity to expand their horizons by:

- Developing leadership skills
- Increasing self-confidence
- Gaining exposure to a variety of issues and people
- Making new friends
- Obtaining career-advancing information and skills

RYLA participants are exposed to values that Rotarians deem essential for those who hold leadership roles:

*Ethical behaviour

*Integrity of character

*Commitment to community service

Some comments from previous RYLA weekends:

"It was an amazing weekend. You learn so much about yourself; what it really means to be a leader and what it takes."

"This weekend was enriching and I learned a lot of life skills to take with me."

"My behavioural style - how I can interact with others; how others that aren't my style behave; how to work with others."

"It was an amazing experience. I was impressed with every aspect of the camp. The grounds were beautiful, the food delicious, and every workshop was well worth waking up at 7am to be ready for them."

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