

Thursday 31 May 2012

NEW GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE INTO PARKS

Nationals Member for Morwell Russell Northe has invited community organisations and groups that engage with young people to apply for grants under a new program to encourage Victorians aged 12 to 25 to visit parks.

Mr Northe said grants of between \$2000 and \$5000 are available under the Y Discover Parks 2012 grants program to develop innovative and creative programs that get young Victorians into the state's parks.

The grants are the result of a partnership between the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria and Parks Victoria, who are delivering the grants on behalf of the Victorian Government.

"We have some fantastic National Parks in the Gippsland region, which offer traditional activities such as bush walking and outdoor recreation.

"Parks also have enormous potential as venues for young people to be creative, be challenged, and to develop new skills," Mr Northe said.

Mr Northe said programs to be funded under the new grants could include arts and cultural programs, recreational and personal development programs, or skills development programs.

"We know that the way people engage with the natural environment changes over time, and I am sure the Y Discover Parks grants will result in some exciting new ways for young people to engage with some of Victoria's many fantastic parks."

Parks Victoria and Youth Affairs Council of Victoria have partnered to develop the new Y Discover Parks grants program.

Applications must be submitted via email by 9.00am on Monday 16 July, 2012. The completed application form must be emailed to Clare Wynne, Parks Victoria Youth Partnership Coordinator, via vdo@yacvic.org.au

More information about the grants program is available at:
<http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/aboutus/news/new-grants-to-encourage-young-people-into-parks> or www.yacvic.org.au