

## Young Victoria Delegates at Climate Conference in Durban, South Africa

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Maia Green, of Victoria, led a youth delegation to the United Nations Climate Change Conference that continues today in Durban, South Africa.

Canada drew criticism at the conference because of Environment Minister Peter Kent's stance that the federal government is not looking to make a second term of commitment to the Kyoto Protocol climate-change agreement. He said other approaches to reducing emissions are being considered.



Green, who founded the **FUN (Friends Uniting for Nature) Society**, made the trip to Durban with six youths from Victoria and Vancouver who paid their own way by fundraising.

The Victoria-based group **Youth for Environmental Stewardship (also known as YesBC)** put the delegation in contact with young people from South Africa at the event.

Before leaving for the conference, the youth delegates visited schools and invited students to be part of a mural project depicting visions of what the future will be like. The delegation took the art from Lansdowne Middle School and L'Ecole Brodeur to Durban and returned with artistic creations from students there.

Victoria-area schools also took part via Skype. Lansdowne held a Skype session with students in Durban, and Global Studies students at Claremont Secondary used Skype to talk with the youth delegates during the conference.

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