



**Chris Tait**  
**Youth Leadership Award of Excellence**

At just 17, Chris Tait is already considered to be a natural leader.

Using rap music as his medium and humour in his presentation, Chris advocates for children and youth in care and inspires young people to have their voices heard.

Chris is involved in several youth initiatives and projects in the Vancouver area. He has been a keynote speaker on teen adoption, made a video about the rights of children and youth in care, spoken to social workers about child and youth rights and planned and emceed a youth symposium. He is a representative at the Ministry of Children and Family Development advisory table and participates in an Aboriginal child and youth mental health advisory group.

Chris finds some of his greatest self expression through rap music and has been laying down rap tracks since he was a little boy in Gibsons. Involved and active, his nominators and his peers describe him as warm and funny.

Chris grew up in Gibsons and is registered with the Moricetown Band in Smithers. He is enrolled in grades 11/12 at Templeton High School in Vancouver.

His nominators say his future potential is without limit.

Quotes from Nomination Letters:

*“A true youth activist, Christ Tait should be recognized for his tireless dedication to helping improve the world one hip hop verse at a time.”*

*“Chris has consistently been a positive, funny, energetic and compassionate peer to other young people. He makes really healthy choices and freely shares the ‘how’ and ‘why’ about those choices with others.”*

*“Chris is a young man who has taken a set of life experiences and turned them into powerful teaching tools and motivation for MCFD staff, service providers and youth around the region and around the province. Chris has been an amazing contributor to change for youth in and from care.”*

