YOUNG WRITERS GROUP DIVES INTO THE ARCHIVES November 19, 2021 Protest and Point of View



Protest and Point of View – Writing Prompt- Activism and Advocacy

Historical Protest in Powell River

What are the protestors doing in the historical event described by the museum? Are they angry? Hurt? Having fun? What is the main motivation behind the protest? What do they want?

A quote from Richard Van Camp's (2018) novella *When We Play our Drums They Sing!* discusses the relationship between leadership and anger:

"You see how things should be. That's a gift. It comes with a price, and that price is rage. Underneath the rage is hurt. Every leader I know has the same kind of hurt because you carry the pain of how things should be, could be, and deserve to be" (p. 58).

Have you ever been motivated to protest, to work for change? What drives you? How do you explain what change you want? How do you make people listen?

How does it feel to stand up and state who you are and what change you want to see?

Activism – Protest- Advocacy: Writing for Change

How do you write and express what change you want to see? One way is by writing speeches.

There are a lot of people doing this work, including many young people, for example Greta Thunberg, Autumn Peltier, <u>Ta'Kaiya Blaney</u>, Malala Yousafzai,.

Writing a speech or advocacy letter means making a connection to your audience:

- 1. Open with a statement that engages or states the issue.
- 2. Introduce yourself and how you are involved in this issue.
- 3. Present the problem.
- 3. Share a story or give an example of the problem.
- 4. Connect the issue to the audience's values, concerns or self-interest
- 5. Make your request. What change do you want?

For more information about speechmaking, activism and advocacy at PRPL, see the next the booklist on the next page.

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Here is a booklist with more information about protest, activism and advocacy:

