

## JUNIOR HEKA SPEECH

*Sporting Change Launch*

First I just wanna say how grateful I am for this opportunity to speak about the amazing experience I have had in sporting change in the years 2017 to 2018.

In sporting change I enjoyed a lot of things - sport, meeting new people, making new friends.

But if I had to say what the most enjoyable things about sporting change were, they would honestly be: learning about law, eating food and just talking to Prue, Temur, Ashleigh and Korina.

We didn't see them as like grown folks. They were one of us you know? That made them really relatable and it made sporting change so much fun.

Prue was a youth worker so it meant she got us and it was easier to learn. I'd bust out my moves and Prue would hype it out and join in. Now that was one of my most memorable moments during the program.

Then we had Korina, the school lawyer. She was able to add her professional input and go into more depth.

With Temur and Ashleigh, they were able to make things relatable and fun. This meant we were learning a lot ...teachers should take notes. Nah I'm kidding - but honestly they made everything easy to learn and made everything enjoyable, so kids wanted to learn.

I'm not even kidding, every Tuesday I would be looking forward to coming to sporting change after school. Then after 2018 when this



experience came to an end, I try and visit every now and again. But I just wanna say....we were the best group let's not deny it.

My most fond learning experience was playing soccer with Albert, one of the coaches.

He gave me one of the most valuable life lessons I have been taught and I always remember it when I am playing sport or just going through life.

I learnt there are people who put in the hard yards, who actually work for what they have and for those people, when they reach the top, it's more meaningful. They will be able to look back at what they have accomplished and say "I did that".

Now I know I'm talented - Haha-haha - but I know things haven't been handed to me. I have to work for what I want.

When I saw this opportunity to learn about law - and eat food, not gonna lie, food sold it for me - when I saw this chance, I took it with both hands. I really wanna be

a cop someday so learning about law would really help ya know? But I didn't know Sporting Change also had life lessons in store.

I wanna say a big thank you my friends that went with me Ben, Valerie, MJ, Richard you guys made it real good. Special thank you to my girl Jayda, she didn't come till near the end of 2018 but she still came and tried everything.

A very big thank you to the sporting change team!!

Lastly I just wanna thank my parents for letting me stay behind and do the program. Without them I wouldn't have been able to experience such an amazing program and know what I know today.

I am forever grateful and thanks man, y'all made 2017 and 2018 a real good one for me legit.

And now it is with great pleasure that I officially launch the Sporting Change evaluation report of 2017 and 2018.

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**WE ACT WITH**

**HONESTY,  
FAIRNESS &  
COMPASSION**