



## September Newsletter 2022

In the spirit of reconciliation, The Australian Local Government Women's Association Victorian Branch acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land. We acknowledge and respects their unique ability to care for Country, and their deep spiritual connection to it. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present, and emerging.



Life has continued to be busy for us in the Local Government sector.

Our new Minister for Local Government, Melissa Horne MP, is engaging with the sector and we are looking forward to our scheduled meeting in the near future.

The Victorian Government's [Gender Equality Advisory Committee](#) (GEAC) provides advice to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Melissa Horne MP and the Minister for Women, the Hon Natalie Hutchins MP on strategies to achieve the Government's target of 50 percent female mayors and councillors by 2025. The GEAC is co-chaired by Kat Theophanous MP and Juliana Addison MP. ALGWA Vic has been privileged to be represented by our President, Cr Kylie Spears, on GEAC

The GEAC has announced the **Advancing Women's Leadership Summit** that will drive gender equality and diversity in Victorian local government elected representatives by 2025. It is an invitation only event and our President has been invited. Several other Executive Committee members have been invited in varying capacities.

We are acutely aware that all councils are under pressure with staffing and being impacted daily by absences due to COVID. The difficulties for staff recruitment which puts extra pressure on all, to ensure service delivery continues to a standard we all strive for. This pressure was clearly articulated when we encouraged applicants for our annual 2022 ALGWA Vic Bursary Award to support officer development. The message received was "just too busy - there is a lot going on - can I apply next year.." Therefore, the ALGWA Vic Executive have considered this feedback and made the decision to delay the 2022 Bursary and offer two Bursaries in 2023.

As we know the year gets busier as we meet with Spring. This edition we have put both the September and October online forums with the hope we can squeeze a face to face Thursday 24 November. Wouldn't that be wonderful.

If you need support or just a chat about anything please reach out to us. [admin@algwa.com.au](mailto:admin@algwa.com.au)

Until next time stay safe, healthy and happy.

Best wishes,

**Cr Janet Pearce**  
ALGWA Vic Rural Vice President  
Macedon Ranges Shire Council

**Deputy Mayor Cr Denise Massoud**  
ALGWA Vic Metro Vice President  
Whitehorse City Council

## September Online forum Thursday 15 September @ 7pm Are you thinking about nominating for Mayor or Deputy Mayor



We will be encouraging all of our members who are or have been in these roles to come and support councillors aspiring to take on the role of Mayor or Deputy Mayor.

Share your wealth of knowledge and experience and encourage those councillors who are interested in putting their hands up for the first time.

Join this one hour online forum to gain the confidence and tips on how to get the support you need.

[Register for this online event](#)

## October Online forum Thursday 20 October @ 7pm Mentor and Mentees networking - catch up time

Time flies.... We know many of you have continued to stay in touch. Lets keep the connections going. Investment in your wellbeing, time management and those prickly relationships all play a part in your role as councillor, let alone life in general. This month is dedicated to networking and sharing how you are going, advise, a listening ear.

We will be breaking into rooms to lots of conversation.

Nothing is off the table here. ALGWA Vic is a safe space for you to be supported to be the best councillor you can be for your community.

[Register now before you forget](#)



## Host the 2024 ALGWA Vic Rural State Conference - EOIs close THIS MONTH!!!!

With the 2022 ALGWA Vic State Conference hosted by Greater Shepparton behind us, we are now seeking Expressions of Interest from rural councils that would like to host the 2024 ALGWA Vic State Conference.

This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your region to some of Victoria's most influential and powerful women, while also networking and building relationships with like-minded individuals.

The ALGWA Vic State Conference is a two-day event that includes a variety of keynote presentations, discussions, and social events.

We've already locked in 2023's conference, where Mornington Peninsula Shire Council will not only host the [2023 ALGWA Vic State Conference](#) but also the ALGWA National Conference! Now, we're excited to open up EOIs for rural councils looking to host the 2024 conference. That way, there'll be plenty of time to prepare and take the ALGWA Vic 2024 State Conference to the next level.

If you would like to put your council forward as a potential host for the 2024 ALGWA Vic State Conference, please download the attached Expression of Interest brochure and form:

[2024 EOI Brochure \(PDF\)](#)

[2024 EOI Form \(DOCX\)](#)

We look forward to receiving your Expressions of Interest!

### Key EOI dates:

- Monday, 6 June 2022**  
Conference Expressions of Interest submissions opened.
- Friday, 30 September 2022**  
Conference Expressions of Interest submissions close.
- Thursday, 6 October 2022**  
The winning council will be contacted by ALGWA Vic and notified of their success.
- Wednesday, 19 October 2022**  
The winning council will be announced at the ALGWA Vic Annual Bursary Event. A representative from the council will make a presentation on the night.



As we are already getting enquires for our conference next year which will be absolutely massive, as ALGWA Vic is hosting the ALGWA National in conference in 2023. If you want to stay as close to the action as possible, there is a special discount rate for conference delegates, allowing guests to check in as early as Monday 15 May, through to the end of the conference on Saturday 20 May. You can access the discount by [using this registration link](#) or by entering the following promotion code **23052023AL** when booking online.

In the last couple of years, we have taken our conferences to the next level and this one, with 18 months in the planning, you know it's going to be a "not to be missed event!"

We can't wait.

