



## AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION VICTORIAN BRANCH

**How we have grown through this time**

*ALGWA Vic December edition:*



What a month! We say that each time at the moment, but it is so true!

**The records keep tumbling.**

Firstly, women were 39% of all candidates at this election, a record for the state.

Then we had a record 272 women or 43.8% elected to Councils around Victoria.

**A record for Victoria and also the highest representation of any state across the country.**

Now we eagerly anticipate final numbers for our Mayors and Deputy Mayors. Knowing that we have increased not only the number of women standing but also being elected is a wonderful way to start this Council term. Our challenge now is to retain all these fabulous women, and support

are already looking to 2024.

One of the ways we are doing this is through our 'Mentoring Program'. This allows new female Councillors to be mentored by those who are experienced current, or former Councillors. ALGWA Vic thanks the Victorian Government for key financial support for this program. You can find more details and where to apply further in this newsletter.

This month has also seen ALGWA Vic successfully lobby the State Government for the inclusion of the current Local Government elections in the Parliamentary Inquiry into the impacts of social media on elections and election administration. Though the Inquiry had formally closed, we encouraged them to accept the submission from ALGWA Vic, Emily's List and More Women for Local Government that addressed the observed and experienced social media impacts on female candidates. A huge thank you to Sandra Wilson- our Metro Vice President- for her lead on this submission. You can find the full submission on the [website](#).

Our retiring Councillor survey also heard from 30 of the 71 retiring councillors about their thoughts and experiences. This has given us some very rich data to work through and inform further projects. Thank you to all those who have completed this survey, you will hear more on this work over the coming months.

**Finally, I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a fabulous New Year.**

Warm regards

Kylie  
President

**We value your support! Click to join ALGWA Vic**

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## **Introducing ALGWA Vic's Mentoring Program**

Expressions of Interest are now open to newly elected councillors to be

know how important that can be at times.

We encourage our members to consider the benefits not only for yourself but others. To mentor is a rich and rewarding experience. To be a mentee gives you support when you need it.

Many of our 2016 mentees are seeking to mentor in 2020.

And our values states:

We are **RESPECTFUL, TRUSTWORTHY** and act with **INTEGRITY**  
We are **BRAVE, BOLD** and continually strive for **GENDER EQUALITY**  
We are **LEADERS** and have **INFLUENCE** in the sector

**Mentoring brings alive our values together.**

To be a [mentor](#)

To be a [mentee](#)

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## A huge thank you to our 2020 Interns

ALGWA Vic values the importance of developing partnerships with Deakin and Swinburne University, whereby we are able to offer internships and volunteering roles for female students who have an interest in organisations like ALGWA Vic.

ALGWA Vic would like to express a huge thank you to our amazing interns of 2020. We could not have achieved all we have this year without the help and support of these dynamic women. 6 of our 7 interns are staying with ALGWA Vic as volunteers which we believe is a testament to the work we are doing for the sector.

We are excited to advance the skill and knowledge of women about local government in a safe and inclusive way through this program. The support to the Executive Officer has been outstanding and we wholeheartedly acknowledge your work, commitment and genuine love of supporting women through ALGWA Vic.

## Love the ALGWA Vic Executive Committee



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Become a Member of ALGWA Vic Today - [Click here.](#)



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