



## **AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION VICTORIAN BRANCH**

### **March Newsletter 2021**



What a fabulous way to start the year, with our Mentoring program doubling in size. Thank you to the State Government for funding the extra places so that everyone who wants to be part of this wonderful program, could be. Thank you to our fantastic mentoring subcommittee (Sandra, Coral, Denise & Helen) for all their work with Leonie & Linda to get everyone up and running. I look forward to seeing all our Mentors and Mentees at the launch zoom on Wednesday 10th March.

The planning for our conference is well underway and registrations open shortly. Make sure you have **Friday 30 April and Saturday 1 May** in your diaries now. We can't wait to actually see everyone.

Our Annual Bursary award will be opening for 2021 – you'll see the important dates below..

We have loved hearing from so many of you recently and you have certainly given us food for thought around what direction our online forum series should take this year. So we have quite a diverse series coming up – and lots of networking opportunities. We have a Mayors networking event and a Deputy Mayors networking event already planned and you can read more about it further in the newsletter.

This month we welcome Lizzy Kuoth to our team. Lizzy is very keen to better understand the role local government plays in our communities.

We are looking forward to catching up with you all, via zoom or face to face very soon.

Warm regards

*Kylie*

President ALGWA Vic

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## **March Events: Online Forum Series**

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### **Mentoring Program Launch - Online Forum**

**Wednesday 10, March 7:00pm - 8:00pm**



## ALGWA VIC'S MENTORING PROGRAM LAUNCH CELEBRATING IWD 2021



ALGWA Vic is excited for our State-Government funded Mentoring Program opened with the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Shaun Leane MP.

### 10 MARCH 2021

**7PM-8PM**

**TOUCH BASE WITH AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF WOMEN AND CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY.**

**HOSTED BY PRESIDENT, MAYOR KYLIE SPEARS, THIS EVENT IS NETWORKING, AND PURELY SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER.**

**BOOK YOUR TICKET, BRING YOUR DRINK AND NIBBLES, AND BE READY TO SHARE**

To all mentors and mentees of the program you would have received your invitations already. Contact [admin@algwa.com.au](mailto:admin@algwa.com.au) for your link

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## Deputy Mayors - Online Forum

**Wednesday 24, March 7:00pm - 8:00pm**



Hosted by our Executive Committee member, Helen Coleman OAM.

A former Councillor at the Nillumbik Shire Council from 2004 to 2016 and two

time Mayor and three time Deputy Mayor. Helen feels strongly and is passionate about women in leadership roles in local government. When elected as a first time Mayor, Helen wondered what other women Mayors were experiencing so decided to ask them.

Helen & ALGWA Vic then went about establishing the inaugural ALGWA Vic's Women's Mayor Forum in 2011 when there were only 18 women Mayors in Victoria, now 34 Mayors against all COVID-19 odds. The rest is history 10 years on, and with a partnership with the VLGA along the way, ALGWA Vic wants to continue the tradition.

This year ALGWA Vic will host a Deputy Mayor Forum for the first time to share and encourage the next step in a leadership role.

This event is for Deputy Mayors to share some inspiring words, share challenges and experiences. It is a stepping stone to the role of Mayor, so how are you going with that?

[Click link to book](#)



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## Mayors - Online Forum

Thursday 25, March 7:00pm - 8:00pm



Again hosted by ALGWA Vic Executive Committee member Helen Coleman OAM

First elected as Mayor in December 2010 (by having her name pulled out of a brown envelope!), before serving a second term in 2014/15.

Helen's legacy to ALGWA Vic is creating this annual event. Over the years, the event has seen many settings. This year it will be virtual to assist our busy women Mayors to be involved from all over the State.

With a record number of women Mayors this year and with your Mayoral feat well and truly under the table, we are planning for an hour of networking and empowerment, an opportunity to meet other women Mayors to share some inspiring words, share challenges, and your experiences.

We know that leadership positions can be a lonely and isolated place for women, and we also know that unless we keep advocating for gender equity in local government, the numbers will go backwards.

Be part of shaping the numbers forward.

[Click the link to Book](#)

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## Conference Update

### **Culture, Conduct and Retention: The Next 100 Years of Women in Local Government.**

**Bookings for our 2021 Annual Conference hosted by the City of Yarra will open Wednesday 10 March.**

This will be the first conference for Local Government in Victoria since COVID and the first time since being elected last year.

We have put so much energy to supporting the state of elected women, and face-to-face is so important to connecting and developing our knowledge and skill set to become the most equipped we can be as elected representatives.

In this challenging environment we believe more than ever the need to come together to learn and grow.

Conference begins 6pm Friday April 30  
Full day Saturday May 1 followed by a spectacular dinner  
all in the City of Yarra  
Early Bird registration \$500 for members  
\$590 for non members

A special invitation coming your way.

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## Bursary Award Milestone Dates for 2021

**“I am humble, grateful and honoured to be receiving this award and know it will not only support my expensive studies moving forward, but motivate and encourage me”** - Danielle Pepyat, 2020  
Bursary Award recipient.

- 1 May 2021 - Bursary Award nominations officially open at City of Yarra hosted.  
ALGWA Vic Annual Conference **Nominations Open**
- 12 July 2021 - Close of nominations
- 20 July 2021 - All nominees will receive confirmation of nomination
- 23 Aug 2021 - Finalists notified
- 20 Oct 2021 - Bursary Award Event - **Winner Announced**

2021 Bursary Award Brochure

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## Welcome Lizzy Kuoth to the ALGWA Vic Volunteer/Intern program

### **Some words of inspiration from Lizzy:**

Investment in women leaders is important, and so is involving women from diverse backgrounds and preferences to work together to share learnings and drive innovation for progress. As a young woman from a refugee background that



has been heavily involved in community leadership roles since the early years of my settlement here, I feel it is my duty to continue to grow in this space and render my services to the best of my ability where it's needed. I see great and exciting opportunities for me being a part of the team at the Australian Local Government Women's Association Victorian Branch (ALGWA Vic), such as learning more about Australian politics, and playing a key role in attracting a more diverse talent pool into this great initiative.

