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AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION VICTORIAN BRANCH

May 2024 Newsletter

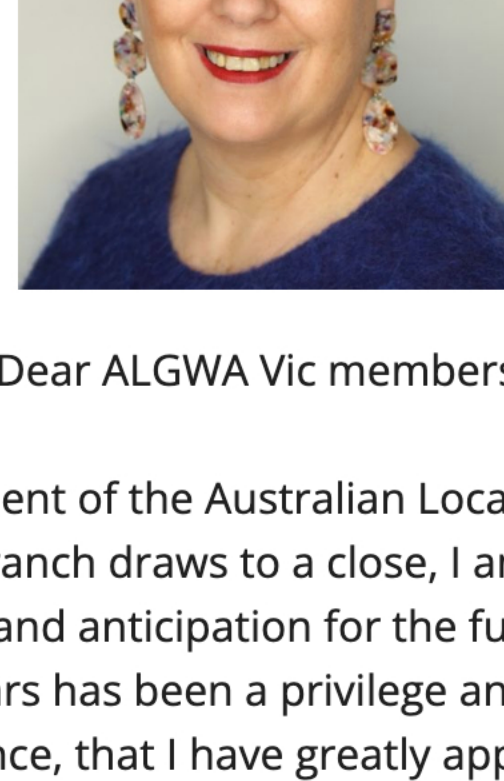
In the spirit of reconciliation, the Australian Local Government Women's Association Victorian Branch acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land.

We acknowledge and respect 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.

A Message From Your President

Mayor Kylie Spears



Dear ALGWA Vic members,

As my tenure as President of the Australian Local Government Women's Association Victorian Branch draws to a close, I am filled with a mixture of gratitude, excitement, and anticipation for the future. Serving in this role for the past four years has been a privilege and a deeply rewarding experience, that I have greatly appreciated.

I want to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you who has been part of ALGWA Vic's journey during my tenure. To our fabulous Vice Presidents – Janet, Sandra & Denise, our dedicated committee members – Coral, Helen, Barb, Sandra, Virginia, Despi, Clare, Natalie & Cuc, our amazing Executive Officer - Michelle, our wonderful Interns and indeed, every member who has contributed their time, energy, and expertise to ALGWA Vic—thank you. Your unwavering support and commitment have been the driving force behind our collective success.

It has been a privilege to build upon the foundations laid by those who came before us. ALGWA Vic has a rich history of advocacy, empowerment, and sector engagement, and I am humbled to have played a part in furthering this legacy.

Together, we have achieved so much over the past four years. From expanding our membership base, consolidating our governance, growing our flagship Mentoring program, to launching new initiatives and research, all aimed at empowering women in local government. We have appreciated connecting and building on our relationships with other organisations who are also devoted to empowering and supporting women – VLGA, LG Pro, MAV, Deakin, Latrobe and more. We have made significant strides forward, even while knowing we still have a way to go. I am incredibly proud of the achievements we have accomplished together and the positive impact we have had on the lives of women across Victoria.

My journey with ALGWA Vic is not finishing though, as the ALGWA National President, I look forward to continuing to work with you all.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your support, dedication, and passion over the past four years. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as your State President, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have led part of ALGWA Vic's incredible journey.

With best wishes,
Kylie

ALGWA VIC Conference Highlights

ALGWA Vic held their state conference last weekend, hosted by the Baw Baw Shire council. The main event was held at the West Gippsland Arts Centre in Warrigal, with a closing night gala dinner at the aesthetically beautiful, Brandy Creek Estate. The conference was an amazing chance to connect with other like-minded women, with over 50% of Victorian councils being represented. We enjoyed insight from inspirational speakers who gave presentations and workshops that challenged us on the conference theme, 'Resilience and Reinvention'. Click the link to see a range of photos that will give you a snapshot into the vibrance, energy, and connection that was experienced at our conference. We also have a link for you to view the professional photography that again demonstrates the power of learning and growing, being resilient and reinventing ourselves – Enjoy.

Access Our Photos Here!

[Photos from our members of the conference](#)

View the Professional Photos Here!

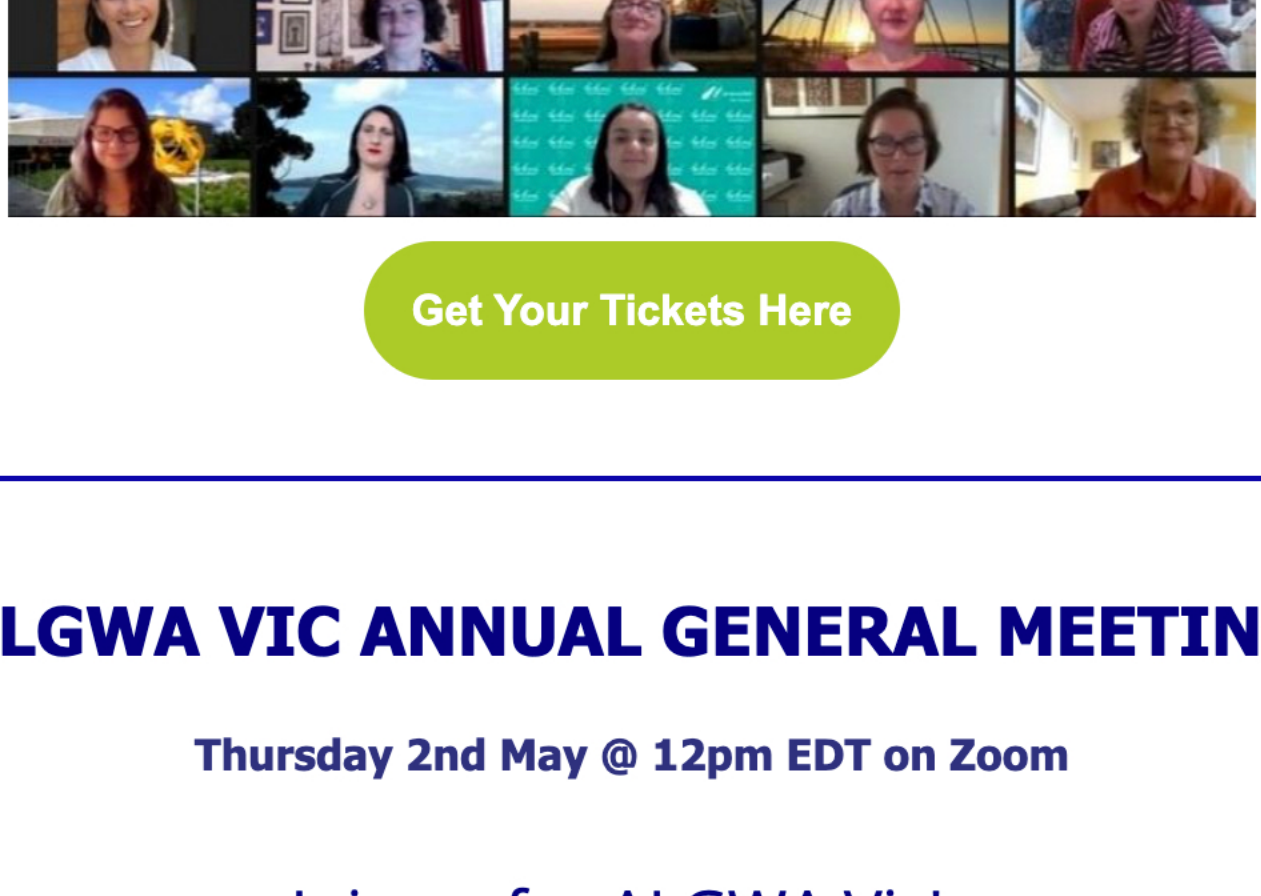
[Corrected link to Professional Photos](#)

MAY NETWORKING ONLINE FORUM

Thursday, May 23rd @ 7PM EDT on Zoom

Come along and share your journey!

Over an hour, we will share in each other's journeys, as well as reflecting on the ALGWA Vic Conference and what has been happening.



[Get Your Tickets Here](#)

ALGWA VIC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 2nd May @ 12pm EDT on Zoom

Join us for ALGWA Vic's Annual General Meeting 2023

President Welcome
Acknowledgment of Country

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- Adoption of minutes of previous AGM of April 27th 2023
 - Business arising from previous minutes
 - President's Report
- Executive Officer's Report & Presentation of Annual Statements
- Honorarium (As stated in the ALGWA Vic constitution)
- Proposed Changes to ALGWA Vic Constitution
- Determination of annual membership fees
- Election of office bearers
- General business

[Register Now](#)

Attachment of 2023 AGM Minutes

[View the 2023 AGM Minutes](#)

Proposed Constitutional Amendments

[View Proposed Changes](#)

Proposed Membership Fees 24/25

[View Proposed Membership Fees 24/25](#)

2024 ALGWA Vic Bursary Award Nominations are Now Open

ALGWA Vic is committed to encouraging women to advance their careers in the local government sector through study.

That's why, in 1989 (under the leadership of then-President Pam Robinson AM), ALGWA Vic established an Annual Bursary Award to encourage and assist women working in the local government sector to further their education.

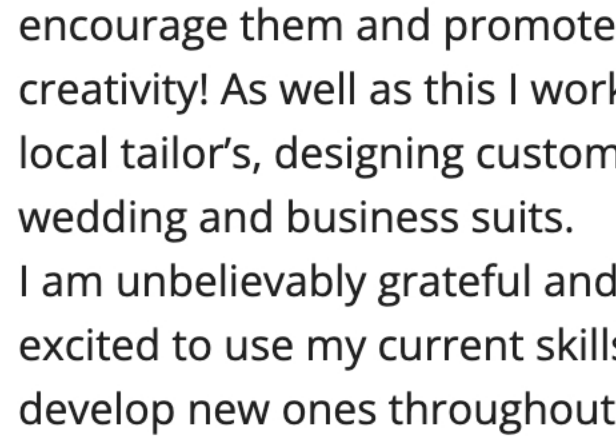
Since then, the prize has been awarded to over 30 women from member councils across metro and regional Victoria.

Click on the link to hear from our 2023 Bursary Award Winner Sophie Paterson, from the Glen Eira City Council, and the highly commended, Vanessa Bove, from Manningham Council.

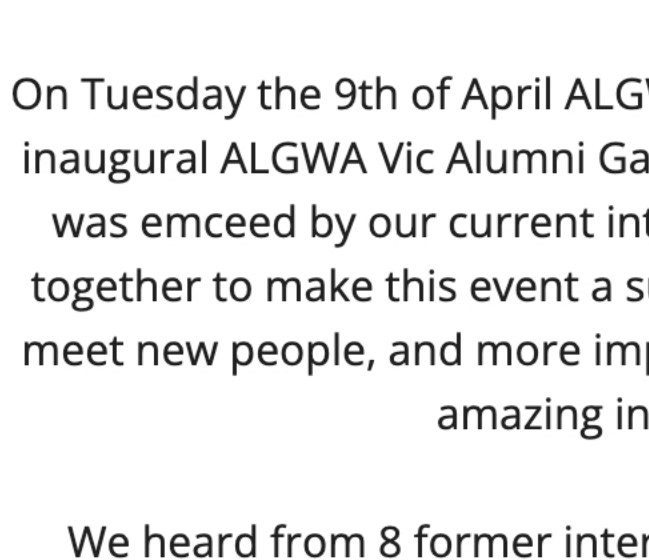
[View Bursary Award Nomination Form](#)

Hear more about why you should nominate for the 2024 ALGWA Vic Bursary Awards Here

[View Video Here](#)



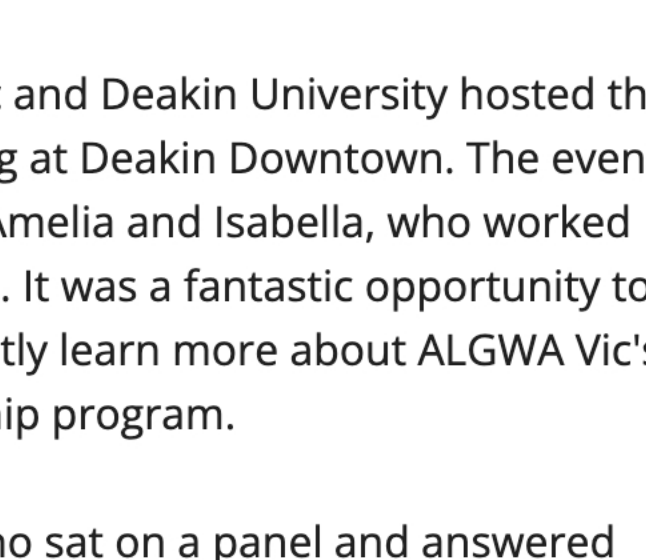
Meet Our New Interns



ISABELLA

I'm a Geelong Deakin student, I am in my final semester of study completing a double bachelors degree of Commerce and International Studies, majoring in Marketing and Politics and Policy.

I love sport and have played netball for many years, starting in the local Net Set Go team when I was in primary school. Hailing from Geelong, I'm also a big Geelong Cats fan. When I'm not working or studying I love a good book, one book I'm reading at the moment is What You're Looking For in the Library by Michiko Aoyama.



AMELIA

My name is Amelia Puckering, and I am a third-year international studies student, majoring in international relations at Deakin University. I am incredibly passionate about gender equality and equity, so I am thrilled to have been given the opportunity to collaborate with ALGWA Vic as an intern, as I believe organizations such as this are spearheading positive change for women in leadership, and government not only in Victoria, but across Australia and beyond.

In my spare time I teach children's ceramics classes at a local art centre – I love being able to encourage them and promote their creativity! As well as this I work at a local tailor's, designing custom wedding and business suits. I am unbelievably grateful and excited to use my current skills and develop new ones throughout my time interning with ALGWA Vic!

Inaugural ALGWA Vic Alumni Gathering

On Tuesday the 9th of April ALGWA Vic and Deakin University hosted the inaugural ALGWA Vic Alumni Gathering at Deakin Downtown. The event was emceed by our current interns Amelia and Isabella, who worked together to make this event a success. It was a fantastic opportunity to meet new people, and more importantly learn more about ALGWA Vic's amazing internship program.

We heard from 8 former interns, who sat on a panel and answered questions about their experiences as interns at ALGWA Vic. We also heard from former intern, Carri Halloway, who provided some remarkable insight into life post internship. As well as this, Associate Professor Amy Nethery from Deakin University spoke on the great working relationship between Deakin and ALGWA Vic

The gathering was filled with lots of laughter, and it was amazing to come together to talk about our shared experiences and what the future holds for these talented young women.

