



## NEW CANTEEN STRATEGY

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Featured in this issue:

### NANGA MAI

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# PARENT & CITIZEN



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**F:** 1800 655 866

**E:** journal@pandc.org.au

**W:** www.pandc.org.au

contributions and feedback to:  
journal@pandc.org.au

### Advertising

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Susie Boyd**

The NSW Education hierarchy has had a few changes in the last 9 months, a new Education Minister, a new Secretary for Education and two new Deputy Secretaries!

With these role changes, in such a short period of time, one could be excused for fearing a period of instability, however this does not appear to be the case for NSW Education.

NSW Education Minister, the Hon Rob Stokes MP, is leading his team strongly forward along the Gonski path that NSW signed up for, as did his predecessor the Hon Adrian Piccoli MP, who endorsed Minister Stokes whole heartedly earlier this year.

P&C Federation extends its continued support to our Minister, Teachers, Principals and Students in calling on the Federal Government to do the right thing and support the children of Australia, through an equitable “needs based funding” model as recommended within the Gonski report.

The Federal Government must ensure every public school meets the “MINIMUM RESOURCE STANDARD” as it would be repugnant to all, that a child will have less than the ‘minimum resources’ required to achieve a quality education, as a result of their postcode or parents financial standing.

Please ask your Principal what your Gonski money was used on and share that information with your community! For more information on how you can assist the Gonski campaign, please email [president@pandc.org.au](mailto:president@pandc.org.au).

“That’s the way we’ve always done it” can be the most disheartening sentence for a new P&C Association member to hear from their P&C Association.

The sentence implies that you’re not willing to consider new ideas and in the fast-paced world we live in, that can be disastrous as, to grow we will inevitably change.

Whilst not suggesting you drop all old practices, as they can be reflected on to assist your growth, there does need to be a willingness to look at new ideas, review the current ones and make changes as and where appropriate. Consider a revamp on an idea or add a new idea to your P&C planned activities this year.

Member engagement is extremely high on the P&C Federation’s priority list, as we’re always looking for new ways to boost member participation within our P&C Associations. Therefore, it has been extremely heartening, to have Minister Stokes willing to learn more on this topic, by attending small roundtable discussions, with Parents and Principals, learning of our success’s and challenges. We will be sharing findings from these discussions next term with our members, if you would like to share your own P&C Association’s challenge and/or success stories, please email [president@pandc.org.au](mailto:president@pandc.org.au).

Groups of P&C Associations are meeting across NSW on a regular basis, some have constitutions and elected committee’s others are more informal with merely an email list and a few scheduled meeting dates.



One thing I have learnt over the years is that we all can use a little support now and again, participating in such a group can often give you new insights, ideas or friends to lean on and which is why I encourage you to attend. If you would like to participate in a group - please email me at [president@pandc.org.au](mailto:president@pandc.org.au) and I will put you in touch with the closest group we are aware of.



P&C Federation extends its continued support to our Minister, Teachers, Principals and Students in calling on the Federal Government to do the right thing and support the children of Australia

# MINISTER'S AND SECRETARY'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

To recognise and reward outstanding teaching and learning in NSW Public Schools, the NSW Department of Education and the Public Education Foundation have launched the 2017 annual Minister's and Secretary's Awards for Excellence. Please encourage talented and committed students, teachers, principals, parents and schools to apply.

## THERE ARE SIX AWARD CATEGORIES:

- Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement
- Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching
- Secretary's Award for Excellent Service
- Secretary's Award for an Outstanding School Initiative
- Secretary's School Achievement Award
- Public School Parent of the Year

The awards highlight the remarkable contributions that students, teachers, principals and the school communities across NSW make to public education.

For further information and to apply: <http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarships/>

Applications close on:  
Monday June 19 2017.

An Awards Ceremony will be held at NSW Parliament House in September 2017.

## LINKS TO AWARD CATEGORIES:

- Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement  
<http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarship-archive/ministers-award-for-excellence-in-student-achievement/>
- Minister's Award for Excellence in Teaching  
<http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarship-archive/ministers-award-for-excellence-in-teaching/>
- Secretary's Award for Excellent Service  
<http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarship-archive/secretarys-award-for-excellent-service/>
- Secretary's Award for an Outstanding School Initiative  
<http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarship-archive/secretarys-award-for-an-outstanding-school-initiative/>
- Secretary's School Achievement Award  
<http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarship-archive/secretarys-school-achievement-award/>
- Public School Parent of the Year  
<http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au/scholarship-archive/public-school-parent-of-the-year-award/>



2016 Public School Parent of the Year Award - Susie Boyd Merrylands High School



2016 Public School Parent of the Year Award - Manatsanan Khotkahn Harrington Street Public School



PEF Awards for Excellence

# FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

By Mark Scott

One of the best things about my job is having the opportunity to occasionally just quietly sit in a classroom and watch teachers teach and children learn.

Observing the sparkling engagement of some kindergarteners, I recently reflected that this year's kindergarten kids will be eligible to start university in 2030. They will be among the estimated eight million young people who will finish school in Australia over the next two decades.

It's difficult to imagine the world thirteen years ahead. If I think back to 2004 – when 'thefacebook' was first registered as a domain – I'm not sure many of us would have accurately predicted the world of 2017. In education we're constantly required to try to leap that gap, to prepare today's children for tomorrow's world.

While change is constant, we also know that our world is becoming more complex, demanding and more unpredictable. The impact of artificial intelligence and automation on employment already suggests a future where many of the jobs of today no longer exist.

These seismic changes mean that predicting the future is perhaps more of an impossibility today than it has ever been before.

While it's hard to envisage exactly what jobs will be on offer or what the workplace of the future will look like, we do know that our kids are likely to experience multiple career changes. If today's kindergarteners

are going to succeed and thrive through those changes and shifts, we need to equip them with the skills they need to be effective lifelong learners.

This starts with a strong and durable foundation in literacy and numeracy – and then goes well beyond that.

Part of the 21st century skill set will be a strong set of 'soft skills'. These are things like problem-solving, critical thinking, digital literacy and collaboration. These 'soft skills' are likely to be essential, no matter what job of the future your child takes up.

We also need to look at how best to guide all of our students towards being the kind of confident and resilient people who can adapt well to change. Shifts in employment can be stressful but today's kindergarteners are also likely to face an increased number of housing moves and other social and life changes. They need a mindset that will help them find the opportunity in these kinds of challenges.

To deliver the skills, knowledge and aptitudes that our children require, we need to move boldly. We need to look to evidence of effective practice; to have an appetite for risk and innovation; and we need to genuinely place children at the very centre of our decision-making.



The British educator Dylan Wiliam puts the challenge in context. In the past, he says, schools identified talent and 'let it rise to the top' but the demand for talent and skills is now so great that schools have to be 'talent incubators'.

**"IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO IDENTIFY TALENT IN OUR SCHOOLS ANY-MORE; WE HAVE TO CREATE IT," HE SAYS.**

And there lies the challenge for all educators, students and parents. It's one we can all rise to, together.

Mark Scott is Secretary of the NSW Department of Education

## 2017 NANGA MAI AWARD WINNERS INCLUDE:

### STUDENT AWARDS

**Encouragement Award:** *Michellie Bevis – Austral Public School; Tabitha Galvin – Bonalbo Central School; Coen Everard Towers-Carter – Lithgow High School; Teliyah Hickey – Walgett Community College High School.*

**Outstanding Student Engagement Award:** *John Brady- Corowa – The Rivers Secondary College, Richmond River High Campus.*

**Outstanding Achievement in Sport Award:** *Marli Bateman – Nambucca Heads Public School; Kayla Smith – Finley High School.*

**Outstanding achievement in Performing/Creative/ Visual Arts Award:** *Olivia Talbott – Oak Flats Public School; Ngali Shaw – Dubbo College Delroy Campus.*

**Outstanding Achievement in Public Speaking Award:** *Kiraban Ingrey – Banksmeadow Public School; Ethan Towns – Cambridge Gardens Public School.*

**Student Leadership Award:** *Benjamin Williams – Chatham High School; Emily Backhouse – Mount Annan High School.*

**Academic Excellence Award:** *Mia Thom – Byron Bay High School.*

**Highest Achieving Aboriginal Student in the 2016 HSC:** *Jessica Buhagiar – Byron Bay High School.*

### STAFF AWARDS

**Outstanding Contribution to Educational Achievement by an Aboriginal Staff member:** *Eli Cook – Ballina Public School Award.*

**Outstanding Contribution to Educational Achievement by a Non-Aboriginal Staff Member:** *Darren Woodhouse – Callaghan College, Waratah Technology Campus.*

**Outstanding Leadership in Aboriginal Education:** *Patricia Leverett – Bankstown Public School Award.*

**Outstanding Leadership in Aboriginal Languages:** *Kayleen Kerwin – Menindee Central School.*

### SCHOOL/COMMUNITY AWARDS

**Outstanding School and Community Partnership:** *Currans Hill Public School.*

**Outstanding Commitment to Increasing Knowledge and Understanding of Aboriginal Histories, Culture and Experiences of Aboriginal People:** *Alison Johnstone.*

**Director's meritorious Award – Love of Learning Award:** *Graham Kahabka.*

# NANGA MAI

## A time to dream: Nanga Mai Awards

**N**anga Mai is an Eora word meaning to dream and each year the Department of Education celebrates innovation, excellence and achievement in Aboriginal education within NSW public schools and school communities.

Academically successful students, confident leaders, talented performing artists and outstanding sportspeople were among the 17 student winners of this year's Nanga Mai Awards. They joined eight dedicated teachers and community leaders who were also recognised at the awards ceremony in Sydney on 28 March.

Michele Hall, the Department's Executive Director of Aboriginal Education and Communities, said the winners were selected from a talented pool of applicants. "This is a great achievement by our award winners and I offer them my warmest congratulations," she said.

Currans Hill Public School was recognised for outstanding school and community partnerships. The school works closely and effectively with parents, its Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer, local Elders, various service providers, and the University of Western Sydney.

The result has been high-quality innovative classroom programs and co-curricular opportunities in the arts, dance, music, sport and the environment, as well as learning support program for students in need of additional assistance.

The school's Aboriginal Education Committee meets regularly to review the educational outcomes and wellbeing of its Aboriginal students. This has seen increased parent participation in events such as Yarning Circle, cultural celebrations, days of significance and at assemblies and parent-teacher meetings.

Graham Kahabka, the department's former Executive Director of the Wagga Wagga Operational network, received the Director's Meritorious Award – Love of Learning for his leadership and dedication to Aboriginal education.

The award judges said Mr Kahabka's energetic, dynamic leadership had united directors from three diverse regions into being a collaborative team working cohesively to achieve improved learning and wellbeing results for Aboriginal students. His conviction that Aboriginal education is everyone's business motivated schools and staff to provide the very best education for Aboriginal students by valuing their cultural identity, knowing their dreams and aspirations and setting high expectations.

The Nanga Mai Awards ceremony featured an inspiring speech from Riley Court-Bennett, a baker turned University of New South Wales medical student who dreams of being a GP in remote communities.

The Nanga Mai Awards are supported by the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Inc (NSW) and the Aboriginal Education Council.



Didgeridoo



Didgeridoo performance



Olivia Fox performance



Olivia Talbott & Graham Kahabka



Darren Bell and Eli Cook



Currans Hill Public School Staff



Group photo of recipients

# ACYP OFFICE OPENING

The office of the Advocate for Children and Young People (ACYP) has moved into new premises at Ground Floor, 219-241 Cleveland Street, Strawberry Hills. The office was officially opened by His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley ACDSC (Ret'd) Governor of NSW on Tuesday 28 February.

The opening event began with a Welcome to Country by Mr Chicka Madden followed by a traditional Smoking Ceremony by Mr Max Eulo and Mr Rhett Burraston.

The Chair of the 2016 NSW YAC, Ms Brenella Abdel-Rheim and 2016 YAC member Mr Sam Beatson acted as the MCs for the event.

The Advocate for Children and Young People, Mr Andrew Johnson presented a video of the ACYP brand and office design and explained the involvement of children and young people in both processes. Including children and young people in the design of the office ensured that the space is both welcoming for and reflective of children and young people.

The Advocate also spoke about the importance of ensuring the children and young people's rights are fully realised and they are respected, safe, connected, have opportunities and their voices are heard.

The Hon Raymond Williams MP attended the event and spoke about the significance

of the NSW Government's commitment to improving the lives of children and young people in NSW.

This was followed by a moving version of Archie Roach's 'Took them Away' performed by Sebastian Kelly-Toiva from Schools Spectacular.

His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley ACDSC (Ret'd) officially opened the office and spoke to guests about the importance of empowering children and young people and providing opportunities for them to contribute to decision making processes.



The Hon. Raymond Williams MP, Mrs Hurley, His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales, Sebastian Kelly-Toiava, Ms Melanie Gibbons MP with daughter and Advocate for Children and Young People Mr Andrew Johnson.



The Advocate for Children and Young People, Mr Andrew Johnson



Smoking Ceremony. Mr Max Eulo and Mr Rhett Burraston.



His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) Governor of NSW officially opening the ACYP office

# NESA

By David de Carvalho

**B**eing a parent myself, I understand the importance of knowing as much as possible about your childrens' education.

As the new CEO of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA), I am keen to ensure that as parents you know about our important role and that we address your feedback on areas for improvement or support needed.

By way of background, NESA – replacing the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) - is a new organisation that brings together a broad range of education responsibilities with the aim of improving student learning outcomes.

We develop the K-12 curriculum taught in all NSW schools. We run the internationally regarded HSC. We accredit teaching degrees. We accredit teachers and require ongoing professional development for teachers to maintain their accreditation. We monitor schools against registration standards.

This is achieved by working with schools, principals, teachers and parents, and our partners in the three school sectors, universities and teacher professional development.

For example every year we meet with your representatives from the Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of NSW. This is important and ongoing regular consultation. We also encourage the Federation, individual associations and parents to contribute to our consultations and provide feedback on matters of interest and concern.

One current issue being discussed by parents is the new minimum literacy and numeracy standard that students will need to meet to qualify for an HSC from 2020.

Unfortunately, there is a lot of misinformation going around in the community which is causing parents and students to be unnecessarily worried.

It is absolutely not true that students will be ineligible to receive their HSC unless they get a Band 8 in all their year 9 NAPLAN tests.

Here are the facts, and I encourage you to share them with other parents at your school who may not understand the real situation.

The new standard will ensure that students are ready for further education and training, employment and life after school.

The standard is set at a nationally agreed standard of functional literacy and numeracy. At this practical level, students can do such things as:

Find the time and date of a music concert on an online ticket website	Calculate the quantity of paint required to paint a room	Estimate distance, travel time and costs for a transport route
Take notes from a lecture or training session	Create a personal weekly budget in a spreadsheet	Write a job application letter
Measure quantities to follow a recipe	Follow safety instructions in an equipment manual	Enter data in a computer based management system

Students will show they have met the standard by passing new online reading, writing and numeracy tests. The tests will be available from next year for students in Year 10.

The tests will be conducted at school and students can take the tests at least twice a year in Years 10, 11 and 12 and for up to five years after they start their first HSC course.

Students can prequalify for the standard by achieving Band 8 or above in their Year 9 NAPLAN reading, writing and numeracy tests from this year. This means that they won't have to take the online tests.

Parents should note that we do not expect that every student will achieve Band 8 in their Year 9 NAPLAN tests. No student will be excluded from sitting the HSC on the basis of their Year 9 NAPLAN results.



David de Carvalho, CEO  
NSW Education Standards Authority

Students' literacy and numeracy skills will continue to develop and schools will provide support for students to meet the standard. We are confident that students will meet the standard either by the end of Year 10, Year 11 or Year 12.

More information about the minimum standard, including flyers for parents and sample test questions, is available on our website at:

<http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/about/initiatives/stronger-hsc-standards/minimum-standard>

Already many parents subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter NESA News, follow us and our curriculum inspectors on Twitter, and regularly visit our website, educationstandards.nsw.edu.au. I encourage you to subscribe to receive updates and visit our website to learn more about our work.

# NEW FOCUS FOR SCHOOL CANTEENS

A new Healthy School Canteen Strategy has been developed to increase the availability of healthy food and drink options to make the healthy choice, the easy choice.

Health surveys show most Australian children need to make changes to their diet to establish healthy eating practices. School canteens are one way to help support healthy eating by ensuring nutritional and healthy food and drink items are available and promoted in the canteen. Healthy canteens also provide an opportunity to reinforce the teaching and learning in the classroom about healthy lifestyles and healthy food and drink choices.

## WHY A NEW STRATEGY?

With around half of all students buying their lunch at school at least once a week, school canteens can contribute by supporting healthy eating. The Fresh Tastes@School Strategy (also known as the traffic light system) in NSW schools has been updated and replaced by the Healthy School Canteen Strategy. The updated strategy focuses on increasing the availability and promotion of healthy food and drink options in our schools.

Feedback from schools and canteens showed that many people found the old system to be confusing and complex. The updated strategy is simpler with only two categories and is easier to implement.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The updated strategy has been developed to align with the 2013 Australian Dietary Guidelines and uses the Health Star Rating (HSR), the national front-of-pack labelling system, for 'Occasional' packaged foods. Food and drinks are classified as either Everyday or Occasional. Everyday foods are the healthiest choices and include fresh sandwiches, salads, pasta, stir fries, fruit and yoghurt. Occasional foods are the least healthy foods such as chips, cakes and meat pies.

- At least 3/4 of the school canteen menu should be based on healthy Everyday food and drinks.
- No more than 1/4 of the school canteen menu can be made up of Occasional food and drink options. Packaged Occasional items must have a health star rating of 3.5 stars and above. The health star rating makes it easier for canteens to choose the healthiest packaged foods for example the healthiest pies or the healthiest muesli bars.

- The new system is easier for school canteens as they no longer have to interpret complex nutritional information on the back of packaged foods.
- Portion size limits apply for certain packaged foods and drinks to ensure appropriate serving sizes are offered to students at school. The different recommended portion size limits for primary and secondary schools reflect the different energy and nutritional needs of growing children and young people.
- The sale of sugary drinks will continue to not be permitted (this has been the policy since 2007). Water and milk are the best examples of Everyday drinks.

## WHEN WILL IT BE IMPLEMENTED?

There is a three-year transition period for schools to implement the strategy. The transition period will enable schools to be responsive to canteen operating arrangements, product availability and community and cultural expectations. It will also give canteen operators time to work on their menu and food manufacturers and local suppliers time to ensure their products meet the health star rating cut-off and portion size limits.

TIMELINE	DESCRIPTION
<b>Term 1 2017</b>	Release of the revised Healthy School Canteen Strategy
<b>Semester 1 2017</b>	Schools engage and familiarise themselves with the revised Healthy School Canteen Strategy
<b>Semester 2 2017</b>	Schools commence self-assessment of current canteen practices and planning for implementation
<b>2018 onwards</b>	Ongoing implementation of the Healthy School Canteen Strategy
<b>By end 2019</b>	All school canteens compliant with revised Strategy

## HOW WILL CANTEEN MANAGERS, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS BE SUPPORTED TO IMPLEMENT THE NEW STRATEGY?

Canteen managers, staff and volunteers can:

- visit the canteen managers section of the Healthy School Canteens website with information on how to plan a healthy school canteen menu
- access websites and mobile apps such as Foodswitch that have the health star rating to make it easier to identify which products meet the criteria
- attend the series of Healthy School Canteens training and information sessions that have been advertised to schools and on the Healthy Kids Association website at <https://healthy-kids.com.au/school-canteens/healthy-kids-events/info/>
- contact their health promotion officer in their Local Health Districts or the Healthy Kids Association support line on 9876 1300 for help with food and drink criteria
- Email [healthyschoolcanteens@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:healthyschoolcanteens@det.nsw.edu.au) for practical support on how to manage the transition in your school canteen

There will also be an online database developed by NSW Health to provide information for canteen managers on food and drink items commonly sold in school canteens. The database will show if a food or drink is Everyday or Occasional and its Health Star Rating and is expected to be available towards the end of 2017.

## HOW WILL IT AFFECT CANTEENS?

By 2020, public schools will have a menu which includes 3/4 Everyday items and 1/4 Occasional items. The Occasional food and drink items must meet the health star rating of 3.5 or above and the appropriate portion size limits.

Cakes, chocolates and confectionary that do not meet the health star rating cannot be sold in school canteens. Parents can still choose to supply these foods in their child's lunchbox but they will not be available for purchase at the school canteen.

There will no longer be two 'Red' food days per term and canteens will not contribute to sausage sizzles and other Occasional food fundraisers on a regular basis. However,

at the discretion of the principal, a school may choose to invite the canteen to cater for a special event, such as a school fair, or school celebration. On such occasions, menu items can align with the school's plans, enabling the school canteen to be fully integrated as part of the school celebration or special event.

Please visit the Healthy School Canteens website for more information:  
<http://healthyschoolcanteens.nsw.gov.au/>

**BY 2020, PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL HAVE A MENU WHICH INCLUDES 3/4 EVERYDAY ITEMS AND 1/4 OCCASIONAL ITEMS. THE OCCASIONAL FOOD AND DRINK ITEMS MUST MEET THE HEALTH STAR RATING OF 3.5 OR ABOVE AND THE APPROPRIATE PORTION SIZE LIMITS.**

# Australian Guide to Healthy Eating



Enjoy a wide variety of nutritious foods from these five food groups every day.  
 Drink plenty of water.



## Use small amounts



## Only sometimes and in small amounts



# WELLNESS HUB

## Forbes High School leading the way in student wellbeing in the far west

Wednesday, 1 March, saw the official opening of Forbes High Schools Wellness Hub. The Wellness Hub is a local initiative developed in partnership with local community services to provide students with access to professional support programs.

President of P&C Federation Susie Boyd attended the event with Far West councillor Natalie Walker and Delegate Helen Carpenter

The day saw an assembly being held in the hall, with the audience being addressed by Principal Mr Charles Dwyer, Director of Public Schools Maree Angus, Forbes High School Wellness Committee members David Chu, Elise Dukes and Lachlan Hodges, Maria Willis from Forbes Community Health, Elysse Cunningham from Centacare and Deputy Principal Jason Nottingham. Guests were also entertained, with a beautiful cover of Missy Higgins song Everyone's Waiting by Year 12 student Maddison Collits. Official proceedings then took place at the Wellness Hub with Director of Public Schools Maree Angus officially opening the Wellness Hub and our School Captains and Vice Captains cutting the cake.

Guests and staff then had their tastebuds tantalized by the delicious lunch catered for by a very skilful Year 11 & 12 Hospitality class. An amazing array for food was on offer for invited guests, staff and community members to enjoy.

Students were also catered for on the day with Forbes Neighbourhood Watch coming up to the school and helping out with providing a BBQ. A number of service providers such as Binaal Billa, Centacare, and National Disability Coordination Officer also attended and set up information stalls for students to access. Carewest provided Fun with Drums on the day as well for students to participate in.

### SO HOW DID THE WELLNESS HUB COME ABOUT?

The idea of the Wellness Hub was one that was born in mid-2015 as a response to the increasing need of students to be supported in terms of their well-being. The school was finding that the resources they had at their disposal were at capacity and they needed to develop a coordinated and systematic approach to support their students.

As a result of these needs a team was formed to investigate the possibility creating a Wellness Hub on the school site. The team worked closely with the Youth Wellness Committee, service providers, parents and Stewart Vidler, our Central West Networked Specialist Centre Facilitator to develop a model which would best meet the needs of our school community.

### WHAT IS THE WELLNESS HUB?

It's a locally developed solution to the complex issues facing Forbes High School. The Wellness Hub utilises existing internal and external resources from the school and community, which in return ensures all of our students are supported holistically throughout their time at Forbes High School.

### PARTNERSHIPS AND GONSKI FUNDING

The key to the success of Forbes High Schools model is the partnership between the school and the service providers. This partnership has been developed through effective communication, mutual respect, trust and negotiation. Protocols and procedures have been developed to ensure our students receive timely support in a safe and confidential environment.

Partnerships with a variety of service providers across a range of government and non-government services have ensured that student's wellbeing is being addressed and cared for. A variety of programs are available at the school for students and families to utilise that can cater help cater to varying needs. Working in conjunction with the Department of Education's Wellbeing Framework Forbes High school has developed a program with its partners that not only support the students of the school but the parents and families within the school community as well. Parents and families can have peace of mind that not only are their child's academic needs being met, but that the wellbeing of their children is also seen as an important factor within the school in helping support students to become successful learners.

As a school and an educational community, Forbes High School are fortunate to currently have access to funding through the National Education Reform Agreement, which is better known as Gonski funding. This funding takes into account the students needs and backgrounds and the funding allows the school the flexibility to



PfC & Community Partners - Making Together for students success

implement programs such as the Wellness Hub. Through this funding they employ a Head Teacher Wellbeing, a Youth Worker and ancillary staff to not only support the Wellness Hub but students and staff as a whole.

### STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Student engagement has and will continue to play a vital role in the Wellness Hub. The Youth Wellness Committee was developed four years ago to help raise awareness and understanding about health and social issues facing young people in the community and to work with local council and service providers. The Youth Wellness Committee consists of students in years 9, 10 and 11. Each year the committee identifies an issue of significance facing young people and creates a film. They then showcase to peers not only within their school community but within other neighbouring school communities such as Cowra High school, Canowindra High School and The Henry Lawson High School. With the launch of the Wellness Hub a greater role and responsibility has been provided to the Youth Wellness Committee to support the Wellness Hub within the school community.

The logo was designed in 2016 by Tessa Pymont in Year 9, who won a school wide competition. This has been used on all of the signage around the school and has kick started her commercial art portfolio.

### ON THE RIGHT TRACK

2016 saw the 'soft launch' of the Wellness Hub and students beginning to access services in the refurbished site. Data from 2016 highlights a positive start to the program. In term 2 there were 165 appointments (over 3 per day), in term 2 this rose to 293 appointments (6 per day) and overall figures for the year identified that 1 in 3 students had accessed one or more of the services. This data not only confirms the need for support, and Forbes High Schools continued commitment to provide it, but it also demonstrates the importance of GONSKI funding for all schools and the difference it can make in the school community.



Captains and Vice Captains cutting cake



Natalie Walker- P&C Federation, Far West Councillor, Susie Boyd - P&C Federation President and South West Sydney Councillor, Helen Carpenter - P&C Federation Far West Delegate and Maree Agus Director of Public School Lachlan Network



Maree Agus



Susie Boyd and Helen Carpenter



Maddi Collits



Wellness Committee and guests

# COMMEMORATING THE 150<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY OF HENRY LAWSON AND THE 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRENFELL FESTIVAL

## The Henry Lawson High School P&C Association and Community Commemorative Quilt Project.

In September 2016 at a general meeting of The Henry Lawson High School P&C Association an idea was born.

“To make a Commemorative Quilt, to celebrate the diamond anniversary of the Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of Arts, and the 150th anniversary of Henry Lawson’s birth on the Grenfell Goldfields.”

This idea was the brainchild of The Henry Lawson High School P&C Association Vice President, Helen Carpenter and member of the Executive Committee, Keryl McCann, also the owner of Fabric Sauce. In no time this idea gained support. Margaret Carey, the then Principal, was excited about the concept, and extended her support for the project by offering the use of Room 13 at the High School as the venue for the community collaborative sewing days.

Next was an informal planning meeting at the ‘Mingle on Main’ coffee shop, where the trio of Carly Brown, P&C President; Helen Carpenter, P&C Vice –President; and Keryl McCann, a member of the P&C Executive Committee, got together to discuss how this idea could be achieved.

A date for the completion of the “Community Commemorative Quilt” was set for 10 March 2017, and this would kick off the fundraising for Festival Queen Candidate, Vanessa Knight.

This was just the beginning with so much more to figure out. A brainstorming of ideas led to a series of questions, such as, how to get the community involved; Deciding the project title; Choosing the fabrics to work with; Picking the colours and the tones; and most importantly, the size of the quilt. The next step was to decide the days sewing could be held, organising the raffle, gaining publicity and finally, how would they tie it all in with the local environment alongside promoting their High School.

They wanted to create a quilt that told a story commemorating the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of Arts, and the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Henry Lawsons birth on the Grenfell Goldfields in 1867. They believed

that for the event to be successful more people needed to be involved than just the High School Community and a decision was made to invite the broader community to take part in the making of the quilt, creating a bond and strengthening ties with the High School while celebrating the two momentous 2017 events.

The title seemed a no brainer, “The Henry Lawson High School P&C and Community Quilt Project” with a label on the reverse that read:

**THE HENRY LAWSON  
HIGH SCHOOL P&C AND  
COMMUNITY QUILT**  
  
**TO COMMEMORATE  
60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE GRENFELL HENRY  
LAWSON FESTIVAL OF ARTS  
150<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY OF HENRY  
LAWSON 2017**

The fabric chosen was 100% cotton, with an environmentally friendly eco option of bamboo wadding internally. They wanted fabric that reflected The Henry Lawson High School colours of the 2 blues, and the Nordic connection to Lawsons Ancestry. The off centered blue cross of the Norwegian flag is based on the Scandinavian cross, widely used on Scandinavian National flags. The blue colour is symbolic of blue skies and the thousands of lakes in Finland. The White represents the winter snow, this blue cross colour is deliberately reflected in the quilt, as well as the inclusion of cream coloured backing to depict wheat stubble of the Weddin Shire.

The Fabric Pattern used is Nocturne, by Janet Claire. The fabric range Nocturne was inspired by its literary description, A Love Song to the Night. The design is from MODA Fabrics USA, a well-known and respected quilt company. The Pattern Designer is Janelle Noack, of Country Matters Design. The quilt pattern is Whirlygig, copyright 2008. Janelle is from Dirneseer in the Riverina. The Riverina is also the current

electoral area for the Weddin Shire. Permission was sought and obtained from Janelle Noack to use the image and design. It was decided that the quilt would be a queen size, as the size is generous and would display well.

Four sewing days were held over 2016-2017 and the following people were directly involved in the project: Helen Carpenter, Keryl McCann, Carly Brown, Sandra Hughes, Maree Neill, Jill Norris, Erica Moore, Margaret Carey, Madison Knight, Ali McCann and Mitchell Stevens. During the course of the Quilts production ABC Central West interviewed Helen Carpenter about the Quilt and how it came to be and how people could be involved. Janell Noack the quilt Pattern designer also came to visit and see the quilt in production and meet with those involved.

The Henry Lawson High School P&C Association Festival Queen Candidate for this commemorative year is Ms Vanessa Knight. Vanessa graduated from THLHS in 2015. Vanessa was an exemplary and diligent student, who was always friendly and courteous. In her graduation year Vanessa earned the title of Dux of the School.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of February 2017, a festival queen twilight ball was held in Taylor Park. Hosted by the Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival of Arts Vanessa was in attendance on the night, and was the only queen candidate nominated at that stage.

In March this year the quilt was completed on time and ticket sales have been good, the P&C Association are hoping to reach their target of \$3000. The quilt will be drawn on the Saturday of the June Long weekend at the Henry Lawson Festival of Arts.

The Henry Lawson High School P&C Association are extremely grateful for the support the community has shown the P&C Association in the making of this quilt.

*Story provided by Carly Brown – President and Helen Carpenter – Vice President, The Henry Lawson High School P&C Association.*



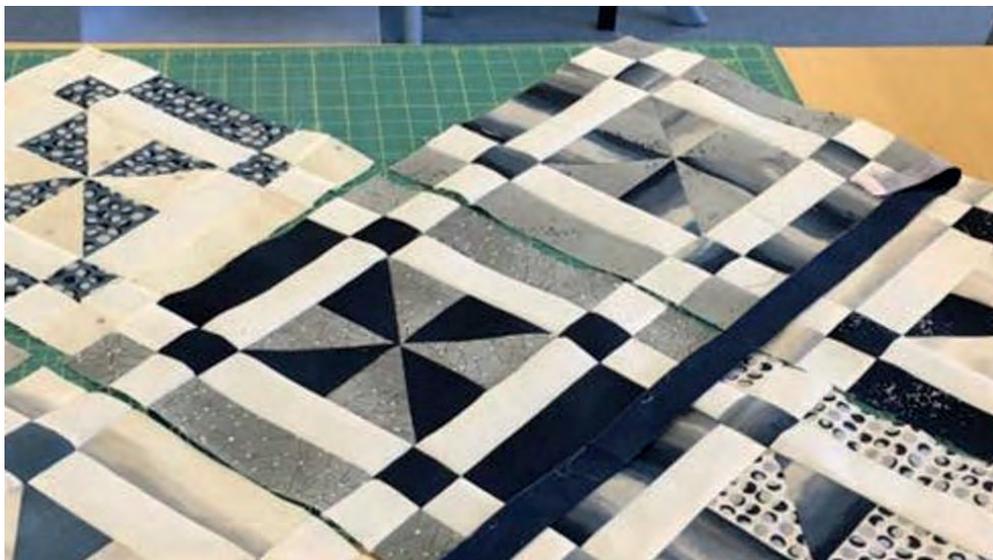
Commemorative quilt



Community working together



Carly Brown President & Helen Carpenter  
Vice President Commemorative Quilt



Commemorative quilt in the Making





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*Warren Flanagan – Teacher, Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School, NSW*

- [Primary Challenge](#)
- [Secondary Challenge](#)
- [2017 Dates and Venues](#)
- [PD Master Classes](#)
- [Artist In Residence Program](#)



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# CHILDREN'S GUARDIAN

The Office of the Children's Guardian has launched a free online learning tool to help staff and volunteers in all child-related organisations to build their capacity to become child-safe. This online learning tool forms part of the Child Safe Strategy for NSW and will complement the draft Child Safe Principles which have now been released for public consultation.

The eLearning tool is made up of eight key modules and addresses real issues including how to identify and respond to potential risks in the organisation, identifying grooming practices, developing policies and guidelines for workers, how to recruit and retain staff and how to create a culture where children are valued and listened to.

The NSW Children's Guardian, Ms. Kerryn Boland said, "I cannot emphasise enough, the importance of the role that child-related

organisations play in meeting the health, educational, social, religious and cultural needs of our children."

"Launching the Child Safe Organisations eLearning program means that all organisations that work with children in NSW – from Bondi to Broken Hill, and beyond – can access world-class training with nothing more than a laptop, tablet or smartphone and an internet connection. It's a significant step forward and will allow us to continue building on our work to keep children safe."

The program is endorsed by leading criminologist and researcher Professor Stephen Smallbone from the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University in Queensland.

Professor Smallbone said, "The NSW Office of the Children's Guardian has produced this set of digital resources as part of its commitment to assist organisations on child safe practices. In particular, to provide guidance to organisations to recognise and manage the risks to the children in their care."



Ms Kerryn Boland - NSW Children's Guardian



Professor Stephen Smallbone - Criminologist and researcher

"Every organisation that works with children should be using these resources to build safe environments for our children."

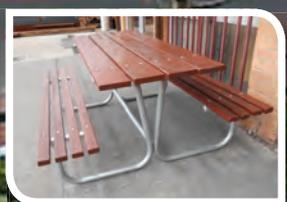
The Child Safe Organisations eLearning program has already received official support from organisations including NSW Office of Sport; NSW Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate; Play by the Rules; Life Without Barriers; Football NSW; Netball NSW; KU Children's Services; Scouts NSW; Girl Guides NSW; Association of Independent Schools; and, Catholic Diocese of Parramatta.

For more information go to: <https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/about-us/news/principles-for-child-safe-organisations-released-for-consultation>



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# LIFE MEMBER PRESENTATION

## CITATION FOR P&C LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR STACEY LUGSDIN

Stacey was awarded her Life Membership on 15th December, 2016 at the Yanco Agricultural High School Speech Day with the following information:

**S**tacey has been an active member of the Yanco P&C over the past 12 years from 2004 – 2016. She was the Treasurer from 2010 – 2013 and was a constant member of the McCaughey Ball Committee.

In 2012 Stacey was acknowledged for her support and contribution towards the school events and P&C by being named Public School Parent of the Year. Some of the activities in which Stacey has been involved with over those YAHS years were:

- Art Show
- Footy Knockout Carnivals
- Gala Day
- Beach Carnival
- Transition Dinners
- Orientation Days/Tours
- Merit Selection Panels to appoint staff

Even after Stacey's children have moved on from Yanco, Stacey returns each year to Gala Day to assist with the Shearing Competition. Stacey is also a continual advocate for our YAHS students at sheep shows and activities that promote the sheep & wool industries.

Prior to Stacey's involvement with YAHS, Stacey and her husband Ian, supported their six children and the schools they attended with being an active member of the Hay School P&C Association, holding the positions of President and Secretary. In total Stacey has spent 25 years as a member of the P&C Associations.

It is with great pleasure that we present Stacey with her Life Membership of the Yanco Agricultural High School P&C Association.



Stacey Lugsdin

## CITATION FOR YANCO AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL P&C LIFE MEMBERSHIP FOR KAY GOLDSWORTHY

Kay was awarded her YAHS P&C Life Membership at the AGM on 29th Jan, 2017 as she was unable to attend the 2016 YAHS Speech Day with Stacey Lugsdin due to an illness in the family. The following information was presented:

**K**ay commenced her involvement with YAHS in 2000 where she, and her husband, have had three of their children complete their education at Yanco Agricultural High School.

Whilst Kay has been a quiet achiever within the P&C, she has always been an active member with a dedicated commitment to the following activities and responsibilities:

- Mutch House parent representative for 9 years
- P&C Vice President
- Parent representative on Selection Panels for both staff and students
- Gala Day
- Beach Carnival
- Athletics Carnival
- McCaughey Ball
- Art Show
- Footy Knockout
- P&C Transition Dinners
- School Tours on Orientation /Transition programs
- Performance Night

- Supporting the Show Stock teams at Gundagai Show

In 2013 Kay received the Parent of the Year award in recognition of her outstanding support of the school. Kay is still a financial member of the YAHS P&C even though the last of her children have graduated from the school some three years ago.

Kay still found time to be actively involved in all the above mentioned activities despite having a very ill daughter at home with Cystic Fibrosis who has recently undergone a double lung transplant.

Kay also returns to Gala Day each year to assist Mutch House with the running of the P&C stall and the Fruit & Vegie stand.

So again, it is with great pleasure that we award Kay her Life Membership into the Yanco Agricultural High School P&C Association. Thankyou Kay & Stacey for your avid & staunch support of the P&C and we appreciate immensely your continued involvement.



Kay Goldsworthy

# MEMBER GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

**P**&C Federation has developed guidance documents to assist members in the following, Merit Selection Panels and Working With Children Checks. Below are the topics which each guidance document addresses and gives detailed information. The guidance documents can be found on the P&C Federation website: [pandc.org.au](http://pandc.org.au), by clicking on the publications tab.

## MERIT SELECTION PANELS

### INTRODUCTION:

Merit selection is one way in which school staff can be appointed to positions within a school. Not every position on staff is filled in this way. Generally, positions will be filled in the first instance through incentive transfers and if the position is for a classroom teacher then, priority will be given to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander applicants. If there are no applicants that fit the criteria then the position will be filled by merit selection.

- The Role of the P&C
- The Role of the P&C Representative
- Selecting a P&C Representative
- Panel Training
- Selection Considerations
- Minority Report

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

### INTRODUCTION:

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to P&C Associations regarding their statutory obligations to employees and volunteers when working with children within a school environment. In New South Wales, there is legislation governing the prerequisites for those working in child-related work. P&C Associations need to be aware that they operate within two frameworks when it comes to working with children: State legislation: Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 (the Child Protection Act) and Child Protection (Working with Children) Regulation 2013 (the Child Protection Regulation)

- What is a working with children check?
- Who needs a children's check clearance?
- Exemptions
- P&C Association WWCC responsibilities?
- What does a P&C Association have to do?
- What do employees and volunteers need to do?
- Record Keeping
- References

### REMINDER:

The final sectors in child-related work in NSW are now being phased in to the Working With Children Check.

Volunteers and existing paid workers in child-related work in the remaining health and education sectors are now encouraged to apply for a Working With Children Check and must be compliant by 31 March 2018.

- Children's health services – all remaining Local Health Districts
- The Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (Randwick and Westmead)
- Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network
- Ambulance Service of NSW
- Children's Health – remaining services
- Early education and child care
- Education – all remaining services
- Education and care service – approved provider, manager or certified supervisor



# CENTRE FOR ROAD SAFETY

## Road Safety advice to consider when deciding an informal school bus location

In NSW, there are thousands of informal school bus stops, particularly in rural and regional areas. Informal school bus stops are not sign-posted or developed as formal bus stops.

The Centre for Road Safety has released a safety advice to help anyone who is involved in selecting or reviewing locations for informal school bus stops to identify important road safety factors when deciding on an informal school bus stop location. This safety advice is prepared by the Transport for NSW and Roads and Maritime in association with Bus NSW and other stakeholders.

The safety advice identifies key factors for consideration from a road safety perspective when deciding on the location of an informal school bus stop. The advice highlights that the safety around school buses on rural bus routes is a complex issue involving road and conditions, pedestrian behaviour, motorist behaviour and travel speed, and carer behaviour and supervision.

As parents and carers play a key role in ensuring the safety of their children getting to and from school bus stops the advice, this advice sheds light for parents and carers on how a primary aged child is still developing an understanding of danger and

safety. In addition, the safety advice states that a recent currently available research suggests that children do not perform the same as adults when carrying out tasks such as crossing roads. It also states that children up to 15 years of age are at three times more risk than older teenagers and adults to be involved in a fatal crash. The safety advice recommends that to minimise the risks at bus stops, parents and carers should always meet their child at the bus stop and never on the opposite side of the road. For a comprehensive road safety advice for parents and carers, please visit: [www.safetytown.com.au/parents](http://www.safetytown.com.au/parents)

According to the advice, parents, carers and bus operators can help reduce the risks at bus stops by deciding safer stopping locations. The advice focusses on the safety of:

- School students and parents/carers who many need to cross a road near a bus stop
- School students walking to and waiting at a bus stop
- Bus movements

The advice also includes a process for estimating sight lines to oncoming traffic, an extremely important safety factor. The advice states that it is recognised that ideal road and roadside conditions cannot be met in rural road environments, and parents, carers and bus owners weigh one factor against the other factors when deciding on a bus stop location.

The safety advice emphasises that in circumstances where suitable conditions cannot be met, greater parental involvement or alternatives such as dropping children off on the return trip of a bus along the route might need to be considered. In situations, where there are continuing concerns about the safety of an informal bus stop and no practical alternatives, advice can be sought from the relevant local council.

For more information, please visit: <http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/stayingsafe/schools/informal-school-bus-stops.html>

This article is sourced from Centre for Road Safety Website.



# AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMISSION

**A**CNC recently hosted a comprehensive webinar to assist P&C's understand their role and responsibilities with the ACNC as a registered charity.

The webinar presented by Matt Crichton and Ella Shribman-Dellmann, highlighted on the advantages of registering your P&C, the obligations and the compliance standards to the ACNC. If you were unable to attend, the webinar and the presentation slides are now online and can be accessed at the ACNC's website:

[http://www.acnc.gov.au/ACNC/Edu/Tools/2017\\_ACNC\\_webinars.aspx](http://www.acnc.gov.au/ACNC/Edu/Tools/2017_ACNC_webinars.aspx)

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# P&C FEDERATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTIFICATION

## MOTION SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

As part of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) process of the Federation of Parents & Citizens Associations of NSW (P&C Federation), member P&C Associations and under certain conditions, non-members may submit motions for consideration relating to the policy of the P&C Federation. Non-members include P&C Associations that are not members of the P&C Federation, District Councils and other groups or individuals with an interest in supporting public education. This document details who can submit, the structure and content of any motion and where to submit the motion.

### 2. WHO CAN SUBMIT A MOTION TO THE P&C FEDERATION AGM

The P&C Federation is mindful that the submission of motions for consideration at the AGM should be open to all those with interests in supporting public education. As such, motions will be considered:

- directly from any P&C Association that is a current member of the P&C Federation;
- from any non-member under sponsorship.

To get sponsorship ask your local P&C Federation Councillor to communicate the motion to the Executive. A Councillor may offer advice on the format or content of the motion to ensure it meets the correct criteria. You can obtain the contact details of your local P&C Federation Councillor by contacting the P&C Federation office on 1300 885 982.

### 3. MOTION SUBJECTS

As the peak body for NSW P&C Associations and NSW public school parents generally, it is expected that motions will generally focus on policy matters which are of broad interest and relevance throughout the state. Proposed motions with a more local focus may be better handled in other ways, such as by seeking assistance from the P&C Federation in respect of the issue concerned.

Generally, motions considered at the P&C Federation's AGM should focus on policy issues rather than P&C Federation operational matters. The P&C Federation Board cannot allow itself to be unduly constrained in its ability to fulfil its legal responsibilities and serve the interests of its member P&C

Associations. Feedback and suggestions regarding operational matters are nevertheless welcomed by the Board.

### 4. SUBMISSION OF MOTION FOR AGM

When submitting a motion for the P&C Federation AGM it should include supporting information which explains and/or provides a case for adopting the motion. Motions should be submitted by email to [agm@pan-dc.org.au](mailto:agm@pan-dc.org.au), by 5 pm Friday 2 June 2017 but earlier receipt would be appreciated. An acknowledgement of receipt email will be sent back to you.

### 5. HOW TO WRITE A MOTION

A motion sets out a policy or an action that: a) you want to be carried out, or b) course of action you want the P&C Federation to perform. It should generally include what you want done, by whom (usually the P&C Federation) and, in some cases, when it should be done. It should have the following characteristics in order for it to be effective:

- Must commence with 'That'
- Must be quite specific
- Must be unambiguous
- Must not be worded in the first person
- Must not contain more than one action
- Must not be frivolous, malicious or discriminatory
- Must state the problem or issue to be addressed
- May be in parts
- May be in the negative
- May have supporting information.

A SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR SUBMISSION IS:

**SUBJECT:** Motion for 2017 AGM

**CONTENT:**

- state what the motion is following the guidelines above
- include any supporting information that you may consider helpful in the discussion
- any suggestions you have for actions that would flow from passing the proposed motion (this is not essential, but we welcome your ideas)

- state the member P&C Association name that is submitting the motion – the motion as submitted should have been agreed at a meeting of the P&C Association (General or otherwise)

- indicate your position within the P&C Association as the person submitting the motion.

### EXAMPLES:

**INEFFECTIVE** – “I think we should send a letter to the Minister saying that we need more Kiss and Drop zones.”

**EFFECTIVE** – “That P&C Federation write to the Minister for Transport advocating for the provision of additional Kiss and Drop zones for primary schools in the such 'n' such area.”

### 6. ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF MOTIONS FOR AGM CONSIDERATION

The P&C Federation's constitution provides that the P&C Federation Executive (as elected from the Board) determines the agenda of the AGM. This includes the determination of the motions that are put to the AGM. Depending on what motions are suggested, the Executive may decide, for example, that separate but similar motions received from multiple P&C Associations may be merged.

If a motion submitted for consideration at the AGM is rejected for inclusion in the AGM agenda, the reason for rejection will be communicated back to the submitter. There may not be enough time to consider all suggested motions at this year's AGM. Should this occur, the Board may still decide to adopt motions not put to the AGM. Passing a motion by resolution of the Board still results in that motion becoming a decision or policy of the P&C Federation, though one that can be changed by subsequent Board resolution rather than by an AGM.

### 7. CONSEQUENCE OF AN AGM MOTION

If a motion is passed at the P&C Federation AGM it becomes a decision of the P&C Federation and subsequent P&C Federation actions must be consistent with the motion. Only another AGM motion is able to change or reverse a decision made by an AGM motion. Careful consideration should therefore be given to the proposing and passing of any AGM motion.

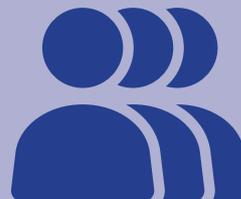
## MOTION TO THE P&C FEDERATION 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)



### WHAT IS A MOTION?

A motion sets out a policy or an action that:

- a)** You want to be carried out, or
- b)** Course of action you want the P&C Federation to perform.



### WHO CAN SUBMIT A MOTION?

- a)** Any P&C Association that is a current member of the P&C Federation.
- b)** Any non-member under sponsorship from a Board Member.



### SUBMITTING YOUR AGM MOTION:

No further motions will be accepted after *Friday 2 June 2017, 5 pm.*

For more tips please contact P&C Federation, **Ph 1300 885 982 option 3.**

Make sure to send us your Motion Submission by *Friday 2 June 2017* before *5pm.*

Submit all motions by email to **[agm@pandc.org.au](mailto:agm@pandc.org.au)**



### IS THERE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE US TO DISCUSS AT THE UPCOMING 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)?

Start sending your submissions now so we can include it in the AGM agenda.

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