**Post conference media release - General**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday 1 September 2023

**Prue Car praises P&C Associations for their contribution to NSW schools**

“Our system could not survive without you.”

That was the message from Deputy Premier and Education Minister Prue Car to delegates at last weekend’s NSW P&C Federation Annual Conference and Awards Ceremony.

Representatives from P&C Associations across the state converged on the Sydney Pullman Hotel or joined online for a day of networking, workshops and presentations aimed at helping them achieve the best possible outcomes for their school communities.

Ms Car delivered the conference’s keynote address, paying tribute to the thousands of P&C volunteers across the state.

“I’m incredibly proud as Education Minister to know that we have so many selfless and dedicated people in our school communities,” she said.

“Kids only get one shot at a childhood, and we all must work together to help them reach their full potential.

“Thank you so much for everything that you do.

“Our system could not survive without you.”

NSW P&C Federation President Yvonne Hilsz said the Minister’s address set the tone for a jam-packed and often laughter-filled program.

“This year’s conference was a huge success,” she said.

“Our theme was ‘Enrich, Engage, Elevate’ and many of our delegates told me that the day’s program provided them with the tools to do just that for their P&Cs.

“But the undeniable highlight of the day was the Nundle P&C Association’s presentation about how *The Great Nundle Dog Race* brought its community together to raise money for its tiny school of 24 students.”

Ms Hilsz said the day ended on a high with the announcement of the Annual P&C Awards winners.

“Congratulations to the P&C Association of the Year, Emu Heights Public School P&C; joint P&C Member of the Year winners Rachel Garner from Waratah Public School P&C and Kylie Prescott from Jerrabomberra Public School P&C; and to our inaugural Principal of the Year winner Chris Hunter from Jerrabomberra Public School.

“Special and heartfelt thanks to Minister Car for her inspiring keynote address, all our amazing sponsors, including our major sponsor the NSW Department of Education, our presenters, and, of course, of course, our wonderful P&C members.”