



Community Leadership Australia

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## Background

### Community Leadership Organisations

Community Leadership Programs have significant impacts in their communities. A key focus of Community Leadership Australia (CLA) leadership programs is to enhance participants' understanding of key social, economic and environmental challenges facing the community. CLA organisations all have a common ethos of developing wiser community leadership.

**More than 90% of our graduates are involved as volunteers in their communities, compared to the national average of approx 22%.**

Typically CLA graduates volunteer in a range of ways at substantially elevated levels: more than 90% of our graduates are involved as volunteers in their communities, compared to the national average of approximately 22%. It is conservatively estimated that graduates contribute over \$25 million to community organisations and community projects annually. Presently community leadership organisations receive a combined total of approximately \$2 million in State Government funding.

### Formation of Community Leadership Australia

The impetus to develop a national organisation to support community leadership came originally from Richard Bluck AO, the former Executive Director of Leadership Victoria.

CLA was established as a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee in 2004 and was auspiced by Leadership Victoria for several years. During this period, Richard served as its Chairperson. When Richard retired from Leadership Victoria after 25 years in 2007, his successor did not want to continue to auspice CLA and the company was closed.

Members of CLA continued to meet twice a year at a conference hosted by one of the CLA organisations, and to support each other in many other ways. Dr Sue van Leeuwen, Chief Executive Officer of Leadership Western Australia, acted as the Chairperson of this group, before handing over this role to Dr Niki Vincent, Chief Executive Officer of the Leaders Institute of South Australia, in 2010.

Eventually, it was agreed to re-establish CLA as a not-for-profit company to promote the benefits of community leadership on a national level, to support the development of programs in new regions, and to better support the professional development needs of those involved in community leadership around Australia.

It was also agreed to expand to include the broader Oceania region, with Leadership NZ joining in 2009. In 2013, Community Leadership Australia was formally reborn.

CLA is a growing alliance of Community Leadership Organisations from around Australia and the Pacific region. CLA's members are dedicated to developing wiser leaders for the economic, environmental, social and cultural wellbeing of their communities.

CLA exists to strengthen and promote community leadership; support the development of new programs, share information, program methodology and support the professional development of staff from member organisations.

## **Vision**

Effective leadership; better communities; great outcomes

## **Mission**

An alliance that supports, develops, inspires and resources individuals and organisations dedicated to community leadership to create a better world.

## **Goals:**

### **CLA aims to:**

1. Create a cohesive national network of thriving community leadership organisations (CLOs) in metropolitan, regional, rural and remote areas.
  - 1.1 Create and deliver a program of support to members that develops and shares wisdom and good practice in community leadership.
  - 1.2 Create and implement a framework for integrated support systems and national operational leverage.
  - 1.3 Foster the development of new CLOs or new programs of CLOs to address identified geographic or demographic gaps.
2. Build the influence of Community Leadership.
  - 2.1 Develop and implement a strategy to inform key influencers about the value of community leadership programs and their contribution to their communities.
  - 2.2 Develop and deliver consistent messages on community leadership to communities.
  - 2.3 Develop and implement a methodology to measure the impact of Community Leadership.
3. Develop CLA as a sustainable, effective organisation.
  - 3.1 Seek government, corporate and philanthropic funding.
  - 3.2 Build membership base and contributions from members.
  - 3.3 Create an effective national secretariat.



## Membership

### Become a member

Angela Driver, the General Manager of Tasmanian Leaders, is the current Chair of CLA and can be contacted on [angela.driver@tasmanianleaders.org.au](mailto:angela.driver@tasmanianleaders.org.au) or phone 0417 379 703.

Alternatively, Julie Slater, Executive Office Community Leadership Loddon Murray, manages the communication and finances for CLA and can be contacted via [executive@cilm.org.au](mailto:executive@cilm.org.au) or 03 5498 3270.

### Investment

Annual membership fees are set at \$1,000 per annum and are payable in November of each year.

### Benefits

CLA members become key stakeholders in a powerful and evolving community of practice that provides tangible benefits to their organisations in achieving their strategic objectives.

Through its national conferences (held twice a year) and its online forum, CLA members:

- Act as a conduit between business, government and the broader community to work collectively to contribute to the community, to share its expertise and values and help diversify and strengthen the leadership agenda within local communities.
- Gain access to:
  - A cross-section of community leadership professionals from some of the most significant leadership organisations in Australia.
  - Key decision-makers, politicians and industry peers.
  - Significant and leading-edge research and development being undertaken by our diverse membership.
- Offer professional development through sharing programming, alumni development and organisational best practices.
- Create opportunity to discuss other leading edge initiatives and opportunities to expand the impact of member organisations' work.

### Outcomes

CLA participation:

- Decreases the learning curve of new CEOs, program leaders and other program staff
- Provides opportunities for creativity and innovation in the field
- Allows rapid trouble-shooting and problem-solving with peers
- Empowers organisations to respond more rapidly and effectively to the needs of stakeholders
- Reduces rework and prevents 'reinvention of the wheel', through sharing and understanding the challenges, failures and successes experienced in other programs/organisations
- Spawns new ideas for programs and services.

## **Member Organisations**

### **Australian Rural Leaders Foundation**

The Australian Rural Leadership Foundation is a not for profit that delivers high quality leadership programs to ensure rural Australia has a vibrant, resilient future. They run dynamic programs designed to create a strong network of leaders in diverse industries, sectors, regions and communities.

### **Committee for Ballarat, Leadership Ballarat & Western Region**

Leadership Ballarat & Western Region provides an annual experiential program for 30 emerging leaders drawn from all sectors of our community. The program encourages imaginative and informed thinking about the future of the region and provides a stimulus to develop a vision for the future.

### **Committee for Melbourne, Future Focus Group**

The Future Focus Group is the Committee for Melbourne's two year business leadership program for future leaders. It develops the leadership skills and commitment of our future corporate community leaders.

### **Community Leadership Loddon Murray Inc.**

Community Leadership Loddon Murray is a not-for-profit incorporated association which began operating in 1998 to build local community leadership capacity to benefit the communities of central and north-west Victoria.

### **Community and Enterprise Leadership Foundation**

The Community and Enterprise Leadership Program aspires to build future leaders from all walks of life who can reimagine wealth creation from a social, environmental, cultural and economic perspective. Leaders take charge of their lives while influencing others positively, resulting in a significant contribution for the community, society, and New Zealand as a whole. Leaders are driven to leave a positive legacy for succeeding generations.

### **Leaders for Geelong**

The Leaders for Geelong program is providing the region with inspired and well connected visionaries who are in a position of knowledge and prepared for leadership in their own organisations and in the community.

### **Leaders Institute of South Australia**

Leaders Institute of South Australia is a not-for-profit organisation with a mission to develop wiser leadership for South Australia. It strives to be a key catalyst for positive change and prosperity in our State by providing unconventional, unmatched and unforgettable opportunities for personal and professional growth for established and emerging business, government and community leaders.

## **Member Organisations cont.**

### **Leadership Onkaparinga**

A unique developmental program for residents who are passionate about their community and would benefit from developing their leadership skills.

### **Leadership Victoria**

WCLP provides a unique year of leadership-focused activities that are designed to develop and connect leaders across sectors and generations.

### **Leadership Western Australia**

Leadership Western Australia aims to enhance leadership through its Programs and improve the WA community by fostering leadership for the benefit of individuals, organisations and communities through the spirit of our core values: ethical leadership, respect for diversity, accepting and guiding change and community service.

### **Northern Mallee Leaders**

Northern Mallee Leaders is one of ten regional community leadership programs operating across Victoria to develop leaders for vibrant and sustainable communities. The program is tailored to meet the specific needs of the Northern Mallee region with participants being exposed to an experiential learning program that reflects the needs of the region.

### **Rivers and Ranges Community Leadership Program**

Rivers and Ranges Community Leadership program is auspiced by Mitchell Community Resources and Advocacy Group. The program is Victoria's newest Community Leadership Program, filling the gap for the municipalities of Mitchell, Murrindindi, Nillumbik, Whittlesea and Yarra Ranges.

### **Tasmanian Leaders Inc.**

Tasmanian Leaders is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that facilitates leadership enhancement opportunities for aspiring, emerging and high potential leaders.

## **Website & Groupsite**

The CLA website is currently under construction and will be launched early 2017. There is also a [Twitter](#) account and a [LinkedIn](#) group.

## **Board**

### **The Board exists to advance the objectives of the alliance.**

In accordance with the Constitution of CLA, the Board may consist of up to six Directors elected from the membership and six individuals appointed by those elected Directors. All Board directors serve on a pro-bono basis for a term of three years and may seek renewal for one further term.

The establishment of a fully functioning national secretariat is a long term strategic objective for the organization. However, until such time as this is achieved the alliance is without the benefit of a dedicated staff. As such, Board members will be required to be task driven as well as governance focused.

It is intended that the Board reflect the geographical diversity of CLA member organisations. Board members must be available to meet via teleconference for at least one hour, once per month during business hours in addition to up to four further hours for the pursuit of relevant tasks.

Board meetings are also held once during each Community Leadership Australia conferences.

Directors must be familiar with the strategic plans for the alliance, the Constitution of Community Leadership Australia, as well as the provisions of the Corporations Act 2001 relevant to a company limited by guarantee.

A Directors' report is produced annually by the Board Chair.

### **Current Board Members**

Richard Dent, OAM	Leadership Victoria
Angela Driver (chair)	Tasmanian Leaders
Matt Linnegar	Australian Rural Leaders Foundation
Julie Slater	Community Leadership Loddon Murray
Robin McLellan	Leadership Western Australia

## Conferences

Conferences are held bi-annually and are hosted by one member organisation. The conference host sets the date in conjunction with the Chair.

The host organisation is largely responsible for putting together the conference agenda and for inviting guest speakers and workshop facilitators.

This is done with the assistance and input of the Board, and in particular the Chairperson.

### Recent & future conferences:

Canberra, ACT	Australian Rural Leaders Foundation	April 20-21, 2017
Melbourne, Victoria (TBC)	TBC	TBC
Melbourne, Victoria	Leadership Victoria	August 2016
Launceston, Tasmania	Tasmanian Leaders	June 2016
Castlemaine, Victoria	Community Leadership Loddon Murray	Sept 2015
Onkaparinga, South Australia	Leadership Onkaparinga	April 2015
Ballarat, Victoria	Leadership Ballarat & Western Region	August 2014
Melbourne, Victoria	Leadership Victoria	May 2014
Melbourne, Victoria	Committee for Melbourne, Future Focus Group	Sept 2013
Hobart, Tasmania	Tasmanian Leaders	March 2013
Adelaide, South Australia	Leaders Institute of South Australia	August 2012
Canberra, ACT	Australian Rural Leadership	March 2012
Sydney, New South Wales	Social Leadership Australia	Sept 2011
Geelong, Victoria	Leaders for Geelong	May 2011