

President's Message February 2021

Dear Members

I do hope everyone was able to have a restful break over the Christmas /New Year holidays. Unfortunately Western Australia did not start the year well with the five day lockdown, and other COVID-19 restrictions facing us all in early February. Thank goodness WA has now returned to the two square metre rule, however the sharp restrictions placed on business especially small and family businesses will be felt for sometime to come.

Changes are now underway for 160 Hay Street and the building is currently a building site. As such the March NCWWA meeting will not be able to held at 160 Hay Street. I am currently seeking an alternative venue for meetings for the time of the building modifications. NCWWA will have its own entrance, office, meeting room and toilet once the building modifications have been completed.



Preliminary work has been undertaken in preparation for the NCWA Triennial Conference which will be held on Thursday 25 and Friday 26 November 2021 in Canberra. I am also in negotiation with the NCWA Patron's office to host an evening event at the Governor General's residence during the Conference. Mrs Hurley is keen to host an event and whether it is Thursday or Friday evening has yet to be determined.

The Australian Chinese Women's Association (an NCWWA Affiliate) is holding a Breakfast on International Women's Day at the Duxton Hotel in Perth on Monday 8 March 2021. NCWWA will be supporting the event. Several members of the Executive will be attending and if anyone would like to attend please let me know. I would very much like to have a table at the Breakfast. Celia Hammond MP is the special guest and guest speaker and given her previous role as Vice-Chancellor of Notre Dame University will be speaking about education and training and the way forward.

As part of Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month the Australian Government will provide a further \$1 million to Ovarian Cancer Australia for their work supporting those living with ovarian cancer.

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Each year in Australia approximately 1,500 women are diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Unfortunately more than 1,000 women will die. While ovarian cancer is more commonly diagnosed in women over the age of 50, it can occur in any age.

The Australian government recently introduced legislation into parliament to ensure the superannuation system works harder for all Australians. The legislation will reduce waste in the system by holding underperforming funds to account and strengthen protections around retirement savings. The Treasury Laws Amendment (Your Future, Your Super) Bill 2021 addresses key recommendations from the Productivity Commission's assessment of the system and will significantly enhance the system by:

- having your superannuation follow you preventing the creation of unintended multiple superannuation accounts when employees change jobs;
- members will have access to a new interactive online YourSuper comparison tool
- hold funds to account for under performance
- increase transparency and accountability.

In late January the Education and Training Minister in Western Australia announced a pilot program to improve the employment of mature-age apprentices and trainees in the building and construction industry. The pilot program will enable employers of new mature-age apprentices to receive additional support for employing a mature-age apprentice or trainee. To date the construction industry has not attracted many women however this pilot program is an opportunity to change that statistic.

The construction project to expand the accommodation and service capacity of the new women's refuges in Peel and Kwinana has commenced. The refuge expansion will double the current capacity of both refuges.

Sadly as we all know family and domestic violence affects Western Australians of all backgrounds, with devastating effects on victims and their families.

Researchers from the University of Western Australia have been awarded national funding to investigate the long term mental health of children exposed to domestic and family violence. The project from the School of Population and Global Health will use police and health records to investigate differences in the mental health service use and diagnosis of children exposed to domestic and family violence.

According to Dr Caroline Orr "children exposed to domestic and family violence are often referred to as the forgotten victims, yet 10-25 per cent of Australian children are exposed to violence against their mother, making this a significant issue for these children". Exposure can increase the risk of health disorders such as hyperactivity, depression, anxiety and eating disorders.



RUAH Community Services has been awarded the contract to deliver Housing First Support Service programs across the

Perth Metropolitan area over the next five years, while Anglicare WA will help rough sleepers to access accommodation and wraparound care in Bunbury. The Housing First Support Service will play a crucial role in supporting people to first access safe and secure housing and then build their capacity to maintain that tenancy by addressing any factors that contribute to them becoming homeless in the first place.

An assessment of the Cashless Debit Card (CDC) for some Australian welfare recipients has found 'consistent and clear evidence' of reduced alcohol consumption and a fall in gambling at three trial sites.

The Future of Employment and Skills Research Centre at the University of Adelaide based its report primarily, but not exclusively, on what CDC participants told them. The three trial sites surveyed were the Kimberley, and the Goldfields in Western Australia and at Ceduna and surrounds in South Australia. The report also states the CDC appeared to be reducing the number of days that drinking takes place and the amount consumed in each one of these days. The report also states there is evidence suggesting that the card had been helping to reduce gambling with positive impacts. Analyses of the survey responses of CDC participants suggested the improvements were more likely felt by women.

In December 2020 the Social Security (Administration) Amendment (Continuation of Cashless Welfare) Act (Commonwealth(the Act) was passed with amendments.



Changes are now underway to the Women's Alliances with a new tender process. The good news is that there will be an Alliance for women living with a disability. An open competitive grant round will identify six organisations to fulfil the role of the Alliances from August 2021 to June 2024 are as follows:

- Women's Safety
- Women's Economic Security and Leadership
- Australian women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women
- Women living in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia
- Australian women living with disability

Congratulations to Chiou See Anderson who was elected as the NCWA President-elect late last year. Chiou See has now joined the NCWA Executive and will be formally elected NCWA President at the NCWA Triennial Conference in November 2021.

Robyn Nolan
President NCWWA

Paddy Firstenberg Memorial Award- Miranda Cummings

Miranda Cummings is the inaugural recipient NCWWA/ Girl Guides Western Australia 2020 Paddy Firstenberg Memorial Award.

The Award honours the memory of Paddy Firstenberg MBE OAM (1920-2015) who constantly sought to empower women. The recipient must demonstrate leadership ability, service as a role model or mentor, the commitment to the empowerment of young women and must be between 18 and 35 years of age.

Miranda is one of the foremost leaders of Girl Guiding in Australia. Now serving in her second term as Assistant Chief Commissioner (a national appointment), Miranda has held a variety of positions at state and national executive levels over many years. The positions that Miranda has held include WA Olave Program Adviser, National Olave Program Manager, Assistant Chief Commissioner as well as various committee roles at national and international levels.



As well as the major roles Miranda has held within Girl Guides, she serves as a unit leader with Three Rivers Girl Guides.

COVID-19 Vaccines



Sunday 21 February 2021 was a very special day in Australia. The first doses of the Pfizer vaccine were administered to a small group of people becoming the first in the country to receive their jabs.

Jane Malysiak, an 84 year old World War 11 survivor who was born in Poland and moved to Australia as a teenager was the first person to receive the vaccine.

On the same day WA's first batch of the vaccines touched down in Perth ahead of the first vaccines which commenced the following day. The first phase of the program will involve vaccinating residents and staff in aged and disability facilities along with border and hotel quarantine workers and people in front line healthcare roles.

About 5000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine will be sent to WA each week for the first three weeks of the roll out including the approximately 1100 doses needed for the aged care and disability care program. The second phase of the roll out will include the elderly and those with an underlying health condition.

GP's and community pharmacies will strengthen the roll out and will allow people living in regional, rural and remote communities to access vaccinations with the rest of the nation. It is expected that the AstraZeneca vaccine will be available in the coming weeks as well as the Pfizer vaccine.

International Women's Day 8 March 2021 'Women in Leadership'



The global UN Women's theme for International Women's Day is 'Women in Leadership: achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world'

The theme celebrates the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future.

The WA Women's Hall of Fame was first established in 2011 in recognition of the centenary of International Women's Day. The WA Women's Hall of Fame was strengthened by the creation of a 'Roll of Honour' in 2012, to formally acknowledge women who are no longer with us, however their efforts were significant to Western Australia's social and economic development.

On International Women's Day 8 March 2021 the WA Women's Hall of Fame will be adding a number of women to the 'Roll of Honour' – the criteria is for a woman who made a significant contribution to Western Australia's social and economic development prior to 1921.

Robyn Nolan

NCWWA STEM BURSARY 2021



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS BURSARY 2021

Nominations are open for the NCWWA 2021 STEM Bursary. The Bursary is available to a female student studying a STEM course in Western Australia at a year 12, TAFE or University level. Applicants must be Australian Citizens.

The Bursary will be awarded again in 2021. Applications close Wednesday 31 March 2021.

Each applicant must complete the NCWWA STEM Bursary application form and address the criteria:

- academic excellence
- financial need
- study in a non-traditional area for women
- how studies will benefit women, families and the wider community

Please promote the NCWWA STEM Bursary to all who may be eligible to apply. An application form is included at the back of this NCWWA Newsletter.

The logo for the National Council of Women Western Australia (NCWWA) is displayed. It features the acronym 'NCWWA' in a large, bold, white sans-serif font on a dark purple rectangular background. To the right of the acronym, the full name 'NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN WESTERN AUSTRALIA' is written in a smaller, white, all-caps sans-serif font.

**The Date of the next NCWWA General meeting
Monday 22 March 2021**

Venue to be advised

GUEST SPEAKERS

**Andrea Credo
CEO ISHAR**

**Shannon Calitz
2020 NCWWA STEM Bursary Recipient**

WEB PAGE

www.ncwwa.org.au



Keynote Speaker:
Celia Hammond MP, Member
for Curtin, former Vice Chancellor Notre
Dame University.

BREAKFAST

International Women's Day

Education and Training –the way forward
Recognition of Women in the WA Community

TICKET: \$65 PP

8 MARCH 2021 | 7.00 AM FOR 7.30 AM- 9.30 AM

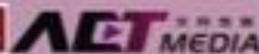
VENUE: DUXTON HOTEL (1 ST GEORGES TERRACE, PERTH)

BANK DETAILS: Name: Australian Chinese Women's Federation Inc
BSB:306089
Account No: 2639958



NCWWA

Sponsor
Media
Support



NATIONAL COUNCIL of WOMEN WA Inc.
*SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING &
MATHEMATICS BURSARY 2021*

CLOSING DATE: 12 NOON on Wednesday 31 March 2021

Nominations are called for the 2021 Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) Bursary available to a female student studying a STEM course in Western Australia at a Year 12, TAFE or University level. Applicants must be Australian Citizens. One Bursary will be awarded.

The cash amount of:

- \$1,200.00 will be presented to the successful applicant.

And may be used to support further study:

- Course fees including summer school courses
- Study aids/text books
- Attendance at seminars and/or conferences
- Other – Please outline

Complimentary membership of NCWWA will be provided to the Bursary winner for one year.

The Bursary winner will be announced May 2021.

Applicants will be notified of the results by mail after that date.

The decision of the award panel will be final.

The Bursary Recipient is required to report to NCWWA on how the bursary has assisted their study.

The National Council of Women WA is a voluntary organisation formed in 1911 to advance the cause of women and the welfare of society. In awarding this Bursary, NCWWA aims to:

- Recognise academic excellence
- Address financial need
- Encourage study in areas non-traditional for women
- Recognise the extent to which studies will benefit women, families and the wider community.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN WA Inc.
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS BURSARY
NOMINATION FORM

Name of Student: _____

Postal Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Nominator: _____ **Position:** _____

Postal Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email Address:** _____

(Note: The Nominator may be a teacher, lecturer, family member, NGO Organisation)

Study Institution in 2020: _____

Course/Level: _____

Proposed Study Institution/Course of Study in 2021: _____

Bursary will be used to finance: *Please tick:*

Course fees Study Aids Conference/Seminar Attendance Other

Reason for nomination: *Add extra pages as needed. Nominators are required to address the selection criteria of:*

- **Academic Excellence**
- **Financial Need**
- **Study in a non-traditional area for women**
- **How studies will benefit women, families and the wider community**

Application must be accompanied by a current Curriculum Vitae.

(Supporting documentation including 2 referees and academic results, including 2020 results is also required).

Completed form and CV should be sent to:

Bursary Panel
National Council of Women WA
P.O. Box 6224
East Perth WA 6892

Closing date for nominations: 12 Noon on Wednesday 31 March 2021

For further information: Contact: **Robyn Nolan, NCWWA President**
Mobile: **0417 917 294**
Email: robymn@bigpond.net.au

National Council of Women Australia
Triennial Conference

Save the Date

Thursday 25 - Friday 26 November 2021



QT Canberra, 1 London Circuit, Canberra ACT

Thursday 25 November 2021 morning
Thursday 25 November 2021 afternoon
Thursday 25 November 2021 (tbc)

Hosted by Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley at the Residence of the Governor General

Friday 26 November 2021

-NCWA Business – Resolutions

-Public Conference

-Reception – 5.30pm

-Public conference

Conference program will be available closer to November 2021

A NCWA Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday afternoon 24 November 2021
at 3.00pm - 5.00pm for Board members.

Hotel Accommodation rate is \$169 per night at QT Canberra if booked 14 days prior to the
NCWA conference date.

Contact NCWA President Robyn Nolan: 0417 917 294

email robymn@bigpond.net.au