

STATE COUNCIL 1, 2021

AFFILIATE REPORT



State Council

13-14 March, 2021

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State Council Overview

WACSSO State Councillors and Staff met face-to-face for the first State Council Meeting of 2021. It was a busy weekend with a packed agenda as we move forward into a huge 100th year for WACSSO. The meeting saw plenty of effective planning and discussion as we look at how WACSSO will engage and assist P&Cs in 2021.

This State Council meeting we acknowledged two State Councillors who are leaving the Council.

Education Issues

- COVID-19: The impact of the school holidays' extension in the Peel, South West and Metropolitan regions.
- Provision of basics in classrooms transferring to student booklists.
- Hygiene issues – time allocation and resources.
- Funding for support services.
- Funding for school maintenance and expansion.
- School census and staffing reductions occurring during the school year.
- Sustainability curriculum and activities.

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Education Issues

Guest Speaker: Anita Bennett – Containers for Change

Portfolio Sessions: Main Issues Discussed

Farewell to two of our State Councillors

Guest Speaker: Anita Bennett – Containers for Change

WACSSO have been involved in the Containers for Change scheme since it was first proposed, so we were very interested to have Containers for Change Senior Communications Advisor Anita Bennetts present at State Council. Anita discussed the container deposit scheme initiative and how it is benefitting schools and P&Cs throughout Western Australia.

It was great to see how the initiative has a significant effect on school communities engaging in sustainable practises by creating a positive cultural shift regarding recycling.

State Council were briefed on the different ways P&Cs can get involved and fundraise with the Containers for Change initiative. This helps Councillors better understand the process of getting involved to support their affiliates when needed.

Councillors also had the opportunity to provide feedback based on experiences and suggestions received from their affiliates. It was encouraging to have the voices of P&Cs heard as the initiative develops into the future.

For more information about Containers for Change, visit: <https://www.containersforchange.com.au/wa/fundraising>.



WACSSO State Council and Staff with Anita Bennett



State Councillors sharing feedback with Anita Bennett

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Portfolio Sessions: Main Issues Discussed

Training and Development (T&D) Portfolio: The T&D portfolio discussed the progress of the P&C Finance eLearning Module. In particular, how WACSSO can communicate the importance of the project to P&Cs, to encourage all P&C members to complete the eLearning modules. The program is set to launch Term 2, 2021. Keep an eye on WACSSO's channels for more information.

Feedback from WACSSO affiliates has highlighted that the handover process can often cause issues for P&Cs when trying to retain and pass on important information about the association. The T&D portfolio discussed the development of additional handover resources to aid in the process.

Public Relations Portfolio (PR): The PR portfolio started by reviewing a report on WACSSO's online channels (Facebook & Website). This report gave some powerful insights into how our affiliates interact with our online platforms, hinting at what our audience liked about our channels and what they disliked. We then used these findings to create a series of plans and projects to make these channels more engaging, accessible and valuable for our affiliates.

The PR portfolio also discussed how WACSSO could support and promote P&Cs this P&C Day WA (23rd July, 2021). We looked at what resources from previous P&C days were most helpful and how like-minded organisations facilitated similar celebrations for their affiliates. This enabled the PR Team to make informed decisions on how we can get strong involvement from school communities this P&C Day WA. Keep an eye on WACSSO's platforms as we release new resources in the lead up to the day.

Planning Portfolio: The Planning Portfolio is currently revising the WACSSO State Councillor Operations Manual. This project aims to make the document more user-friendly, enabling State Councillors to better understand and fulfil their role. To assist in reviewing the document, a survey has been sent to councillors seeking feedback.

Farewell to State Councillors Esmond Delaney and Mel Eckford

Sadly, it was the last State Council Meeting for Councillor for Canning West, Mel Eckford and Councillor for Goldfields-Esperance, Esmond 'Esso' Delaney as they resigned from their positions. Mel has been a highly involved member of the WACSSO team over the last 2-years and a strong voice for her affiliates. Esso has been with WACSSO for an impressive 14-years, always bringing his cheerful character and strong passion for bettering WA kids' lives to the table. WACSSO would like to thank Mel and Esso for their awesome service to the organisation and public education in WA. You will both be sorely missed.



State Councillor for Peel North Dannielle Crawford during the T&D portfolio session



Pania Turner and Esmond 'Esso' Delaney



Happy Birthday to Tanya Gibson - Farewell to Esso and Mel Eckford