

Welcome to our first newsletter...



Dear

Welcome to the first 50:50 Vision email newsletter.

We have developed this newsletter as a way of communicating with those councils who have signed up for the 50:50 Vision - Councils for Gender Equity program. The newsletter will include news about the program, case studies and stories from participating councils, and links to other useful information.

Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to anyone you think would be interested. As well, we would love to hear your feedback on the newsletter - how can we make it more useful or interesting for you?

Council registrations...



We have been thrilled with the response to the program, with nearly one hundred councils registering from all over Australia. Our aim is to have nearly all councils registered by the end of the year - if your council hasn't registered yet, you can do so by clicking [here](#).

The next newsletter will include a list of councils participating in the program so that you can start sharing stories and examples of gender equity initiatives.

Bronze Awards...



Congratulations to the Shire of Augusta - Margaret River on becoming the first council to qualify for the 50:50 Vision - Councils for Gender Equity Bronze Award. The Shire of Augusta - Margaret River included in their submission details of an impressive range of innovative gender equity initiatives, many of which we will be sharing with you in the future. It goes to show that excellence in gender equity is not necessarily related to size of council or resources.

A total of 23 councils have already qualified for their Bronze Award and many of them will receive their awards at the national ALGWA conference in November. If your council won't make the deadline for the November conference - don't panic - there is no cut-off date for the Bronze Award.

The 50:50 Vision Councils for Gender Equity is a 10 year program and designed so that councils can move through the awards and accreditations at their own pace.

ALGWA Conference

Hosted by the City of Ryde (NSW) ALGWA's national conference "Women going Places" will be held from the 25-27 November 2010. The conference will officially celebrate the close of the Year of Women in Local Government and acknowledge the first round of ALGWA's 50:50 Vision: Councils for Gender Equity Bronze award winners.

Click [here](#) for more information

Silver Awards...



Four councils are helping us to pilot the Silver Awards to make sure that they are achievable by councils of all sizes. Once we have fine-tuned the approach with their assistance, we will be sending out information to everyone who has achieved the Bronze Award. The Silver Award is designed to be a bit more of a stretch for most councils than the Bronze, with councils needing to get accreditation in three separate areas, and complete a mini-climate survey.

Bronze Award Council in profile...



Tiwi Islands Shire Council is a small council in the Northern Territory, which administers the Tiwi islands, Bathurst and Melville, and the communities of Nguiu, Wurankuwu, Milikapiti (Snake Bay) and Pirlangimpi (Garden Point), as well as a number of smaller outstations on both islands.

Tiwi Islands Shire Council has 149 employees and 12 councillors. As part of their gender equity program they are running a Tiwi Local Government - Women as Leaders workshop, designed to empower indigenous women to step into roles that may be available to them within the council, and also into non-traditional roles.

Tiwi Islands Shire faces many challenges which would seem strange to councils in more built up areas of the country, including the provision of water based public transport, maintenance of three airports and the eradication of wild pigs and dogs as well as the more normal council activities of roads, rates and rubbish.

We are thrilled to see Tiwi Islands Shire stepping up and achieving the Bronze Award, ahead of many urban councils, and look forward to meeting their delegates at the ALGA conference in November.

Coming up...



Look out for the next newsletter in November. It should be a bumper issue with news of the conference and pictures of the Bronze Award councils receiving their awards from the mystery presenter!

In the meantime - don't hesitate to contact Karen Purser, Program Coordinator at 5050vision@acelg.org.au if you need any help or have any questions.



An Australian Government Initiative

You have received this because you have registered an interest in the 50:50 Vision – Councils for Gender Equity Program. Click [here](#) to forward it to anyone you think might find it interesting.

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