



MEDIA RELEASE

National Rural Women's Coalition New Appointments

DATE: 13/07/2016

The National Rural Women's Coalition (NRWC) is excited to announce the appointment of an administration officer, Karen Nankervis from Beechworth VIC, a finance officer, Keli McDonald from Gunnedah NSW and a communications officer, Melissa Bouilly from Tansey SE QLD. These rural women will assist the board members in facilitating the direction and growth of the NRWC.

"We're delighted to have these three rural women on our NRWC team," said Dr Pat Hamilton, President. "In addition to the professional experience each brings, is their equally important rural connections from across three states in Australia. Our new operational team have already met with the president and treasurer, Alwyn Friedersdorff in Brisbane. Their enthusiasm and skills auger well for the organisation. 2016 will be an exciting year for the National Rural Women's Coalition."

The NRWC is one of five national women's alliances funded by the Office for Women from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. A key objective of the NRWC is to ensure better social and economic outcomes for women living in regional, remote and rural Australia (RRR). The NRWC seeks input from women regularly in a wide variety of ways (meetings, summits, conferences, personal contact, social media, mail and email) to determine advocacy actions. The NRWC acts only on issues brought forward and agreed on, by rural women. This occurs through member networks and regular consultation with rural women.

Over the years the NRWC has provided professional and personal development for thousands of rural, regional and remote women through its programs. These NRWC initiatives provide ongoing support, training and mentoring for women to develop their professional skills which would otherwise be challenging due to their geographical location.

For further information, visit the NRWC website www.nrwc.com.au or contact Melissa Bouilly, communications officer 07 4168 7102 or email comms@nrwc.com.au.

APPENDIX # 1 – ADMIN OFFICER BIO + PHOTO ATTACHED

APPENDIX # 2 – FINANCE OFFICER BIO + PHOTO ATTACHED

APPENDIX # 3 – COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER BIO + PHOTO ATTACHED

National Rural Women's Coalition
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APPENDIX 1 - ADMINISTRATION OFFICER BIO & PHOTO

Karen Nankervis, Beechworth, Victoria – Administration Officer

National Rural Women's Coalition announces that Karen Nankervis has joined the organisation as administration officer. Karen will be responsible for fulfilling administration duties to ensure the smooth running of the organisation and its projects for rural women throughout the forthcoming year.

Karen is a people person and is looking forward to working with NRWC. "For over 30 years, I have been in administrative roles and specialise in creating simple, effective office systems. I also love bringing people together and connecting through gatherings and events" says Karen.

"Karen will be an instrumental part of the NRWC team" said President, Pat Hamilton "Her admin and networking experience will allow us to bring together the networks already established and build a centralised administration arm to the organisation." "The addition of Karen to our team will enable us to have an organised structure and centralise many facets of the operational side. " says President, Dr Pat Hamilton

Karen grew up in Wangaratta, moved to Melbourne to study and now resides in Beechworth VIC and operates My Beechworth Secretary, a secretarial business for small and medium businesses. In early 2014, Karen also created The Biz Hive – a networking group connecting with purpose. The Biz Hive is full of opportunities to connect with like-minded people both online and at gatherings.

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APPENDIX 2 – FINANCE OFFICER BIO & PHOTO

Keli McDonald, Gunnedah NSW – Finance Officer

National Rural Women's Coalition announces that Keli McDonald has been appointed the Finance Officer. Keli works closely with the treasurer of the NRWC and is responsible for the financial management and reporting of operations and projects. The NRWC is funded by the Office for Women as well as other funding sources such as the Department of Agricultural and Water Resources and Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal.

"I'm delighted Keli has accepted the position of Finance Officer" said President, Pat Hamilton "Her previous involvement and prior knowledge of the organisation will enable us to embrace change and maximise the future opportunities."

Keli has a passion for business and helping rural people achieving their business goals starting her professional career with ten years in Sydney working for a large accounting firm before returning to NW NSW to work for Rural Press and Mars Confectionary as well as a national public relations company. Keli brings to the NRWC experience with business acumen, governance, communications and stakeholder engagement. Keli has a strong affinity to women forging careers in rural Australia.

Keli runs Kel's Country Pty Ltd, a business solutions and bookkeeping company and is a partner in an agricultural enterprise at Gunnedah NSW. Keli has a clear understanding of the core principles important to rural, small businesses, corporate and NGO's and enjoys working with clients to ensure their professional goals and compliance obligations are met.

So many women in rural, remote and regional Australia marry into farming businesses or become a part of rural communities and have untapped skills and expertise. I believe we have some niche skills available in Rural, Regional and Remote (RRR) areas and we as businesses need to recognise them and utilise this amazing resource. The NRWC, through its E-Leaders programs and three A-Cuppa with... programs continue the professional development of RRR women and celebrates their contribution to the fabric of rural Australia.

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APPENDIX 3 – COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER BIO & PHOTO

Melissa Bouly, Tansey QLD - Communications Officer

National Rural Women's Coalition announces that Melissa Bouly has joined the organisation as communications officer. Melissa will be responsible for implementing marketing and communications strategies that increase knowledge of the NRWC throughout rural, regional and remote areas (RRR) in Australia.

Melissa was raised on a farm at Bute in South Australia and comes to NRWC most recently from Marketing for You where she runs a marketing business from her beef cattle property in Tansey, South East Queensland. Melissa comes to NRWC with a marketing career including television, International hotel and casinos and retail.

"I'm excited that Melissa has joined the National Rural Women's Coalition team" said President, Dr Pat Hamilton. "Melissa will help us to reach more women in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia." "Melissa's marketing experience will allow us to maximise the growth of the National Rural Women's Coalition".

"I am looking forward to using my previous experience and ideas to help enhance the National Rural Women's Coalition brand further and to develop their communications and marketing strategy," Melissa said. "I look forward to helping take the NRWC to the next level alongside the existing NRWC team."

"This is an extremely exciting time to be joining such an important organisation. I can see how NRWC is held in very high regard by rural women". Says Melissa

Over the years the NRWC has developed many individuals through its programs. Melissa will be promoting initiatives of the NRWC such as the E-leaders program and Webinar series. These NRWC initiatives provide ongoing support, training and mentoring for young rural, remote and regional women to develop their professional skills which would otherwise be challenging due to their geographical location.

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PHOTOS AVAILABLE – EMAIL comms@nrwc.com.au for high res images



President, Dr Pat Hamilton



3 CONTRACTORS TOGETHER



KAREN NANKERVIS - ADMIN



KELI MCDONALD - FINANCE



MELISSA BOULLY - COMMUNICATIONS

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