



NRWC General Meeting of Directors – All Directors

MINUTES

Notice was given that the National Rural Women's Coalition Ltd

Directors' General Meeting

will be held Tuesday 1st April 2025

Zoom

Time: 12pm (NSW + VIC) 11am (QLD) 11.30am (SA) 10.30am (NT)

Invited: Jan Clifford OAM, Karen Holder, Jacqueline Brotherton, Wendy Hick, Nicole O'Reilly, Dr Skye Charry, Cressida Cains

Business

- Open & Welcome – Jan Clifford 12.04pm
- Acknowledgement of Country - Keli McDonald
- Attendance – Karen Holder, Wendy Hick, Jan Clifford, Skye Charry, Cressida Cains,
- Apologies – Jacqueline Brotherton (conflicting meeting – arrived at 12.40pm)
- Absences – Nicole O'Reilly
- Secretariat - Keli McDonald and Jess Davis

1. Minutes

Minutes of last General Meeting of the Board held the 19th January 2025 – **Appendix 1**

Motion “Minutes from the General Meeting of the Board held on 19th January 2025 be accepted”

Moved: Karen Holder

Seconded: Jan Clifford

2. Actions from the Minutes

Action Report from the Minutes – **Appendix 2**

3. Correspondence

Appendix 3

Any questions on any of the correspondence?

For Special Note:

14/3/2025 - AWP and Budget for the November to June 2025 period has been approved. Payment of \$115,434.50 to be made this week – total for period \$230, 556.48

11/3/2025 – NWA CEDAW Report lodged with CEDAW

6/3/2025 - Our Ways - Strong Ways - Feedback

27/2/2025 – Submission - Early Childhood Education and Care (Three Day Guarantee) Bill 2025 [Provisions] inquiry.

10/2/2025 - Invitation to contribute to Australia 4th UPR (2025-26) - Pandemic and Disaster Response

30/1/2025 – Submit Pre-budget submission

4. Endorsement of Policies & Procedures

Company Secretary – Wendy Hick to lead review and discussion of policy and procedures.

A selection of policies & procedures were reviewed by the Governance Committee and the following are ready to be presented to the board for endorsement.

Motion: The following policy and procedures are endorsed by the National Rural Women’s Coalition Board

1. NRWC ECOSOC Policy P5 V2 Jan25 - endorsed
2. NRWC Debit Card Policy F1 V3 Jan25 - endorsed
3. NRWC Reimbursement Expenses Policy V2 Jan25 - endorsed
4. NRWC Finance Committee Guidelines F3 V2 Jan25 - endorsed
5. NRWC Epidemic/Pandemic Policy V2 Jan 25 - endorsed

Moved: Wendy Hick

Seconded:

Skye Charry

Carried: All

ACTION – *When completing communications policy need to mention harmful content/comments.*

Facebook comments - [https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-topics/adult-cyber-abuse/report-adult-cyber-abuse#:~:text=If%20you%20are%20worried%20about,Line%20\(131%20444\)%20instead.](https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-topics/adult-cyber-abuse/report-adult-cyber-abuse#:~:text=If%20you%20are%20worried%20about,Line%20(131%20444)%20instead.)

ALGWA – National meeting and AGM to be held mid-April, webinars on Women in Leadership currently happening, sharing NRWC posts on social media where they can.

6.2 President's Report – governance and finance meetings attendance, secretariat briefings, pass on thanks to all sub committees and secretariate for continued great work.

6.3 Company Secretary Report & Governance Committee Report – Wendy Hick

A selection of policies & procedures has been reviewed by the Governance Committee and continues to be presented to the board for endorsement.

The Governance committee continues to have monthly meetings and is currently working on Conflict-of-Interest Policy.

Change in AWiA director representation on NRWC Board has been actioned with ASIC.

6.4 CEO Report – Keli McDonald - Appendix 4

6.5 Social Media - Appendix 4

6.6 Rural Regional and Remote Communication Coalition (RRRCC) – Wendy Hick – Appendix 4

6.7 CEDAW – Report Attached

6.8 AGECC Meeting – Dr Skye Charry – Appendix 4

6.9 FUNraiser Meeting – Karen Holder

6.10 Ambassador Leonie Noble meeting with Governor General Sam Mostyn in Geraldton – Keli Update

Any Other Reports?

7. Date for next Director's Board Meeting

Directors Board Meeting is set for third week of month. Finance meet second week.

Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 12 noon (AEST)

Tuesday 15th July 2025 at 12 noon

Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 12 noon

Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 12 noon

8. Any other Business

Any other business?

Skye – meet with Professor Margaret Alston on 1st April 2025 who has recently been re-visiting research she was part of which was originally completed in 1992.

Proposal looking at critically cohesive control, Domestic Violence, sexual harassment.

Applying to ARC (Australian Research Council) for a linkage grant.

Would like to utilize NRWC to create national project, create wide spreading connections in the bush using existing connections, create both quantitative and qualitative reports.

Skye would like to present a concept note/principal to the board at the next meeting in May 2025 to see if this is something NRWC would like to support.

9. Meeting Closed

Time: 1.37pm

Jacqueline left meeting at 1.35pm

APPENDIX 1 – Minutes from Directors Meeting 19th January 2025

NRWC General Meeting of Directors – All Directors

Minutes

Notice was given that the National Rural Women's Coalition Ltd
Directors' General Meeting
will be held Sunday 19th January 2025
Hotel Indigo Conference Room
Time: 9:45am – 11:45am

Invited: Jan Clifford, Karen Holder, Jacqueline Brotherton, Wendy Hick, Nicole O'Reilly, Dr Skye Charry,
Cressida Cains

Business

- Open & Welcome – Jan Clifford 10am
- Acknowledgement of Country - Jan Clifford
- Attendance - Jan Clifford, Karen Holder, Jacqueline Brotherton, Wendy Hick, Nicole O'Reilly, Dr Skye Charry, Cressida Cains
- Apologies – N/A
- Absences – N/A
- Secretariat - Keli McDonald and Jess Davis

1. Minutes

Minutes of last General Meeting of the Board held the 26th November 2024 – **Appendix 1**

Motion “Minutes from the General Meeting of the Board held on 26th November 2024 be accepted”

Moved: Wendy Hick

Seconded: Nicole O'Reilly

Board agreed to remove the video recording of the onboarding for Skye and Cressida.

2. Actions from the Minutes

Action from the Minutes – **Appendix 2**

2.1 ACCAN – Application has been made for membership with fee waived. As part of this process, we need to nominate a voting delegate. Please can we have nominations

Motion: CEO, Keli McDonald, will be the National Rural Women's Coalition delegate at ACCAN meetings and report back to the Board each Board meeting.

Moved: Jan Clifford

Second: Nicole O'Reily

ACTION - Form to be finalized and returned to ACCAN

3. Correspondence

Appendix 3

Any questions on any of the correspondence?

4. Acceptance Of Board Nomination

Australian Women in Agriculture have nominated Cressida Cains to represent the AWiA on the National Rural Women's Coalition Board following the resignation of Natalie Sommerville on 7 December 2024

Motion: The Board accepts the nomination of Cressida Cains to the National Rural Women's Coalition Board as representative of Australian Women in Agriculture.

Moved: Nicole O'Reily

Seconded: Skye Charry

10. Endorsement of Policies & Procedures

Company Secretary – Wendy Hick to lead review and discussion of policy and procedures.

Company Secretary asked the question if anyone else would like to join the Governance team.

Skye Charry (Independent Director) said she would be happy to join the committee.

A selection of policies & procedures were reviewed at the Governance meeting on Friday 17th and presented to board for endorsement.

Motion: The following policy and procedures are endorsed by the National Rural Women's Coalition Board

6. Confidentiality Policy
7. Conflict of Interest Declaration Form

Moved: Wendy Hick

Seconded: Nicole O'Reilly

Carried: All

ACTION - In principal support to remove Honorarium Policy, making sure the Stipend Payment Policy includes the Honorarium Payment.

ACTION – Accident and Incident Report - investigate creating a damage/insurance claim policy. May need a second form for damages.

11. Finance Report

Circulated with Papers as separate document

Finance Report tabled by Treasurer Karen Holder.

Motion. "The Finance Report be accepted as 31st December 2024"

Moved: Karen Holder

Seconded: Nicole O'Reily

Carried.

Discussion on KOMSS Contract

Jess left the room at 10.45am and Keli left the room at 11.10am so Directors could have open discussion around contract.

Keli and Jess re-entered the room at 11.20am

Motion – Approve and signed the KOMSS contract as presented. President to sign.

Moved: Karen Holder

Seconded: Skye Charry

Carried

Action – Treasurer and CEO to investigate alternative banking options and report back to the board findings. (Interest Rates, Fees and Charges, Director access to branches and identification)

Action – Dashboard style report be presented at directors' meetings comparing outside funding streams/expenses compared to OFW funding. (Keep all detail for treasurer, and then provide big picture details for board meetings)

12. General Reports

Chair requested reports be submitted via email and returned to Point 5 – endorsement of policies.

Jacqueline wanted to acknowledge Keli's involvement in TWAL conference in 2024 and feedback was positive.

Jacqueline left the meeting at 11.50am.

7.1 Member Organisations Reports – 3 minute verbal or written report – update from each Member Organisation on current advocacy focus areas

AWiA – written report provided by Cressida

NRHA – written report provided by Nicole

TWAL –

WiSA – written report provided by Karen

ALGWA –

7.2 President's Report – Verbal

7.3 Company Secretary Report & Governance Committee Report – Wendy Hick

Action – Non-For-Profit report submitted by Keli

ASIC – removal of Natalie Sommerville and then add in Cressida Cains

7.4 CEO Report – Keli McDonald - Appendix 4

7.5 Social Media - Appendix 4

7.6 Rural Regional and Remote Communication Coalition (RRRCC) – Wendy Hick

7.7 CEDAW – Keli McDonald

7.8 AGEC Meeting – Dr Skye Charry

Any Other Reports?

13.Date for next Director’s Board Meeting

Third week of month as finance meet second week on a Tuesday

Tuesday 18th March 2025 at 12 noon (AEST)

Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 12 noon (AEST)

Tuesday 15th July 2025 at 12 noon

Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 12 noon

Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 12 noon

14.Any other Business

Any other business?

15. Meeting Closed

Time: 12.11pm

APPENDIX 2 – Action Report

Action Report

Date	Actions	Who	Commenced	Completed
26/11/24	Bank Signatures – Get CBA and Bendigo Bank signatures updated	Jess	26/11/2024	In Progress: Bendigo Bank – Karen has Internet Banking and Card. Awaiting card collection for Jan. CommBiz – finalised.
26/11/24	On Boarding of New Directors – Skye and Cressida	Keli	11/10/2024	In Progress: All forms now returned. Keli to then arrange suitable time for onboarding introduction
26/11/24	ACCAN Membership	Keli and Jess	16/12/24	Finalised – Membership received 13 th February 2025
19/01/25	Governance – policy Remove Honorarium Policy Investigate Damage/Insurance claim policy	Governance Committee	17/02/2025	In progress – Policies presented to board for endorsement as finalised by Gov. Committee. Currently working on Conflict of Interest Declaration (March 2025)
19/01/25	Investigate alternative banking options	Keli and Karen	February 2025	In progress – initial investigation completed presented to Finance committee 10/03/2025

19/01/25	Dashboard report comparing outside funding streams V's OFW Funding	Keli and Jess	March 2025	In progress – awaiting final approval from submission presented 28 th Feb 2025

APPENDIX 3 – Correspondence

NRWC Incoming Correspondence Register				
File no	Date	From	Regarding	Actions or follow up
154	9/01/2025	Natalie Sommerville	NRWC - Include Cressida in future Correspondence AWIA	Jess confirmed Cressida included in correspondence and updated calendar invites for 2025
155	9/01/2025	Georgie Dent - The Parenthood	Can we talk about January Juggle	
156	6/01/2025	Zainab Ali Khan	Greeting from Every Woman Treaty	Keli agreed to introductory meeting to be scheduled in Feb 2025
157	13/01/2025	Phoebe Britten	NRWC YRRRAP Information	Jess acknowledged email and saved relevant information
158	13/01/2025	Haylee Murrell	NRWC YRRRAP Information	Jess acknowledged email and saved relevant information
159	13/01/2025	AWIA	NRWC Member Organisation Nomination and resignation	
160	14/01/2025	National Women's Alliances	Individual Alliances Treasury Pre-Budget Submissions	Keli responded to let them know NRWC will be submitting a pre-budget
161	13/01/2025	Planned Parenthood Federation of America	To Share with Coalitions- You're Invited to Sign: Statement Opposing the Global Gag Rule [deadline 1/16]	NRWC is a signature on statement
162	14/01/2025	Nidhi Pardeshi - SSI	International Womens Day	Speaking Tamworth 4th March, Armidale 5th March, Coffs Harbour 6th March
163	14/01/2025	Rochelle White	NRWC attending CSW69	Keli advised of delegates that hoping to attend
164	16/01/2025	Simone Clark - UN Women Australia	Parliamentary Breakfast 2025	Keli RSVP Yes to attend
165	22/01/2025	Nidhi Pardeshi - SSI	International Womens Day	Provided Keli with topics to cover during 10 - 15 min spiel at each event in March 2025
166	24/01/2025	Sharon Bonthous - PPNs News Media	Media Enquiry - Permission to print story from newsletter	Jess confirmed they could use media release and provided pics of Jan and Keli
167	29/01/2025	Royal Women's Hospital	Your invited to the Womens Internations Womens Day Breakfast 2025	Keli had to decline invitation as already committed to SSI conference as a speaker
168	28/01/2025	Jen Laurie	Getting Involved	Jess responded to Jen to get more details on how she would like to be involved in NRWC
169	3/02/2025	Naomi Turner	Comms Reference Team	Jess responded to Jaci with more information on CRT and how to get involved
170	31/01/2025	Sharon Bonthous - PPNs News Media	Media Enquiry - Article in Warren Star	Saved copy of article - Jan and Keli comments on child care
171	30/01/2025	Jaci Hicken	National Rural Women's Coalition Communication Reference team - EOI	Jess responded to Jaci with more information on CRT and involvement
172	4/02/2025	Janice Emrys - Third Sector	National Justice Forum	Keli declined the invite to attend. Largely due to cost
173	6/02/2025	EEC Committee - Gerry McInally	Invitation to submit - Inquiry into Early Childhood Education and Care	
174	6/02/2025	Caitlin Figueiredo - OFW	OFW Acknowledgement of Pre-Budget Submission	
175	10/02/2025	Julianne McKeon	RRROWAG - Zoom on 27th Feb 2025	Keli shared with directors
176	10/02/2025	National Womens Health Advisory Council	Update on Womens Health Announcement	Jess sent calendar invite and zoom details to Julianne as well as direct response email
177	11/02/2025	OFW	Reaching out to NRWC - to support the development of the social cohesion engagement framework	Keli replied that NRWC delighted with announcements made
178	11/02/2025	Lynda Jennings	RRROWAG Group - asked to be added to zoom	Jess sent calendar invite and zoom details to Lynda as well as direct response email
179	13/02/2025	Kelly Lindsay - ACCAN	ACCAN Membership - Welcome	NRWC Welcome pack
180	7/02/2025	Kelly Dent - Regional Investment Corporation	RIC & NRWC	Provided Keli contact details as wanting to arrange catch up with Executive Director
181	10/02/2025	Oliver Ray - University NSW Sydney	Invitation to contribute to Australia 4th UPF (2025-26) - Pandemic and Disaster Response	Keli reached out to confirm if NRWC could use grant funding before providing a response
182	19/02/2025	Katie Chicalas - YRRRAP	YRRRAP Paperwork	Jess acknowledged email and saved relevant information
183	20/02/2025	Cheryl Fuller	CRT - Expression of Interest	Jess acknowledged email and saved information
184	26/02/2025	Annabelle Brayley	RRROWAG Group - request to be removed	Keli acknowledged email and let Annabelle know happy to join zoom meeting when she has time
185	4/03/2025	Bridget - Monash Elder Abuse Study Team	Elder abuse in regional, rural and Remote Australia, lived experience component	Keli advised - do not need to respond to the request. It is more likely they will secure there one-on meetings
186	3/03/2025	Alex Lorigan - ARTD	1800RESPECT Independent Evaluation	

NRWC Outgoing Correspondence Register					
File no	Date	From	Regarding	Actions or follow up	
1	138	8/01/2025	Jess - CommBiz	Documents for Karen - CommBiz setup	
2	139	7/01/2025	Jess - AON Insurance	Certificate of Currency	Reached out to get documents. Provided to Karen and saved onto director portal
3	140	7/01/2025	Jess - J & L Computers	NRWC Email Setup	Follow up email setup for Wendy and Cressida and also issue with bigpond emails
4	141	6/01/2025	Jess - YRRRAP Group	YRRRAP - Whats App Group	Getting phone numbers to setup Whats App group for YRRRAP
5	142	8/01/2025	Jess - NRWC Directors	CommBiz Setup	Jan, Jacqueline and Karen - CommBiz Setup and App
6	143	7/01/2025	Keli - YRRRAP	NRWC YRRRAP	Update on speaking at parrel event in March 2025
7	144	15/01/2025	Keli - Kate Whittle	NWA's CEDAW Shadow Report	Keli seeking assistance in chnaging over admi rights on Whats App Group
8	145	21/01/2025	Keli - Georgie Vine	NRWC Attending CSW69	Keli providing contact details update on NRWC contacts wanting to attend
9	146	30/01/2025	Keli - Caitlin Figueiredo (OFW)	Individual Alliances Treasury Pre-Budget Submissions	
0	147	30/01/2025	Keli - Emma Buckley - Health	National Rural Health Commissioners Consumer Advisory Group	Keli returned conflict of Interest Form
1	148	12/02/2025	Keli - NRWC Directors	Universal Access to Reproductive Healthcare - recommendations and responses	
2	149	12/02/2025	Keli - Executive Team	NWA Upcoming OFW Engagements and Response	
3	150	11/02/2025	Keli - NRWC Directors	Sector Speak and the Language of Violence	
4	151	11/02/2025	Keli - Caitlin Figueiredo (OFW) and Robyn Ross	Reaching out to NRWC - to support the development of the social cohesion engagement framework	Keli arranging suitable time to have online meeting week starting 17th Feb 2025
5	152	24/02/2025	Keli - RRROWAG Group	NRWC Universal Childcare Bill	Reaching out to group to get feedback on draft submission put together
6	153	24/02/2025	Keli - YRRRAP	NRWC Universal Childcare Bill	Reaching out to group to get feedback on draft submission put together
7	154	25/02/2025	Keli - Amelia Radke at ACCAN	ARRCC Submission to Telecommunications Consumer Protections (TPC) Code Review 2024	Congratulating on great response
8	155	24/02/2025	Keli - YRRRAP and RRROWAG	Draft Submission on 3 day universal childcare bill	Keli seeking feedback from groups to help form submission
9	156	26/02/2025	Keli - Karen Holder	Meeting with RIC	
0	157	5/03/2025	Jess - Minister Jodie Harrison Office	Seeking Photos from International Womens Day Function in Armidale for Social Media Use	
1	158	6/03/2025	Keli - First Nations National Plan	Our Ways - Strong Ways - Feedback	Keli provided feedback on the work.
2					

APPENDIX 4 – Member Org Reports, CEO Report, Social Media

Board Report – National Rural Women’s Coalition

Australian Women in Agriculture – Cressida Cains, Acting President

The Australian Women in Agriculture continues to grow steadily which is pleasing, reflecting the increasing engagement of women in ag and the value they see in our organisation, and particularly in the Women on Ag Board project we are currently running. This growth strengthens our ability to represent and support women across the sector.

The Women on Agricultural Boards (WOAB) initiative has successfully delivered three webinars, each drawing strong participation and positive feedback. These sessions have provided valuable insights and practical guidance for women aspiring to leadership and board roles, reinforcing our commitment to improving gender equality in agricultural governance and beyond.

Our focus now is on our upcoming national conference, officially announced for Adelaide in August 2025. The theme, *Breaking Barriers, Growing Futures*, reflects our vision for empowering women to drive change and help shape the future of agriculture. Planning is well underway and we look forward to delivering an event that challenges conventional thinking and fosters meaningful connections.

Rural Regional and Remote Communication Coalition (RRRCC) – Wendy Hick

Wendy attended a meeting with the ACMA CCF Tue 04/03/25 - request from RRRCC for NRWC to provide any feedback, examples or suggestions that can be taken to ACMA regarding the draft of the DFSV Standard regarding rules to protect telco customers experiencing DFV out for public comment. (I also put this in the whatsapp a few days ago)

<https://www.acma.gov.au/consultations/2025-02/proposed-new-rules-protect-telco-consumers-experiencing-dfv>

RRRCC- attended the CommsDay Regional and Rural Forum- Minister Rowland has announced plans for UOMO (Universal Outdoor Mobile Obligation) which would include free 000 calls with a charged, compatible device from "almost anywhere" in Australia. RRRCC has a media release and did share a link re the announcement in our What's app group last week. I did media, including SBS tv around the UOMO announcement.

Also the Senate Inquiry into 3G Shutdown put their report out- also shared that in the RRRCC WhatsApp link here https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/download/committees/reportsen/RB000387/toc_pdf/Shutdownofthe3Gmobilenetwork.pdf

3 Recommendations-

Recommendation 1 - The committee recommends that the Australian Government establish a program to help customers that have lost mobile phone coverage since the 3G shutoff. This program should be co-funded between industry and government and be for the purpose of purchasing connectivity equipment for use by residents in rural and remote areas. For example, subsidies could be provided to purchase:

- boosters for buildings and vehicles;

Starlink or other low-earth orbit satellite equipment, including access to mobile phone by Starlink services; and

replacements for equipment rendered obsolete by the 3G shutdown.

Recommendation 2 - The committee recommends that the Australian Government and the telecommunications industry do all they can to accelerate the introduction of mobile phone services via the Starlink network.

Recommendation 3 - The committee recommends that the Australian Government increase the scope of the National Audit of Mobile Coverage to include off-road areas (including on private land such as farming and grazing properties). This could be achieved by enabling technology for people to 'pin' the location where service is available. Data gathered should be cross-referenced with that of the mobile network operators and published in an easy-to-access format.

RRRCC are concerned that there is no recourse for customers adversely affected by the 3G Shutdown and that solutions once again point to "use Leo sat technology" with a danger that all types of communications for those in RRR areas are being moved to/suggested for LEO - which at this point in time not only means all eggs in one basket if something goes wrong and all rely on power to operate, but also sovereignty issues. Also, the Nat Audit already includes this step of including rural properties etc. from some info I've heard (I haven't confirmed this).

RRRCC continues to hear from all member groups about lack of coverage, inability to make or hold calls even in areas where "bars" are showing and problems that RRR customers are experiencing after the changeover. There are still numerous NGWL customers to be migrated (NGWL will not work now that 3G is off) and RRR customers who now find themselves with no voice service as they had dropped their landlines and were relying on mobile to only find that they are now not able to because their previous service was "fortuitous". If anyone wants to send me more info on their own experiences or specific cases, please get it to me and we can try to take it forward wherever possible. RRRCC has some upcoming meetings with govt and others regarding the experience in RRR areas.

Report to the National Rural Women's Coalition on the Australian Gender Equality Council's Focus – Dr Skye Charry

In my new capacity as NRWC's representative on the Australian Gender Equality Council (AGEC), I am pleased to provide a brief report on AGEC's current focus.

As we approach a 2025 federal election, AGEC is particularly alive to global and domestic trends that threaten to weaken Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives. Accordingly, the AGEC Advocacy Committee has been tasked with planning a range of measures for holding candidates accountable, informing voters, and countering misinformation on gender policy commitments.

As a new board member, I was encouraged to join the Advocacy Committee which I am pleased to have now done. The committee is working intensively (weekly meetings) to explore strategies for increased candidate accountability, improved voter awareness and engagement and keeping gender issues at the forefront of the media and public debate.

This work is particularly important given the persistent challenges facing Australian women, including pay inequality, gender-based violence, and barriers to leadership. With global attacks on gender equity policies gaining traction, the AGEC is working to ensure that Australia does not follow the same pattern of rapid regression.

CEO Progress Report

18 March 2025

International Engagement

CEDAW – Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women

Submitted – word version with links – 6600 words

PDF version with end notes

CSW 69 - United Nations Commission on the Status of Women 69th Session

We have supported three attendees with ECOSOC passes to the United Nations Building

Wendy Hick

Jo Stewart Rattray

Sabina Gruetzner

Parallel event: Wednesday12 – YRRRAP

Parallel event: Thursday13 March – NGO Report -recording

Parallel event: Thursday 19 – Structural Violence Against Women in Agriculture - Keli McDonald will present with six other women representing India, Mongolia, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Philippines and Costa Rica

The Office for Women are aware of our interest in CSW and its implications for our domestic work. We do not have permission to use funds for this work.

Women For Election

We have been supporting their online media campaigns

By request we have reviewed their rural project content and made comment

FUNraiser Committee – met 30 January 2025

Office For Women – Working for Women Grant.

Funding

The Working for Women grant has been executed.

The Activity Work Plan (AWP) and budget has been approved.

The next Forum of the NWA held by OFW is the 26-27 March 2025. Leonie Noble will be representing the NRW on 26 March and Keli McDonald 27th March 2025.

The Governance Committee has met several times and has provided a number of policies for the Board to endorse

The Finance Committee meets each month and has developed an excel spreadsheet to demonstrate the status of the 'Working for Women' Funding grant in a succinct manner. The report has the ability to show detail for those that want that level of information but can also be collapsed into a summary document for overview.

We will start working on the July 2025- June 2026 AWP and budget, this needs to be approved before August 2025

Communications

The NRWC Annual Report is on the website

We have been recruiting and providing 'open mic' sessions for the YRRRAP and Older Women's Group

Supported the Australian NGO – Bpfa Shadow Report Webinar

Created three videos – about 1 minute each to celebrate International Women's Day – broadcast 6-8 March 2025 on FB, Insta and LinkedIn

CSW69 posts with quotes from leaders and showing the NRWC delegates in NY and promoting the YRRRAP webinar and the webinar 'Structural Violence Against Women in Agriculture'.

Amplified the Government's Media Release on the Universal Outdoor Mobile Obligation.

Australia Day 26 Jan 2025 – we ran a campaign each 2 hours from Thanking a farmer, to acknowledging Aboriginal history, Reflect and Respect and ended with How did you spend Australia Day? collage.

We had an e-newsletter posted 21/1/2025

Media Release – 21/1/2025 on Childcare with quotes from Jan Clifford OAM and Keli McDonald, this was picked up by several rural newspapers in western NSW.

The NRWC was approached by a for-profit organisation to provide free promotion for a program they are running and want to attract more RRR Women to apply. In consultation with the Treasurer, it was agreed as this was a similar approach made to the NRWC from other organisations our response would be in line with previous responses – the result being we are happy to assist but require a payment for services. The payment allows the NRWC to provide support to RRR women in line with our work.

Advocacy & Consultations

5/2/2025 – UN Women – Breakfast at APH

7/2/2025 – National Rural Health Commission meeting

7/2/2025 National Women's Health Advisory Council Members – pre press release (NRWC released a Media Release in response of this positive news of investment into women's health)

12/2/2025 – NWA Collaboration meeting

13/2/2025 - Our Watch - training - Change the Story

18/2/2025 – RAI meeting

19/2/2025 - Robyn Ross - A/g Senior Director, Office of Community Cohesion (Keli & Jacqueline attended)

19/2/2025 – NWA – meeting 2

19/2/2025 - Alli Gregory (RIC) & Keli McDonald (National Rural Women's Coalition) introduction meeting

24/2/2025 – YRRRAY 8-9pm

25/2/2025 – Bi-Monthly meeting with OFW

27/2/2025 – Older Women Group – 8-9pm

27/2/2025 – OFW AWP review

3/3/2025 – NGO Webinar

3/3/2025 – Governance Committee (Wendy, Jan, Skye & Jess)

3/3/2025 YRRRAP – Webinar run through 8-9pm

6/3/2025 – NWA – Election Platform Discussion

10/3/2025 – Finance Committee

11/3/2025 – UPR Training

12/3/2025 – YRRRAP – Parallel event 7:30am – 9am

16/3/2025 – MAKAAAM – prevent discussion 6:30pm

18/3/2025 – NRWC Board Meeting - rescheduled

18/3/2025 – Leaving the Violence Program – Session update

We have presented at Tamworth and Armidale at the invitation of Settlement Services Australia 11-12 March 2025 and Coffs Harbour has been rescheduled to April due to ex cyclone Alfred. Accommodation and meals covered by SSI

The NRWC provided a response to the 'Our Ways – Strong Ways – Our Voices, as a way to end violence for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Women and Girls' – 10/3/2025 to Dept Social Services and PM&C

The NRWC has been accepted as a member of ACCAN - Australian Communications Consumer Action Network

Coming up

We are speaking on a panel at the invitation of the Women's Climate Change Congress meeting in Castlemaine Victoria – 28-31 February 2025

NETWORK

No new members at this time, we have updated our letter of approach

We need two national or state organisations to join before June

YRRRAP

Meeting the last Tuesday of each month. 8-9pm

We have 7 permanent members and other women that join meetings as they wish.

Our first project is completed – Australian Women Speak -out on the issues of Beijing Platform for Action. The webinar was facilitated by Loren Duffield and presenters were:

Nat Bell – Women in Leadership

Haylee Murrell – Women in the Workforce

Phoebe Britten – Women and Education

Sarah Markham – Violence against Women

Special Guests – Clare Gibellini (WWDA) – Women and Climate Change

We thank Leonie Noble for supporting the YRRRAP women with guidance on their presentations.

The March meeting will centre around the NRWC & NATSIWA joint project. NATSIWA CEO has been invited to attend. This project needs to be completed by 30 June 2025

Rural, Regional & Remote Older Women's Group

A core group has been meeting on the third Thursday of each month from 8-9pm.

The group is looking at a number of issues and is feeling a little overwhelmed by the size of the work that has been identified.

The NRWC will engage a policy contractor to assist us with the work. The women can oversee the direction of the work and provide case studies for the work.

We thank Wendy Hick for supporting this group.

Next meeting we will also be asking this group on their thought about contraception for older women as part of our AWP delivery.

Submission

Under the grant we need to complete two National submissions before June 2025.

The first one completed was **Inquiry into the Early Childhood Education and Care (Three Day Guarantee) Bill 2025 [Provisions]** – this was submitted on 28 February 2025. Thank you to Dr Melanie Brounsnell for writing and researching this for us and for the Directors that provided editing advice.

The NRWC as part of the RRRCC endorsed a submission on the Telecommunications Consumer Protections (TCP) Code Review 2024.

Australian Universal Periodic Review

Background

'Australia's human rights record will face intense scrutiny in 2025 when the Australian Government appears before the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva for its major four yearly human rights review, called the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

The Review examines the extent to which Australia is complying with its international human rights obligations under the UN Charter, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international treaties and other commitments. It will be based on information provided in a government report; information from independent UN human rights experts and other UN entities; as well as information from the Australian Human Rights Commission and NGOs.

This will be Australia's fourth UPR review, having previously been reviewed in 2011, 2015, and 2020.

The Australian Non-Government Organisations (NGO) led by a council of four organisations, including the Human Rights Law Centre will provide a 'Shadow report to the Government'

The NRWC has attended two meetings to date – one a training meeting and has meeting for drafting later in the month.

We have permission from the OFW to participate in this process

NWA – Joint Projects

Under the 'Working for Women' Grant the NRWC is collaborating with the other NWA's to provide a document with election asks under the Working for Women Strategy. All Alliances are contributing but due to the diversity within the group we need to negotiate the output. We will provide you with a copy once completed. Asks on superannuation and women's safety will be prioritised.

Social Media Report 06.03.2025

Social Media Report	2024 - 2025	updated 06/03/2025
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Facebook										
Information coming from BUFFER - under "Posts"										
	Followers	Comments	Posts	Post Reach	Shares	Reactions	New Followers	Eng Rate		
July	18276	4	10	5772	10	90	3	3.61%		
August	18300	114	105	70498	209	965	35	8.11%		
September	18291	94	64	22404	84	688	6	4.21%		
October	18306	53	65	41570	164	665	4	4.99%		
November	18320	5	58	18489	54	243	4	3.42%		
December	18334	2	32	10560	30	120	0	2.41%		
January	18316	13	24	10869	33	225	0	4.78%		
February	18310	15	36	18304	64	244	0	3.50%		

Twitter							
Information coming from BUFFER - overview TAB							
	Followers	Tweets	Impressions	Engagements	Likes	New Followers	
July	2774	0	0	0	0	-3	
August	2768	4	791	16	6	-6	
September	2761	6	628	17	10	-8	
October	2754	10	2432	51	21	-18	
November	2741	8	2174	38	19	-47	
December	2685	5	1514	27	15	-11	
January	2675	1	457	12	10	-10	
February	2672	1	43	1	1	-3	

Instagram							
Information coming from BUFFER - all from overview TAB							
	Followers	Total Posts	Likes	Impressions	Reach	New Followers	Comments
July	786	3	5	260	213	5	0
August	788	30	74	2643	1802	3	2
September	803	15	50	1634	849	14	4
October	819	32	137	4539	2505	15	28
November	835	27	71	3687	2366	13	16
December	842	26	54	1512	1204	7	6
January	852	15	100	1532	1044	12	3
February	862	15	73	2118	1796	10	1

LinkedIn							
Information coming from BUFFER - Overview TAB							
	Followers	Post Impressions	Page Views/Clicks on Post	Posts	Comments	New Followers	Eng. Rate
July	1176	0	38	0	0	0	
August							
September	55						
October	59	495	49	16	4		
November	138	1790	40	15	1		
December	144	540	16	10	0	6	5.31%
January	168	841	46	11	4	24	4.47%
February	189	1233	38	16	3	21	6.31%

Mailchimp Subscribers List Results							
Information coming from Mailchimp data (login) Analytics TAB - marketing dashboard and audience							
	Total Contacts	Total Email Subscribers	Unsubscribed Contacts	Total Sends	Open Rate	Click Rate	Unsubscribe Rate from a delivered email
July	2977	2350	627	0	0	0	0
August	2977	2350	627 (no change to July)	0	0	0	0
Sept	2946	2305	641 (14 for the month)	2350	54%	0.73%	0.41%
October	2929	2283	646 (5 for the month)	2306	62%	0.32%	0.18%
November	2929	2282	647 (1 for the month)	0	0%	0.00%	0.00%
December	2929	2281	648 (1 for the month)	0	0%	0.00%	0.00%
January	2912	2253	655 (7 for the month)	2281	52%	0.32%	0.32%
February	2912	2253	655 (no change)	0	0%	0.00%	0.00%

Website Reports - Key Metrics					
Information comes from Google Analytics Page - on the home page you can chose below options and change the date to reflect correct period.					
	Total Users - per month	Of Month users No. NEW users	Sessions (visit to website)	Page Views (no. of times page loaded or reloaded)	Bounce Rate (% of sessions with no engagement)
July	192	169	266	523	50.00%
August	663	648	836	1300	53.90%
September	422	382	650	1800	50.80%
October	404	374	546	1628	49.80%
November	376	344	499	1000	49.50%
December	200	179	235	390	59.10%
January	348	319	431	820	49.20%
February	326	300	500	1300	41.20%