

RDA LIMESTONE COAST WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

At its April Board Meeting in Naracoorte RDALC welcomed two new Members to the Board in Mr Lew Parsons and Ms Karen Glover. Mount Gambier residents Mr Parsons and Ms Glover have been appointed as community members to fill two casual vacancies within the Board membership.

Mr Parsons has vast experience within the forestry industry, being currently self employed as a forestry consultant for local logging contractors, wood producers and forest owners and prior to this undertaking the role of Marketing Manager and Sales Manager for ForestrySA. He has been a member of several Boards including the Institute of Foresters Australia, the Logging Investigation and Training Association and the South East Area Consultative Committee. On a personal front Mr Parsons has been involved with the Mount Gambier Pioneers Basketball Association for the last 15 years.

Ms Glover is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Pangula Mannamurna Inc, the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service based in Mount Gambier and brings to the Board a wealth of knowledge in respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across the region. During the period 2005 to 2010 Ms Glover undertook the role of Director of Aboriginal Health at the Women's and Children's Health network. Ms Glover has strong ties with the community having partnered with a host of regional community organisations across the region.

"The Board is fortunate to acquire the volunteer services of two people with such vast experience and knowledge of their particular industry sector" said RDA Chair Dr Ruth Schubert.

Board Members also received an informative presentation from Mrs Helen Strickland, (RDA Limestone Coast - Manager, Skills, Career and Workforce Development) on her recent attendance at the Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia (SEGRA) Conference in Terrigal, New South Wales. Mrs Strickland said "It was a very impressive conference with a diverse participation. The theme for the Conference was maximising leverage opportunities for Regional Australia. There were three main points that came from the conference."

Helen identified three themes that have relevance for the Limestone Coast region:-

Theme 1 recognised the importance of access to valid and reliable data and to analysis of that data. An example of data available at a Local Government area level was explained, and discussed in relation to ways that RDA could capture critical data and make it accessible for regional use.

Theme 2 outlined the important role of research at both a national and regional level, to allow for future planning. An example of the resources available through the Regional

Australia Institute was outlined and discussion focussed on ways to be involved with research organisations on projects of priority to the region.

Theme 3 focused on the role of innovation as a key driver for regional economic, social and environmental wellbeing, and discussed the central Coast Innovation Project as an example of encouraging this in practice.

For further Information contact:-

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Date: 1st May 2013

List of RDALC Board Members

Ruth Schubert, Chair

Ms Gwenda Lawlor, Deputy Chair

Mr Rob Foggo – Community representative

Ms Nadine DiGiorgio – Community representative

Ms Ann Aldersey – Community representative

Mr Alan Richardson – Community representative

Mr Lew Parsons – Community representative

Ms Karen Glover – Community representative

Mayor Richard Vickery – SELGA representative

Mayor Erika Vickery – SELGA representative

Cr Harvey Nolan – SELGA representative

Mr Darren O'Halloran – SELGA representative