



ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Working together for Equity of Access to Education for all Students who live in Rural and Remote Australia.

FEDERAL COUNCIL'S BRANCH BULLETIN Volume 14, Number 1: August 2016

Federal Council News

WOW!! Federal Conference 2016, hosted by WA State Council was jam packed with over 140 motions, fantastic guest speakers, amazing food, lively conversation, intelligent debate and fabulous service, just to name a few highlights! Our thanks go to Alys, Bianca and Liz and the convenors who put on an absolutely fabulous show. We farewelled, with thanks, three retiring councillors Jo Murphy, Anita Dennis and Tracie Blair and welcomed four new councillors, Ameer Porter, Beck Britton, Sally Sullivan and Jean Cashmore (Sally and Jean were co-opted on after conference). Also announced at conference was our newest Federal Life Member, Roxanne Morrissey, so justly deserved! Congratulations Roxanne.

Federal Council for 2016 -17

Federal President - Wendy Hick, Camooweal Qld

Vice President - Kate Thompson, York Plains TAS

Immediate Past President - Judy Sinclair-Newton, Dubbo NSW

Secretary - Jane Morton, Clifton Qld

Assistant Secretary – Emily Gardner, Oatlands TAS

Treasurer – Kate Gray, Texas Qld

Publicity Officer - Nikki Macqueen, Millmerran Qld

Committee members - Joanna Gibson, Port Augusta SA, Jane O'Brien, Walgett NSW, Lynise Conaghan, Clarke Creek Qld, Ameer Porter, Alice Springs NT, Beck Britton, Boulia Qld, Sally Sullivan, Mataranka NT and Jean Cashmore, WA.



Back Row, L to R - Emily Gardner, Judy Sinclair-Newton, Kate Gray, Ameer Porter, Lynise Conaghan, Joanna Gibson, Nikki Macqueen.

Front Row, L to R - Jane Morton, Kate Thompson, Wendy Hick, Beck Britton

Absent - Jane O'Brien, Sally Sullivan & Jean Cashmore.

Welcome to our new councillors Beck Britton, Ameer Porter, Jean Cashmore and Sally Sullivan.

Council has now started actioning the many motions from conference within their portfolios. A mini delegation is heading to Canberra this week to discuss the issues around the Assistance for Isolated Children Scheme.

Upcoming State Conferences

ICPA QLD - Alpha, September 6 & 7, 2016

ICPA NSW - Bourke, March 29 & 30, 2017

ICPA SA – Port Augusta, March 31, 2017

ICPA NT – Webinar, date to be confirmed, April 2017

ICPA WA – to be confirmed, 2017

ICPA TAS – to be confirmed, 2017

SAVE THE DATE FOR NEXT CONFERENCE!!

The 2017 ICPA Federal Conference will be held in Alice Springs, Northern Territory on the 2nd and 3rd August, 2017.



ICPA Federal Conference Administrator

ICPA Australia is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) for an administrator to deal with the administration processes associated with the annual Federal Conference. Preference will be given to an ICPA member or a rurally focused group familiar with the workings of ICPA. The contract will be on an annual basis. However, priority will be given to a business/group/person who is able to commit to a three to four-year term. For more information, please contact [Federal Secretary](#) Jane Morton or visit [EOI, ICPA Federal Conference Administrator](#).

Telstra 2G Network Closure

The Telstra 2G mobile network is closing on 1 December 2016. This means that customers who are connected to 2G will no longer be able to make or receive phone calls on their mobile

phone. Customers will know if they're currently using the 2G network as they will have a 2G icon at the top of their phone screen. It's important that 2G customers understand what they need to do to switch to 3G or 4G services before 1 December 2016. Making the switch is easy and service providers are here to help. If a customer is connected to 2G, we encourage them to visit a Telstra store or contact their service provider as soon as possible to avoid any disruption to their service. For more information, please visit <https://exchange.telstra.com.au/2016/08/04/make-switch-2g-network/>

Road Closure and Access to Assistance for Isolated Children Scheme (AIC)

AIC allowances are intended for the families of students who do not have reasonable daily access to an appropriate state school. Families, including those not normally eligible for AIC allowances, may be eligible to claim in instances where a child does not have reasonable access to an appropriate state school for at least 20 school days in a year because of adverse travel conditions. Adverse travel conditions or circumstances may include impassable roads due to special weather conditions. A claim must be supported by evidence that substantiates the existence of adverse travel conditions or other circumstances beyond the family's control and the effect they have on the student's ability to get to school. Additional supporting evidence may be required to independently verify the claim at any time. For more information, visit [Assistance for Isolated Children Scheme](#) or phone **132318**, the AIC dedicated phone number.

"Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish"

John Quincy Adams

