

Established in 1971, the Isolated Children's Parents' Association (ICPA) is a national organisation representing rural students and their families at all stages of education and has a large network of branches throughout Australia.

ICPA WA works within the community to provide support and assistance to rural and regional families across Western Australia. We advocate and lobby to assist families to access appropriate education for their children.

Media Release

7th March 2023

'50 Years a Long Way Down the Track'

Isolated Children's Parents' Association of WA 51st ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE

Friday 17th March, Pagoda Resort and Spa, Como

The Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Western Australia (ICPA WA) is celebrating 50 Years of ICPA WA at its 51st Annual State Conference. The initial 50 Years celebrations had to be postponed in 2022 due to COVID-19 and an online conference was held in its place.

"Members are looking forward to meeting face to face after the disappointment of postponing the 50th celebrations in 2022. We are very grateful to all our sponsors who rolled forward their sponsorship from 2022 to support the celebration of 50 years," said ICPA WA State President, Sally Brindal.

"For the past 50 years, ICPA WA has been an important voice for regional families and due to hard work and great advocacy has achieved many positive outcomes for our members. Education is constantly evolving, and it is important that our rural and remote families continue to be considered, their access to an equitable education not adversely impacted and that they receive the necessary support in the deliverance of education services. ICPA WA is as important today as it was 50 years ago and will continue to represent regional, rural and remote families."

The conference is an excellent opportunity for members to voice their concerns on educational issues, to debate motions and engage with stakeholders and speakers. Conference topics will include allowances, the 3G closure, rural schools staffing and support services and school bus services.

The Minister for Education, Hon. Dr Tony Buti is attending conference to speak. This will give ICPA members the opportunity to hear first hand from the new Minister.

The keynote speaker is Catrina-Luz Aniere, CEO Millennium Kids Inc. Catrina has worked in various education settings since 1982 across Western Australia, London, South Africa and Indonesia. Catrina's interest in youth led, project based learning developed as an early childhood educator in the 1990's and she will outline the skills for life methodology, the cornerstone of Millennium Kids.

Mr Richard Hudson, ABC Reporter, will be hosting "Conversations ICPA" and chatting with a panel of four esteemed ICPA members about their journey with ICPA over 50 years.

"ICPA WA may have started its journey over the Royal Flying Doctor's Services radio waves but it has evolved over time and now advocates on behalf of parents with children aged from early childhood to tertiary, training and trade. The education of every child is of the utmost importance, and you do not have to live remotely to be isolated from education".

Conference celebrations will conclude with a banquet dinner in the Historic Ballroom, Pagoda Resort and Spa with after dinner guest speaker Paul Hasleby.

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For further information go to:

www.icpa.com.au/wa/conference

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