

Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia

Advocating for equitable access to education for students in rural and remote Australia

MEDIA RELEASE 28 October 2021 "Stronger Together", 50 Years of ICPA



In true COVID-19 style, the Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia (ICPA Aust) has adapted to change and will now present their 50th annual <u>Federal Conference</u> to over 200 delegates and guests as a hybrid event, both online and in person in Longreach, Queensland on Wednesday 3 November and Thursday 4 November, 2021. A blended Conference platform delivery has never been done before and is a feat our founding forebears probably never imagined possible 50 years ago when ICPA was established.

With 140 members and guests travelling to Longreach and 60 members and guests joining online from across Australia, the <u>79 motions</u> being presented will surely set the scene for some passionate debate. Thanks to COVID-19, communications, early childhood, boarding and specific education are even hotter topics for rural and remote education.

The 'Stronger Together' Conference theme will be aptly represented with many 50th Anniversary activities weaved into the program. Attendees will also be treated to various displays and presentations celebrating 50 years of ICPA along with a special line of anniversary souvenir merchandise.

ICPA Federal President, Mrs Alana Moller said, "Over the past 50 years of ICPA, the resilience of our organisation has shone and the challenges of proceeding with our 50th annual Conference, to ensure the voices of our members continue to be heard, is testament to this. Of course we could not have done any of this without the ongoing support of our members, sponsors and supporters and special mention must go to the Australian Boarding Schools Association for assisting us to provide this hybrid conference option."

Border restrictions have been problematic for many interstate delegates and guests wishing to attend Conference in Longreach, however ICPA Federal Council and the Convening Committee are committed to ensuring the 2021 Hybrid Conference is as productive, enjoyable and inclusive as ever, regardless of whether participants join us online or in person.