

Your monthly volunteering sector update

APRIL

# volunteering MATTERS

News for members & stakeholders  
from Victoria's peak volunteering  
body



## message from our CHIEF EXECUTIVE

National Volunteer Week (NVW) is Australia's largest annual celebration for volunteers. Starting from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, NVW in Victoria will celebrate the significant contribution of Victoria's 2.3 million volunteers. This year, the theme for National Volunteer Week is [Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine.](#) acknowledging the role of the volunteering sector during these times.

To mark this year's celebrations, we are running an exclusive member-only event on 20<sup>th</sup> May at the Melbourne Museum. The event will explore volunteering in the post-COVID world with keynote, Susan Pascoe AM. More details and how to register [here.](#)

Volunteer-involving organisations, Mayors of local councils and Members of Parliament can also take part in the celebrations with us by participating in our #Thankyou social media campaign. More details [here.](#)

**Scott Miller**  
Chief Executive



## our HIGHLIGHTS

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**CLOSING:  
7 MAY  
conference  
advisory panel  
members**

Volunteering Victoria is exploring the idea of conducting a Volunteering Conference in **September 2021**. At this stage, we are looking for Advisory Panel members to support the interests, activities and development of the Conference.

[Read on »](#)



**UPDATE  
reconciliation  
action plan**

We are committed to recognising the traditional owners of the land we occupy and as such, developing a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). Stay tuned for more information.

[Read on »](#)



**UPDATE  
ISO certification**

We are currently undertaking undertaking ISO9001 accreditation for our organisation. Obtaining ISO9001 will demonstrate our ability to consistently provide products and services that meet/exceed customer and regulatory requirements.

[Read more »](#)

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Join us this year during National Volunteer Week 2021 for a panel discussion on the threats and opportunities for volunteering in a post-COVID world.

[View event details](#)

**When:** 20 May 2021 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**Where:** [Melbourne Museum, Carlton](#) -

Treetops Room, upper level

**Format:** Fishbowl panel

**Topic:** Volunteering in the post-COVID World

**Cost:** FREE for members

**Keynote:** [Susan Pascoe AM](#)

*\*Spaces are strictly limited to 40 attendees.*

**RSVP (members only)**



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## sector NEWS

VMA ANNOUNCED

### **volunteering management activity**

The Australian Government is inviting state and territory volunteering peak bodies via a restricted process to apply to deliver services under the Families and Communities Program – Volunteer Management Activity 2021–2026.

From 1 July 2021, the Australian Government will distribute up to \$33.5 million (excluding GST) over 5 years under the new Volunteer Management Activity.

Volunteering Peak Bodies will develop and implement strategies to build the capacity of Volunteer Involving Organisations (VIOs), through online volunteer management services and breaking down barriers to volunteering for identified priority groups. Volunteer Peak Bodies will consult and partner with relevant local organisations to develop and deliver the Volunteer Management Activity.

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Grants of up to \$500,000 are available to support local anti-racism and community harmony efforts.

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#### GRANTS PROGRAM

### **volunteer grants 2021: nominations open**

The 2021 Volunteer Grants round begins with a call for Expressions of Interest, with your local Member of Parliament (MP) using a community committee to develop a list of organisations to nominate. Following the Expression of Interest process, the MPs will nominate organisations from their lists. The nomination period is between 6 April 2021 and 2:00 PM AEST 29 April 2021.

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#### CONSULTATION OPEN

### **volunteer strategy consultation**

A series of regional community forums have resumed to hear directly from volunteers, community members and organisations. The interactive format will focus on your volunteering experiences, local challenges and opportunities, and capture your ideas to strengthen and support volunteering.

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#### SUBMISSION

### **protections for volunteers and unpaid workers from workplace sexual harassment**

This joint submissions between Volunteering Australia and Justice Connect highlights the inadequacy of the current legal framework in Australia to prevent and address sexual harassment against volunteers and other unpaid workers and recommends a way forward.

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#### VOLUNTEER WEST

### **announcing volconnect: volunteer-to-job program**

Volunteer West is delighted to announce VolConnect – Volunteer-to-Job Program, enabled by \$1M funding from the Victorian Government's Working for Victoria initiative

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## **for LEADERS**

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#### VOLUNTEER WEST PARTNERSHIP

### **volpro: supporting volunteer managers in the west**

Volunteering Victoria is pleased to be partnering with Volunteer West to support more participants in our Continuing Professional Development Program (CPD). The initiative marketed as VolPro by Volunteer West has capacity to support up to 100 volunteer managers in the west to participate in the CPD program.

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#### CLOSES 5 MAY

### **environmental volunteering innovation fund**

The Victorian Government has an exciting new opportunity to inspire ideas and encourage innovation by funding community-led projects that consider new ways of

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\$20,000 or \$50,000 available per project.

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VOLUNTEERING AUSTRALIA

### **volunteering resource hub**

The Volunteering Resource Hub, an initiative of Volunteering Australia, funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services, brings together useful, evidence-based & current best practice resources to support effective volunteer management

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VOLABY

### **volunteer process framework**

Better understand and improve your volunteer management process, so you can better serve the community!

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INFORMATION SHEET

### **volunteers and the covid-19 vaccine roll-out**

Find out how volunteers are included in the phased roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccine.

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INFORMATION SHEET

### **justice connect on work safety for volunteers**

Find out how you can create a safe physical and mental work environment for your volunteers.

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WORKSHOP

### **maximize the impact of your submissions**

Free online workshop for community sector organisations, where you can gain insights on how to make your submissions stand out.

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UPDATE

### **our new database: coming soon**

We have been working very hard behind the scenes to implement a new database which should make everyone's life a little easier! We are currently in a user testing phase and hoping to roll it out in the next few months.

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## **research & REPORTS**

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VOLUNTEERING AUSTRALIA

### **re-engaging volunteers and covid-19 report**

Volunteers across Australia made a remarkable contribution throughout 2020 and organisations adapted and innovated to keep helping the community. Yet COVID-19 restrictions hit volunteering hard. As 2020 ended, Volunteering Australia asked the sector how well volunteering had recovered?

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DELWP

15 years or over who were open to environmental volunteering, with findings at the total sample level being representative of this population across the State. Results are also presented for two priority audiences, which have traditionally been less engaged in environmental volunteering:

- Younger Victorians, aged 15-29 years; and
- Culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups – in this case those who speak a language other than English at home.

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ROYAL COMMISSION INTO AGED CARE QUALITY AND SAFETY

### **final report: care, dignity and respect**

“It is now time for the Australian people, governments, providers, workers, carers and volunteers to take our recommendations forward in the spirit with which they are intended, and truly transform Australia’s aged care system. And keep on doing so!” - Commissioner Briggs (overview)

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VOLUNTEERING AUSTRALIA

### **volunteering and gender: key statistics**

This document provides key statistics about volunteering in Australia by gender. The main source of data is the General Social Survey (GSS) which includes a series of questions about volunteering.

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#### **Membership**

We assist you to lead, manage and support your volunteers more effectively to achieve your vision for volunteering in Victoria.

By joining Volunteering Victoria and working with us, you help ensure there is a formidable, inclusive, and representative voice in volunteering.

[Read more](#)

#### **Volunteering Victoria**

Your state peak body for more effective volunteering

Questions or feedback? Contact us on **03 8327 8500** or [info@volunteeringvictoria.org.au](mailto:info@volunteeringvictoria.org.au)

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

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