



COMMITTEE FOR
**GREATER
SHEPPARTON**

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

I AM WOMAN

BY TAMMY-LEE ATKINSON

Tammy-Lee Atkinson is a Yorta-Yorta artist, born in Echuca but raised in Cummeragunja, Barmah and Kerang. She has lived in Mooroopna for the last 14 years. She completed her Bachelor of Visual Arts at the Institute of Koorie Education at Deakin University in Geelong in 2016.

Tammy-Lee is a proud Aboriginal woman who loves her families story about culture. Being able to express her story through art, whether through painting, drawing or even photography, there will always be a meaning behind the image.

Growing up admiring her grandmother's artwork from emu egg carving to feather flowers, she always had a natural passion for art. Painting and drawing has been important to Tammy for most of her life, allowing her to be grounded and being an escape from life.

Living in Mooroopna has given her more opportunities for art and design, being able to help different Aboriginal organisations with newsletters, photography and promotional items. In her spare time, she has helped

Aboriginal families with designing posters, photos, funeral booklets, birthday invitations and shirts. She is a self-taught artist and designer.

I am Woman was inspired by the NAIDOC 2018: Because of her, We can! Theme. This image is showing the empowerment of women. Who plays a significant role in my life in many ways. Showing a strong mothering role at the centre on our lives. Feeling free to become whoever we want to be like Artist, Sport icons, CEO's business owner, Mother, Carer, Actor, singer, Teacher and many more. I have been surrounded by powerful women in my life and wanting to become one myself.



VISION

To be the Australian centre for dairy and horticulture, exporting reliable premium quality fresh and value added produce via innovative practices and world class irrigation systems. As a major business centre, we will be connected to the world through modern infrastructure and supported by a thriving and educated community that celebrates its rich culture and diversity.



The Committee for Greater Shepparton acknowledges the traditional owners of the land that comprises Greater Shepparton. We pay our respects to their elders, and confirm our commitment to reconciliation with aboriginal people.

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CHAIR AND CEO MESSAGE

2018 saw the Committee for Greater Shepparton mark five years of advocacy and community leadership. It's instructive to look back at the state of our region in the period prior to 2013 and acknowledge that we are in a significantly better place coming into 2019. This change has been the result of many efforts and evolutions, and the Committee has played a strong part in these. For this our members should be rightly proud.

Highlights for 2018 included two reports commissioned by the Committee that made a tangible contribution to political discourse and decision making. The Shepparton Rail study – comparative analysis, completed in February, made clear the stark differences in Shepparton rail services per capita in comparison with other major Regional centres. This along with a sustained political effort by independent Member for Shepparton, Suzanna Sheed, led to a commitment from the Labor Government of \$313m in the State Budget for the upgrade of the Shepparton Rail line.

The Goulburn Valley Health – stage two redevelopment analysis was commissioned by the Committee in the absence of any costings from the Department of Health for this project. It looked at items that had not been funded in stage one and costs based on recent hospital developments in Victoria. With the support of Liberal MLC, Wendy Lovell, this report led to a funding commitment for stage two from Shadow Health Minister, Mary Wooldridge. The document will continue to be a key part of the continued advocacy for this project with the re-elected Labor government. The Committee was also able to influence outcomes in relation to the Murray Darling Basin Plan through its involvement in the GMID Water leadership forum.

Our continued consultation with our Members has been strengthened by the introduction of our Manufacturing Group. This group, chaired by our Membership & Marketing Manager Deanne Armstrong, is just one of the many great networking initiatives provided to our members in 2018.

The Committee was selected to be the back-bone organisation for the GROW Program, which aims to improve procurement and employment outcomes for our region. This program will extend the influence of the Committee and we look forward to working with our members to secure better business outcomes for them.

Another highlight for 2018 was the Gold Member delegation to Canberra to meet then Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and other key decision makers in the Government and opposition. The Member for Murray Damian Drum was instrumental in providing access at the highest levels.

It has been a solid year of achievement and we thank the members for their support and trust that they are seeing the impact of their commitment as we all come together and GROW Greater Shepparton.

Sam Birrell
CEO

Rob Priestly
CHAIR

STRATEGIC PILLARS

PRODUCTIVE

1



Water

The Goulburn Murray Irrigation District (GMID) Water Leadership Forum, which C4GS board member David McKenzie chairs with Suzanna Sheed, achieved some significant outcomes in 2018. Advocacy to Federal Minister Water Minister David Littleproud and Victorian Water Minister Lisa Neville contributed to a better outcome for basin communities at the Ministerial council meeting in December.

The challenge of water availability threatening the viability of GMID industries continues, and the Forum and Committee will push for improved water security for the region.

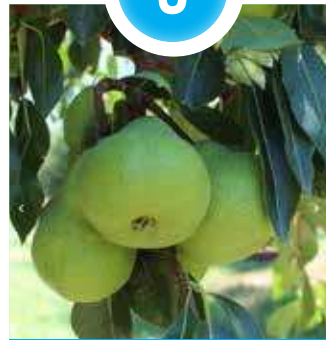
2



Dairy

The Committee for Greater Shepparton collaborated with Murray Dairy on the Future Focus strategy and will advocate for all stakeholders identified to play a part in ensuring the necessary changes and innovations for dairy to prosper in Northern Victoria.

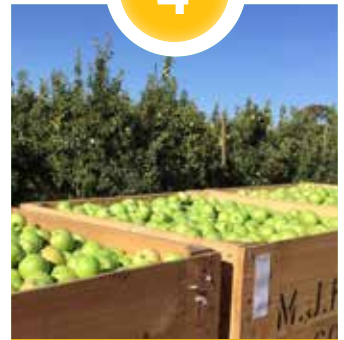
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Horticulture

C4GS continues to be involved in efforts to attract new horticulture businesses to the region through initiatives such as marketing the region at the National Horticulture Convention and Fruit Growers Conference. In addition to interest in new vegetable operations, there are moves to establish fruit tree crops and medicinal cannabis in the region.

4



Fruit Industry

Support for the fruit industry will continue as specific industry issues arise. We have been involved in biosecurity awareness programs and advocacy in relation to labour regulations. We will be working closely with the Apple and Pear industry and with the GROW Greater Shepparton Program to advocate and develop a local food procurement policy.

STRATEGIC PILLARS

CONNECTED

1



Decision Makers

The Committee for Greater Shepparton has developed and maintained strong relationships with key decision makers in state and federal governments. 2018 saw strong engagement in Melbourne and Canberra culminating in the delegation to Canberra meeting the Prime Minister, and other senior Ministers.

2



Rail

Connectivity with Melbourne via passenger rail remains a major issue in the region. Funding of \$313 million from the Victorian Government in the 2018 State Budget for the upgrade of the Shepparton Rail line will see improved services in the near future. The Committee will continue its campaign for eight return services to Melbourne in two hours or less. Freight rail for the GMID, linking into the inland rail project, is also a priority.

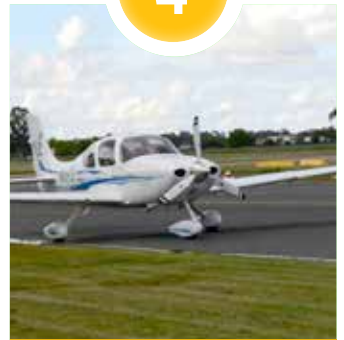
3



Road

The Shepparton Bypass of the Goulburn Valley Highway remains the major road issue being advocated for by the Committee. After an allocation of \$10 million in the 2017 Victorian budget, the Committee, along with the GV. Bypass Action Group and Suzanna Sheed, has been meeting with Ministers and Vic Roads to try to push the project forward.

4



Air

The lack of regular passenger services remains a significant barrier for this region. The relocation of the Shepparton Airport will enable a larger runway and greater capacity for airlinks – passenger and possibly freight, into the future. The Committee facilitated a stakeholders meeting and is working with Greater Shepparton Council to advance a business case for the project.

STRATEGIC PILLARS

CREATIVE

1



Creative Cities

The Committee launched 'Greater Shepparton – A Creative City'. This community consultation was compiled and authored by Anne McCamish. The consultation aims to promote discussion and ideas around a Creative City policy. Anne's report celebrates existing art initiative and identifies gaps in Greater Shepparton fully embracing creativity.

2



Shepparton Art Museum

The Shepparton Art Museum designed by architects Denton Corker Marshall, will be a five-storey building housing the Museum, Visitor Centre, and the Kaiela Art Gallery and Studio. Demolition works commenced in February 2018 with the construction to commence early 2019. The Committee has been a key advocate of the new SAM project.

STRATEGIC PILLARS

INCLUSIVE

1



Education

The Committee has been involved in Shepparton Education Plan, particularly with the Strategic Advisory Committee for the development of the Greater Shepparton College. The College will consist of 9 houses of 300 students on one campus. This will give students the benefit of a small learning environment while at the same time the range of subject and extracurricular opportunities offered by a larger scale campus. The Committee has continued to advise the Education Department on better consultation and decision-making process in relation to the project. We have also advocated strongly to the Victorian Education Minister to announce funding for the entire project, so as to minimise the disruption to students during the build and transition.

2



Health

With building of stage 1 underway, Goulburn Valley Health Stage 2, including an integrated cancer centre, remains a key focus of the Committee. The Committee's stage 2 development report led to the project becoming a local election issue, with a commitment by the opposition. The advocacy effort needs to be doubled to secure a commitment from the Victorian government during this parliament.

3



GROW Project

The Committee for Greater Shepparton has been announced as the backbone organisation for the GROW project. The GROW project aims to increase regional procurement, enhancing the economic output of local businesses and leading to better employment outcomes, particularly for those in disadvantage groups.

BOARD



Rob Priestly Chair

Rob Priestly, is a Director of the family company Gouge Linen and Garment Services. Gouge employs approximately 270 staff with the main operation based in Greater Shepparton. The company services businesses across Victoria from distribution centres in Bendigo, Geelong, Ballarat Bayswater, Tullamarine and Rosebud. Key clients are from health, food processing, and hospitality industries. Before joining the company, Rob worked in domestic, then export grain trading. Rob is married with three sons.

“Our region has seen a increase in confidence and investment, but strong advocacy is more important than ever. We need to continue build on our progress as a community tackling our problems, and capitalise on the opportunities for investments in our region.”



Lesley Hart Deputy Chair

Lesley is a principal lawyer and director of Dawes & Vary Riordan Lawyers. She was one of the inaugural Law Institute of Victoria Commercial Tenancy Law Specialists (1999-2015). She heads the firm's Property and Retail Leasing Group and practices extensively in Commercial and Agricultural property transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and property related Water Law issues. Lesley's advises high wealth individuals, property developers, business owners, agriculturalists and government bodies. She also plays a key role in the management of the law firm.

Lesley loves living in the Goulburn Valley and is a strong advocate for the region. Through her involvement with the Committee for Greater Shepparton and the Goulburn Valley Bypass Action Group she lobbies for better outcomes for the region. She is also particularly passionate about supporting local students to enjoy the same educational opportunities and outcomes as their city counterparts. She is a committed champion of the Greater Shepparton Lighthouse Group, the Goulburn Valley Community Fund Lift-Off scholarship programs, and the law firm's partnership with a local primary school, all of which support educational outcomes.



David McKenzie

David is a property valuer based in Shepparton, specialising in the valuation of agricultural property and water rights. He is a Partner and Director of the Opteon Property Group, who have several offices across northern Victoria and northern Tasmania, employing more 50 staff. David is a Director of Goulburn Murray Water, having previously served as Chair of North East Water, and earlier, several terms at Goulburn Valley Water. He is Chair of the Goulburn Regional Partnership, and Chair of the State-wide Regional Development Advisory Committee – the peak advisory group to the State Government on matters affecting regional Victoria. David also served on the Board of Shepparton Retirement Villages (including three terms as President) for 11 years. David has taken a lead role in the GMID Water Leadership Forum – a group tasked with advocating for balanced community outcomes from the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

BOARD



Leigh Findlay

Leigh is a Director of Shepparton based engineering firm CAF Consulting employing over 30 people. Leigh grew up in Shepparton before leaving to study Civil Engineering at Monash University and worked across various civil infrastructure development projects in Melbourne. In pursuit of large-scale project experience five years was spent in the United Kingdom on Motorway and Airport Development – notably Terminal 5 Heathrow which brought him back to Melbourne Airport where he led various landside and airside development projects for APAM. Project Finance was key to infrastructure development which led Leigh into further studies and an investment banking role with Citigroup. An opportunity to come home to Shepparton and join the family business presented in 2009, which Leigh initially committed to for 2 years. Having witnessed firsthand the professional talent and exciting projects being undertaken across the Greater Shepparton region, Leigh and his family have immersed into Shepparton for the long term where he plays an active role in the community, holding positions on the Infrastructure Goulburn Valley (INGV) Committee and Board Member of the Shepparton Festival.



Damian Trezise

As Managing Director of McPherson Media Group, Damian is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the group, encompassing commercial printing, custom publishing, events, and all newspaper and online publishing assets. Schooled in business management both here and overseas, Damian is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and committed to preserving the family values of the McPherson Media Group and its dedication to the communities it serves. In addition to his duties as Managing Director, Damian has previously been a member of the CEO Institute and served on the Boards of the Goulburn Valley Community Fund, GOTAFE, Country Press Australia and as the Chairman of the Victorian Country Press Association where he remains a Director. Other positions he currently holds include; Director of Regional Dailies Victoria, local member of Rotary, an inaugural and ongoing committee member of Shepparton's Biggest Blokes Lunch while he also sits on the Board and Audit and Finance Committee of Goulburn Valley Grammar School.

"C4GS plays a significant leadership role by keeping members and local businesses informed about significant economic, social and cultural issues relevant to the region through effective facilitation and communicative forums."

Anthony Putt – ConnectGV (Community Member)

"The capacity of the Committee to work in partnership with other organisations, politicians and community leaders has contributed greatly to a clearer vision for our future and it is evident there remains a valuable role for this organisation in promoting our region and attracting further investment. This is an exciting time to be living and working in the City of Greater Shepparton and I commend the Committee for five years of strong local advocacy."

Suzanna Sheed MP – State Member of Parliament for Shepparton District

BOARD



Jane Macey

With a passion for rural and regional development, Jane enjoys her current position as Principal town planner with Spiire in Shepparton. Jane forms part of the consultant team at Spiire, assisting in a wide variety of land development projects and strategic land use assessments. She also oversees the business' Town Planning and Urban Design Practice Area across Spiire's six offices. Prior to Shepparton Jane lived and worked in Melbourne, where she was born, Bendigo and Mornington Peninsula, as well as internationally in Dublin, Ireland. Jane now lives with her husband Damian on their family dairy farm near Cobram, along with their three daughters. Jane enjoys being part of the local community and actively participates on the St Joseph's Cobram Primary School Advisory Board and with the Cobram Junior Tennis Association. Jane was also part of the 2018 Fairley Leadership Program cohort. As part of the C4GS she looks forward to advocating for progress and positive recognition of what our local area has to offer.



Scott Kelly

An experienced business owner and director. Scott was the Managing Director of the Kelly Communications Group from 2000 to 2016; they operated Telstra businesses; mainly the Telstra stores in Shepparton and Echuca and the Telstra Business Centre Northern Victoria. He negotiated the strategic sale of the companies to the public listed Vita organisation in 2016. During that time Scott also served for 6 years up to 2014 on the board of the Telstra Licensee Association which is a National member organisation. Scott is now semi-retired and focused on Life Work balance and has a passion to give back to the community. He works part time as a Business Improvement consultant in SKS Hub which is a firm he started in 2016 and is a partner in. He also sits on the board of ConnectGV and is the Chairperson of their Infrastructure committee which is in the progress to build a new \$3m day services and administration building. He brings commercial experience, strategic thinking and analytical attributes and a passion for Greater Shepparton to continue to prosper.

"Well done to the C4GS. You are a great organisation to work with and I congratulate the whole team for your advocacy. Shepparton is a great place to live and we need to sing its praises whilst at the same time, work to make its future even better".

The Hon Damian Drum MP – National Party, Member for Murray

"Recognising that dairy is one of the major economic drivers of our region, C4GS continues to foster and facilitate opportunities for our dairy industry across many regional and state platforms"

Jenny Wilson – Murray Dairy (Gold Member)

EXECUTIVE



Sam Birrell
CEO

Sam Birrell completed an Agricultural Science degree through Melbourne University at Dookie before working in the Goulburn Valley horticultural sector. He then worked for 8 years with multinational irrigation business, Netafim. Sam has a long history of community involvement, previously as Chair for the Shepparton Festival Board. He is current Chair of the Fairley Leadership Program, and the La Trobe University Regional Advisory Board. Sam completed an MBA with La Trobe University, graduating in 2018.



Deanne Armstrong
Membership & Marketing Manager

As Membership and Marketing Manager for Committee for Greater Shepparton, Deanne is responsible for consultation with current members, engaging new members, and marketing the C4GS brand. Our members are a great source of information for our Committee and through consultation we can better understand the members business, our community and region. Deanne has experienced a range of industry sectors including hospitality, retail and business, contracting for companies such as Hungry Jacks, Nando's and Boost Juice. Deanne has also worked for Victoria Police at the Glen Waverley Police Academy, Eastern Region Headquarters Knox and Divisional Office in Shepparton for a total of 4 years. Moving on to Goulburn Murray Water for 12 months as a Modernisation Coordinator, where her experience growing up on dairy, beef and grazing farms was beneficial. Now working for the Committee for Greater Shepparton, Deanne brings a range of skills and knowledge to help support and drive the region and community into the future. Some of Deanne's recent achievements have been forming a local Manufacturing Group, Board member for the Kyabram District Health Service where she also Co-Chairs a sub-committee for Community and Cultural Governance, Secretary for the Nathalia Football Netball Club and completing the Fairley Leadership Program in 2017. Deanne has also taken on the Co-Chair role for Careers Day Out, a local event attracting over 1400 students to provide an insight into local career opportunities and working on the connection between our future workforce and our local businesses.



Nicola Woods
Office Manager

Nicola is the Office Manager at the Committee for Greater Shepparton. Nicola is responsible for all administration duties including finances, social media, website and assisting both the CEO and Membership and Marketing Manager. Nicola has only recently moved to Shepparton with her family from the Yarra Valley where she was the Office and IT Manager at Coombe Yarra Valley. Nicola has experience in a range of differing industry's including hospitality, government and small business allowing her to gain a great deal of administration and customer service experience along with the ability to form strong relationships with people from within the community.

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Many organisations commission reports that gather dust on shelves. The Committee for Greater Shepparton is focussed on work that can create a real difference for the region and create solid momentum. Here is an example of our work in that area over 2018.

SHEPPARTON RAIL STUDY REPORT BY EMS CONSULTING

Purpose – The differences in train services between Shepparton and other regional centres had been understood but not clearly quantified. This report served to highlight, prior to the state budget, the comparative inadequacy of the Shepparton train service.

Take Away Message – Shepparton has 6 weekday services per 100,000 residents. Bendigo has 20, Traralgon has 24 and Bendigo has 21.

Outcome – This report was one of a number of efforts that led to the state government committing \$313 million to the Shepparton rail corridor in the 2018 budget.



GOULBURN VALLEY HEALTH: STAGE 2 RE-DEVELOPMENT REPORT BY EMS CONSULTING

Purpose – GV Health Stage 1 funding was committed by the State Government in 2016, and building is underway. Stage 2 involves critical elements of the masterplan, including increases in medical ward, acute mental health facilities and an integrated cancer centre.

Take Away Message – GV Health is no longer fit for purpose. Stage 2 is a critical part of the re-development and will require between \$271.6 million and \$374.2 million.

Outcome – Prior to the election, Shadow Health Minister Mary Wooldridge committed to funding stage 2 based on the Committee's report. It remains a powerful tool in the ongoing lobbying effort to the State Government.



FUTURE FOCUS ON THE MURRAY DAIRY REGION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MURRAY DAIRY

Purpose – The Dairy Industry is one of the key economic drivers and faces significant challenges from a changing landscape. A strategy is required to help the industry navigate these challenges, with support from the whole region, not just the agricultural sector.

Take Away Message – The key areas of focus for the strategy are: Profit, Systems, Water, People and Planning. Actions need to be taken in all these areas by stakeholders specified in the report.

Outcome – The report is being finalised, but the intention is that stakeholders will be able to play their part in making the necessary policy changes to ensure a positive future for the industry.



HIGHLIGHTS

QUARTER ONE

2 February 2018 GMID Water Leadership Forum



The forum has been a leading, informed voice on water policy for the region. February's meeting developed strategy in relation to media comments by the new Water Minister, David Littleproud on the 450GL up water. Peter Hall submitted a powerful piece to the Weekly Times from the perspective of GMID irrigators.

13 February 2018 Opposition Leader Matthew Guy visited Shepparton



Opposition Leader Matthew Guy visited Shepparton and discussed the coalitions approach to Rail and decentralisation policy with The Committee.

15 February 2018 Annual General Meeting



The Committee for Greater Shepparton held its AGM with guest speaker Minister for Education James Merlino. The Minister spoke about the need to improve educational outcomes for young people in the Greater Shepparton Region and outlined how the Shepparton Education Plan and the Greater Shepparton College might do this. The Committee implored the Minister to continue his commitment to Education and fast track funding for the new school. Board Members Rebecca Woolstencroft and Peter Gray stepped down and Jane Macey and Scott Kelly were elected to join The Committee of Greater Shepparton Board. Rob Priestly was re-elected as The Committee for Greater Shepparton Chair and Lesley Hart was elected as Deputy Chair.

9 March 2018 Meeting with David Littleproud



The GMID Water Leadership Forum met with Federal Water Minister David Littleproud in Shepparton. Committee Board member David McKenzie highlighted the impact of the Basin plan on the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District so far and emphasised the studies showing catastrophic effects if a further 450GL is removed from the Basin consumptive pool. The subject of a socio-economic neutrality test is discussed with the Minister.

HIGHLIGHTS

15 March 2018

G4GS Release Shepparton Rail Study



The Committee for Greater Shepparton releases the Shepparton Rail study – a comparative analysis. The study shows empirical evidence of significantly fewer and slower services pre-capita than other major regional centres. The report gained significant media attention and was commented on by the State Government and Opposition.

22 March 2018

Leaders Edge



The Committee for Greater Shepparton participated in the 'Leaders Edge' function, hosted by the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Discussions of governance, regional development, leadership and the new Shepparton Art Museum were conducted by a panel consisting of Sam Birrell, Carillo Gantner and Suzanna Sheed.

QUARTER TWO

9 – 20 April 2018

Shepp Square and Shepparton Expats Event



The Committee for Greater Shepparton took part in the 'Shepp Square' event as Greater Shepparton took over Federation square. Panel discussions on the liveability of Greater Shepparton and the Shepparton Art Museum were held in the Deakin Edge auditorium. The Committee hosted the Shepparton Expats function.

26 April 2018
Careers Day Out



The Committee for Greater Shepparton helped organise Careers Day out and event linking our business community with aspiring Secondary School students.

HIGHLIGHTS

1 May 2018 Victorian State Budget

The Victorian State budget had some significant announcements for Greater Shepparton. Most prominently the \$350 million to upgrade the Shepparton Rail Corridor. Also included in the budget was \$20.5 million dollars for the Shepparton Education Plan.

7 May 2018 #FAIRFLOW Campaign



The FAIRFLOW social media campaign gathered momentum during this period. Many stakeholders and leaders were photographed holding the #Fairflow sign and factual analysis was used to respond to media and social media comment.

23 May 2018 Dairy Industry – Future Focus Project



A dinner hosted by The Committee for Greater Shepparton and Murray Dairy was held with key Dairy Industry and Committee stakeholders to hear of the interim report of the Murray Dairy Regional Strategy. Five key areas of focus for the Dairy Industry were established; Profit, Systems, Water, People and Planning.

5 June 2018 Creative Cities Launch



The Creative Cities Community Consultation report authored by The Committee for Greater Shepparton member, Anne McCamish, was launched. The report outlines the extent of creativity in the region and based on community feedback makes recommendations as to enhance creativity and move towards the development of a Creative Cities policy.

15 June 2018 Tour of the new Shepparton Magistrates Court



Committee for Greater Shepparton members were given the rare opportunity to take part in a private tour of the new Shepparton Magistrates Court. Members were impressed by the design and the thought that had gone into ensuring the dignity of all people having to use the facility.

HIGHLIGHTS

QUARTER THREE

25 July 2018

Emerging Leaders Dinner



The Committee co-hosted this event with GV Young Professionals where we discussed Mental Health and causes of mental health issues in the workplace. Our guest speakers Warren Davies - The Unbreakable Farmer, Love me Love You Foundation and Australian Primary Mental Health Alliance provided an insight into what it is like to live with a mental health challenges, prevention and also what support services are available to our businesses and community. It was great to start these conversations and we hope this also helps start conversations in the workplace.

15 August 2018

Shepparton GROW Project Announcement



Labor MLC Mark Gepp, announced the Committee for Greater Shepparton had been selected as the backbone organisation responsible for delivering the GROW program. GROW - Growing Regional Opportunities for Work has been successfully operating in Geelong for a number of years, and now will be rolled out in Latrobe Valley, Greater Shepparton, Bendigo and Ballarat. The program aims to improve procurement to benefit regional businesses, and to develop better pathways to employment.

22 August 2018

Work Placement



This year The Committee started hosting Zahra from McGuire College as a Work Placement student. Work Placement provides the students the opportunity to explore the careers available right here in our region. Zahra assisted The Committee with Media monitoring and contributed a compelling article about refugee relocation titled "My Story" for our website. shadow Sam around to meetings and will have the opportunity to meet some of our most influential leaders in Shepparton.

HIGHLIGHTS

22 August 2018

Gold Member Canberra Trip



The Committee for Greater Shepparton, along with a delegation of members, visited Canberra for a series of meetings at Parliament house including; with the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull. Committee for Greater Shepparton Chair, Rob Priestly, spoke to the Prime Minister of a united community and a microcosm of Australian society that was developing place-based solutions for challenges of the future. Greater Shepparton, Rob stated, was therefore an example for the nation.

Meetings were also held with Ministers and members with portfolio's relevant to our region, including Education, Water, Agriculture, Infrastructure and Indigenous affairs.

20 September 2018

Meeting with the Minister for Roads Luke Donnellan MP



A delegation from Greater Shepparton facilitated by Member for Shepparton, Suzanna Sheed, met with State Roads Minister Luke Donnellan to discuss progress on the Shepparton Bypass.

QUARTER FOUR

8 October 2018

GV Health Re-Development Report



The Committee for Greater Shepparton commissioned a report into what stage two of the GV Health re-development would cost, based on the elements of the master plan that had not been funded in stage one, and comparative hospital builds in other regional areas. This report was necessary because the Department of Health had not yet released costings for stage two of the project. The report lead to a response from the Government and a funding commitment from Shadow Health Minister Mary Wooldridge.

10 October 2018

Committee for Greater Shepparton's 5th Birthday



HIGHLIGHTS



The Committee celebrated our 5th Birthday at an event at the Woolshed at Emerald Bank. Our inaugural Chair, David McKenzie, gave an address reflecting on his speech in 2013 that called for the development of a Committee for Greater Shepparton and what has happened since. David invited the members and stakeholders to compare their answer then and now to the question: am I proud to say that I am from Shepparton? The sentiment was that the community cohesion and progress had been improved greatly by the Committee's work.

21-23 October 2018 Committees for Cities



The Committee for Greater Shepparton attended the Committees for Cities meeting in Adelaide. The Committee for Adelaide hosted the network of 'Committee for' from across Australia for a biannual meeting. While in Adelaide they visited ASC and Naval Shipbuilding College to set South Australia's defence scene. They heard from PwC Australia (Adelaide) and Deloitte Australia (Adelaide) on their key studies on the state and met the newly appointed Chief Entrepreneur Jim Whalley. It was all capped off by enjoying Adelaide food and wine at Adelaide Casino's Sean's Kitchen.

14 November 2018 State Election Candidate Forum – Eastbank



The Committee for Greater Shepparton co-hosted the Victorian Election Candidates forum. The Committee CEO, Sam Birrell, moderated the event, putting questions to candidates for the seat of Shepparton in front of a large audience at East Bank. The event was also live streamed on Facebook.

14 November 2018 Victorian State Election



The Victorian State election was held. Independent member, Suzanna Sheed, retains the seat of Shepparton and Labor, under Daniel Andrews, is returned to Government.

MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 2018

Committee for Greater Shepparton can not operate without having a broad range of members supporting our strategic goals. Each member represents a business and employees.



Our members are spread across a range of industries.




This allows Committee for Greater Shepparton a broad range of businesses to consult with and understand their businesses.

Our members are the backbone of our community supporting many local jobs.



MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS




COMMUNITY

NOT FOR PROFIT

MEMBER EVENTS (1 GUEST)

AGM INVITATION (1 GUEST)

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION



BRONZE

\$2,000 FOR 1 YEAR + GST

MEMBER EVENTS (2 GUESTS)

AGM INVITATION (2 GUESTS)


INVITATION TO VISITING MINISTER EVENTS

CONSULTATION WITH EXECUTIVE

ANNUAL REPORT INCLUSION-LOGO

WEBSITE ADVERTISING-LOGO

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION



SILVER

\$5,000 FOR 1 YEAR + GST

GOLD & SILVER MEMBER FUNCTION
MELBOURNE

MEMBER EVENTS (3 GUESTS)

AGM INVITATION (3 GUESTS)

OPPORTUNITY TO CO-HOST AN EVENT

INVITATION TO VISITING MINISTER EVENTS


CONSULTATION WITH EXECUTIVE

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING-LOGO

ANNUAL REPORT INCLUSION-LOGO

WEBSITE ADVERTISING-LOGO

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION



GOLD

\$10,000 FOR 1 YEAR + GST

GOLD & SILVER MEMBER FUNCTION
MELBOURNE

MEMBER EVENTS (4 GUESTS)

AGM INVITATION (4 GUESTS)

GOLD MEMBER LUNCHEON

INVITATION TO VISITING MINISTER EVENTS

BUSINESS ADVOCACY

CONSULTATION WITH EXECUTIVE &
BOARD

JOIN A DELEGATION TO ADVOCATE
IN CANBERRA

OPPORTUNITY TO CO-HOST AN EVENT

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING-LOGO

ANNUAL REPORT INCLUSION-LOGO

WEBSITE ADVERTISING-LOGO

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION



OUR MEMBERS

GOLD MEMBERS



www.pental.com.au



(03) 5822 8800



www.gvwater.vic.gov.au



www.ffgl.com.au



www.gotafe.vic.edu.au



www.gmcu.com.au



www.g-mwater.com.au



www.gvhealth.org.au



www.kbtransport.com.au



www.theapprenticeshipfactory.com.au



www.latrobe.edu.au/shepparton



www.rubiconwater.com



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Alarm over expressions of interest call for new water recovery projects

Goulburn Murray Irrigation District Water Leadership group spokesman Sam Birrell said he was alarmed at calls for expressions of interest, in projects to deliver a further 450GL of environmental water.

Mr Birrell said the term 'socio-economic neutrality' meant no negative impact on the economy or the community.

"But the authors of the plan have attempted to define the socio-economic impact of water removal from a region as relating to the water licence holder only.

"It is like showing a picture of an elephant and then setting out a number of qualifications and definitions as to why it is really a zebra."

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

SHEPPARTON News

Funds needed to finish GV Health redevelopment

The community and stakeholders are calling for the second stage of the Goulburn Valley Health redevelopment to be funded, on the back of new analysis into what it might cost for it to happen.

A Committee for Greater Shepparton-commissioned report has delivered a ballpark dollar figure for the GV Health upgrade, stage two — between \$272million and \$374million.

"GV Health's buildings are at the end of their life cycle,"

"As positive as the stage one funding has been, a commitment to stage two is now critical to complete the redevelopment."

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

SHEPPARTON News

Greater Shepparton soon to GROW with program

Shepparton will be one of four regional centres to be included into a pilot program aimed to boost economic outcomes and employment in their regions.

The Committee for Greater Shepparton will be a lead agency in a program, which will also expand to Ballarat, Bendigo and Gippsland after being established in the Geelong area.

"There are a number of opportunities for organisations, both within the region and outside, to ensure that where possible goods and services are procured from the Goulburn Valley."

"With the associated economic uplift and a co-ordinated effort to increase work readiness among the population, we can significantly improve the social fabric of the region."

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

THE ADVISER

Committee proves big winner for region

THE Committee for Greater Shepparton recently celebrated its fifth year of service, aiming to assist in improving economic development and livability within the community.

"The committee has been integral in establishing a different attitude toward what can be achieved for the local community.

"We endeavour to ensure the community that with the right ideas, strategic thinking and technical knowledge, you have the capacity to make powerful changes."

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

SHEPPARTON News

La Trobe University's Shepparton campus needs

A lack of funding is hindering the expansion of La Trobe University's Shepparton campus on Fryers St, according to local business, politics and education leaders.

"It was built in 2008-09 with the intention that it will last 20 years. It's full in 10 years. That shows you the success of La Trobe University in Shepparton and how critical it is to the region."

"They want to expand. We need the skilled people. It's an obvious candidate for a relatively modest set of investments from the state and federal governments."

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

THE WEEKLY TIMES

Freedom Foods in Shepparton expansion

FREEDOM Foods Group has signed up an additional 30 million litres of milk from dairy farmers in northern Victoria and southern NSW to supply its Shepparton factory.

Freedom Foods managing director Rory Macleod said about \$60 million of the raised capital would be spent on the Shepparton plant over the next 18 months to double annual output from 250 million litres to 500 million litres in coming years.

\$60 million Shepparton upgrade would include specialised dryers plus a blending and packaging line for manufacturing infant and adult sports nutrition products.

He said the investment was driven by demand in both domestic and international markets.

DENILQUIN PASTORAL TIMES

There's no need to rush the outcomes of four solar farm proposals for the city, nor on a framework for future solar developments, the Committee For Greater Shepparton says.

Instead, it is important that guidelines for future solar developments are coherent, sensible and mindful of future land use.

Committee chairman Rob Priestly said while there was anticipation around a report and decisions on the four solar developments, a few more weeks would not hurt the outcome.

"Everyone in the community is keen to see a result on the solar farm applications, but I think it's better to take a few more weeks, and get a coherent policy from the state government," he said.

"Once they are built, we are locking that land out of production for a generation or more."

- Rob Priestly, C4GS Chair

MEDIA

NEWSPAPER

SHEPPARTON News

Hopes Shepparton will benefit from airport rail link

Mr Birrell believed an opportunity existed to extend the infrastructure into a northern link, connecting in Bendigo and Shepparton.

"If it's a high-speed link from the CBD to the airport, and in the future strategy is to link the northern population centres via the airport, then yes... I think that would work really well in improving the connectivity," he said.

Mr Birrell said the Seymour corridor shared line infrastructure, meaning trains were not able to travel at maximum speed to complete trips as quickly as possible.

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

THE ADVISER

Shepparton front and centre in Canberra

A COHORT of representatives from the Committee for Greater Shepparton, Greater Shepparton City Council, the Lighthouse Project, Kaiela Institute and business and education delegates took Shepparton to Canberra last week to help see that the region is front and centre. The group of about 18 met with senior members of government to deliver positive messages of Greater Shepparton's growth and vibrancy and to ensure parliament knows that Shepparton is the regional centre to be investing in.

"It was terrific to put our vision of what Greater Shepparton could be to the ministers. I think we presented quite a united front and showed that Shepparton has a united leadership that has a shared vision for the future of the region."

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

SHEPPARTON News

Coca-Cola Amatil puts SPC up for sale

Coca-Cola Amatil's proposed sale of SPC has been met with cautious optimism. Committee for Greater Shepparton chief executive Sam Birrell said while SPC was important to the region, gone were the days of Shepparton being a one-company town.

"Shepparton doesn't rise and fall on SPC the way it used to,"

"Yes, it's an important company, but it's no longer the biggest employer in town and many fruit growers have diversified and rely on the fresh fruit market."

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

The Sydney Morning Herald

Murray-Darling's future hangs in the balance

Sam Birrell, chief executive of the Greater Shepparton Committee, is concerned such compliance might not be so assured in the future if the changes to the plan get blocked in the Senate next week.

"I'd be amazed if that got disallowed," Birrell tells Fairfax Media. The initial implementation of the plan in 2012 brought out "a lunatic fringe" that he hopes doesn't return.

Birrell, who grew up on a property beside the Goulburn at Murchison, says "everyone believes in the river".

"We feel we're at a tipping point, if [another] significant amount of water left this region, next time we get to a dry period ... there's not enough in the pool for the farms that need to buy," he says.

The losses could "get to a point where the dairy industry, in particular, just can't stand that".

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

SHEPPARTON News

Time to clear basin plan hurdles

The Murray-Darling Basin Plan issue is reaching another one of its crisis points.

The removal of a further 450GL from the basin would clearly hurt our economy and community. Production would decline, jobs would be lost and the dairy industry would face extreme hardship.

- Sam Birrell, C4GS CEO

THE WEEKLY TIMES

Shepparton council wants to build a new airport to replace aerodrome

PASSENGER flights from northern Victoria to Australia's major capitals could be a reality if Shepparton gets its way.

Greater Shepparton Council wants to build a new airport to replace its ageing aerodrome, with flights to Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney as part of the package, and a long-term vision of exporting the region's produce through freight services.

"We're the fifth-largest city in Victoria, we're a growing city, we've got international companies here and their executives forever coming in or out to check their progress ... and we're known as the food bowl for Victoria," Greater Shepparton chief executive Peter Harriott said. The plan has support from the Committee for Greater Shepparton, with its chief executive Sam Birrell adding passenger links would make the city an attractive location for the Federal Government's decentralisation plans.

"Connectivity is really important if regional cities are going to grow," Mr Birrell said.

"This is really looking into the future and how our city can grow with an airlink."

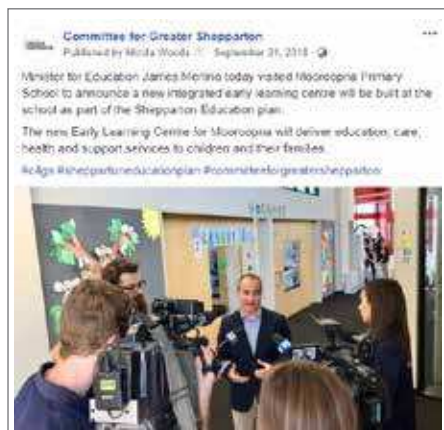
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