



Volunteering and Participation Portal

Reference Group

Background

The development of a Volunteering and Participation Portal is a key feature of *Victoria's Volunteering Strategy 2009*, which aims to support volunteers and volunteer-based organisations to strengthen community participation.

The Volunteering and Participation Portal will consolidate and significantly improve the Victorian Government's web based communications, engagement, support and resources for volunteers, community volunteering organisations, as well as for key local, state and federal government agencies.

The Volunteering and Participation Portal will be used as a platform for promoting the change agenda in volunteering and will respond to the strategic actions articulated in *Victoria's Volunteering Strategy 2009*

Purpose

The Reference Group is an advisory group representing community volunteering interests across the sector. The group will be selected to represent a cross-section of organisations of varying size, capacity and resources. The purpose of this group is to provide DPCD with a sounding board of community views to inform the development of the portal and interrelated components of the volunteering strategy.

Terms of Reference

- Participate in forums as available to share ideas regarding the volunteering portal
- Provide input into and feedback on the services and functionality being implemented via the volunteering portal
- Provide local information, knowledge and expertise to help inform project plans and strategies
- Assist in portal testing as available, including:
 - User testing to ensure portal is intuitive and easy-to-use
 - Testing of specific portal components and functionality
- Populate the portal with local information and opportunities prior to release
- Champion the portal across the volunteering sector
- Participate in pilot programmes as available

Meeting Schedule

3-4 meetings of the Reference Group will be held during 2010. .



Membership

Name	Reference Group Role	Position/Organisation
Damian Ferrie	Chair, Project Sponsor	Executive Director, Community Programs
TBA	Standing Member	Infoxchange
TBA	Standing Member	Red Cross
TBA	Standing Member	Our Community
TBA	Standing Member	Volunteering Australia
TBA	Standing Member	Volunteering Victoria
TBA	Standing Member	VCOSS
TBA	Standing Member	TBA/Environment (e.g. Conservation Volunteers Australia)
TBA	Standing Member	vicsport
TBA	Standing Member	Municipal Association of Victoria or Victorian Local Government Organisation
TBA	Standing Member	Community Skillsbank
TBA	Standing Member	TBA/Youth
TBA	Standing Member	TBA/Disability
TBA	Standing Member	TBA/Arts/Heritage/Culture/Music
TBA	Standing Member	TBA/CFA or association dealing primarily with emergencies
TBA	Standing Member	TBA/Seniors
TBA	Standing Member	TBA/Multicultural
TBA	Standing Member	TBA/Relevant Government agencies



Marcus Godhino	Standing Member	Fareshare
Beau Zlatkovic	Project Manager	Web Project Manager, Community Programs
Fiona Patterson	Project Coordinator	Senior Program Officer, Community Programs

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