



Murray Darling Association Inc.

admin@mda.asn.au
www.mda.asn.au
T (03) 5480 3805
ABN: 64 636 490 493

L1 250 Anstruther Street
P.O. Box 1268
Echuca, Vic 3564

Region 9 Ordinary Meeting AGENDA

Location: Leeton Shire Council Chambers
23-25 Chelmsford Place Leeton NSW 2705
Date/time: 17 February 2021 - 10.00am commencement
Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/97638319306?pwd=cTIYTklic1d4QmVvbFhVMkRnWjNVZz09>

1. ATTENDANCE (P MAYTOM)

- 1.1 Present
- 1.2 Apologies

2. WELCOME (P MAYTOM)

- 2.1 Introduction and Welcome to Country

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (P MAYTOM)

4. MINUTES (P MAYTOM) (pages 3 – 5)

- 4.1 Minutes of the previous meeting – 2 December 2020

5. CEO'S REPORT AND BOARD MINUTES (E BRADBURY)

- 5.1 CEO's reports November and December 2020 <https://www.mda.asn.au/about-us/ceo-s-reports.aspx>
- 6.1 MDA Board Meeting November and December 2020 (No's 404 and 405)
<https://www.mda.asn.au/agendas-minutes.aspx>

6. CHANGE OF NAME (E BRADBURY) (page 6)

- 6.1 Change of name consultation update

7. ANNUAL REPORT - REGION 9 CONTRIBUTION (P MAYTOM) (pages 7 – 10)

- 7.1 Review and comment

8. MOTIONS TO NATIONAL CONFERENCE - REGION 9 (P MAYTOM) (pages 11 – 13)

- 8.1 Consider support of any motions already proposed
- 8.2 Consider process for submission and support of any future motions

9. NATIONAL CONFERENCE (E BRADBURY) (pages 14 – 23)

- 9.1 2021 Date and location confirmed – Wentworth 17 – 19 May 2021
- 9.2 Annual Report
- 9.3 Speakers and Sponsors
- 9.4 National Conference bid 2022

10. GENERAL BUSINESS (P MAYTOM & E BRADBURY)

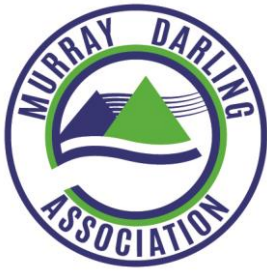
- 10.1 WaterNSW Murrumbidgee Customer Advisory Group Meeting on Metering – 28 January 2021 (*P Maytom*).
- 10.2 Lake Mejum/Coolah Meeting at Griffith – 11 February 2021 (*P Maytom*)
- 10.3 Regional Boundary Review – Engagement with local govt region peaks and RDs (*E Bradbury*)
- 10.4 MDA Regional Water Security Position Statements (*E Bradbury*)

11. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS (P MAYTOM)

- 11.1 Ordinary Meeting: 30 June 2021
- 11.2 Annual General Meeting: 30 June 2021

12. CLOSE (P MAYTOM)

The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks Leeton Shire Council for its support in hosting this meeting of Region 9.



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Region 9 Ordinary Meeting MINUTES

Location: Leeton Shire Council Chambers
23-25 Chelmsford Place Leeton NSW 2705
Date/time: 2 December 2020 - 10.00am commencement

1. Attendance

1.1 Present

Mayor Paul Maytom – Leeton Shire Council (Chairman)
Emma Bradbury – CEO MDA
Cr Jenny Clarke- Narrandera Shire Council
Mayor Greg Conkey – Wagga Wagga City Council
Vince Kelly – Senior Regional Water Strategy Officer, Water NSW (part)
Jackie Kruger – General Manager, Leeton Shire Council
Mandy Rogers – Leeton Shire Council (Secretary)
Mayor Ruth McRae – Murrumbidgee Council
John Scarce – General Manager - Murrumbidgee Council
Joe Burns – Private Member
Bede Spannangle - Riverina Water County Council
Brett Stonestreet - Griffith City Council
Share Wilson – Acting General Manager, Narrandera Shire Council
Matt Woodward – Senior Engagement Officer, MDBA

1.2 Apologies

Mayor Ruth McRae – Murrumbidgee Council
Mayor John Dal Broi - Griffith City Council

2. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting both in person and via videolink.

3. Acknowledgement of Country

4. Presentation – Regional Water Strategies

Vince Kelly – Senior Regional Water Strategy Officer Water NSW attended the Meeting and presented the document titled “WaterNSW Operations Update - Murrumbidgee Valley - ROSCCo November 2020”, which had been provided to attendees prior to the Meeting.

The presentation covered the following key topics:

- Dam storage levels
- Rainfall, temperatures and resultant inflows
- Climatic outlook and impact on future inflows
- Storage and water allocation forecasts
- Murrumbidgee Resource Distribution and Water Availability as at 16 November 2020
- Inter Valley Transfer (IVT) Account
- River Transmission Loss, including specific information on Yanco Creek
- End of System Flow Targets for specific locations
- Operation Loss
- System Outage Plan

Vince Kelly left the meeting.

5. Declaration of Interest

No interests were declared.

6. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 September 2020 were taken as read and accepted.

7. CEO's Report

It was noted that the CEO's Reports for August and October 2020 are at:

<https://www.mda.asn.au/about-us/ceo-s-reports.aspx>. The Reports were taken as read and noted.

The CEO provided a verbal update as the December 2020 CEO Report was not available at the time of the meeting. The following points were covered by the CEO:-

- The executive have implemented a new consultation and engagement framework, which is now the standard for MDA consultation.
- An overview of the CEO's consultation visit to the Western NSW regions.
- The CEO and MDA Chair had met with various Ministers and the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment in Canberra to progress resolutions from the MDA Conference and AGM and other objectives of the MDA (including the name change).
- Consultation will be taking place with the Bureau of Meteorology regarding the development of an “app” for water information.
- With regard to the NSW Water Infrastructure Options Study, it is important that there is consistency of infrastructure programs, including that of the National Water Infrastructure Authority and the CEO will be progressing discussions on this matter.

- The RAMJO Water Security Position Statement, and the approach taken, as presented at the MDA Conference, has been well received by the MDBA and represents a good example of what can be achieved by a Joint Organisation.
- The Relationship Agreement between the MDA and the CSIRO has now been signed.
- A strategic planning workshop for the MDA is being planned for late February or early March 2021.

8. Name Change

The Change of Name Briefing Paper and Frequently Asked Questions document was taken as read and considered. The CEO provided a verbal update and it was noted that:-

- That there has been some resistance from Metropolitan Councils to the proposal.
- It is up to each Council to determine their own decision-making process in relation to the proposal.

9. MDA Board Meeting Minutes

It was noted that the MDA Board Meeting Minutes for August and October 2020 (no's 401 and 403) are at: <https://www.mda.asn.au/agendas-minutes.aspx>. The minutes were taken as read and noted.

10. General Business

Lake Coolah/Mejum

The Chairman provided an overview of the Lake Coolah/Mejum water storage proposal and advised that he had been approached by David Farley regarding MDA support for the proposal. It was noted that David Farley is also seeking the support of the MDBA.

Agreed that the CEO would review the status of the proposal with the MDBA with a view to ascertaining if the MDA should commit resources to supporting the proposal.

Region 9 Climate Ready Statement

The paper titled "Region 9 Climate Ready Statement" being a covering memo and the updated Region 9 Climate Ready Statement was taken as read and considered.

Agreed to formally endorse the Region 9 Climate Ready Statement and to request Leeton Shire Council to advise the MDA executive that the Statement has been formally endorsed by Region 9.

Chairman's comments

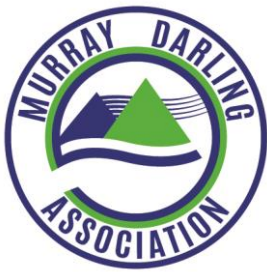
In closing the Chairman:-

- Noted that the presentation from Vince Kelly had been very informative and it is important that the information is provided to the wider community.
- Thanked M Seymour and M Rogers for their secretariat support for Region 9 during 2020.
- Wished Region 9 a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

11. Close and Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting is scheduled for 17 February 2021.

The meeting closed at 12.45pm.



Murray Darling Association Inc.

TOPIC: MDA CHANGE OF NAME

BACKGROUND

The MDA Executive circulated a briefing pack and consultation survey to each council on 3 December 2020 regarding the consultation process on the proposed name change. Documentation can be found at: <https://www.mda.asn.au/source/ckfinder/files/Change%20of%20Name%20Briefing%20Pack.pdf>

MDA encouraged each council to:-

- Read the briefing pack and participate in the survey
- Bring the matter to the attention of their council.

Consultation remained open until 12 February 2021, after which the MDA Board will determine whether to put the matter to an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM).

E Bradbury will provide an update on the process at the meeting.

REQUESTED ACTION

Attendees consider if they have any questions or comments they would like to raise at the Meeting.



Murray Darling Association Inc.

TOPIC: ANNUAL REPORT – REGION 9 CONTRIBUTION

BACKGROUND

Each year Region 9 makes a contribution to the MDA Annual Report.

The MDA Executive has provided a standard template and Leeton Shire Council and Mayor Paul Maytom have provided input for the purposes of the Region 9's contribution.

The completed draft template is attached for the information attendees and any feedback is welcome.

REQUESTED ACTION

Attendees review the attached draft Region 9 Annual Report contribution and provide any feedback either directly to Mandy Rogers prior to the Meeting (0429 043 033 or mandyr@leeton.nsw.gov.au) or alternatively at the Meeting.

Region 9 Annual Report 2021

Region 9 comprises a total of 18 councils, of which eight are members of the MDA. Region 9 has three individual members. The committee is made up of

Cr Paul Maytom (Chair)	Leeton Shire Council
Committee members	
Cr John Dal Broi	Griffith City Council
Cr Dino Zappacosta	Griffith City Council
Bede Spannagle	Riverina Water County Council

Four meetings were held during the year.

Date	Location
Wednesday 17 February 2021	Leeton Shire Council Chambers
Wednesday 2 December 2020	Leeton Shire Council Chambers
Thursday 17 September 2020	Leeton Shire Council Chambers
Friday 26 June 2020	Leeton Shire Council Chambers

Three speakers addressed members at the meetings. Topics included:

- An update on the National Water Initiative and the Water Act and the Productivity Commission Review, reading and interpreting Water Allocation Statements, how General Security Allocations are made, status of the Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism Projects in NSW, pros and cons of Intervalley Trade and over extraction of Ground Water in the Murrumbidgee Valley and MIA
- The NSW Government's Regional Water Strategy Program, being a 20-year State Water Strategy for NSW that draws on recent water reform, water planning and water security work and sits within the broader policy and planning context, including the National Water Initiative, the Basin Plan and Murray Darling Basin Agreement. The initial draft is scheduled for public consultation in 2021.
- WaterNSW overview of the Murrumbidgee Valley Operations, covering dam storage, inflows, climatic outlook, storage and water allocation forecasts, as well as information on the Inter Valley Transfer (IVT) Account and River Transmission Loss.

Speakers were:

Name	Position	Organisation
Claire Miller	Director	Claire Miller Consulting Pty Ltd
Stefanie Shulte	Acting Director Regional Water Strategies	Water Group Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Wendy Cox	Senior Regional Water Strategy Officer, Water Group, DPIE	Water Group Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Vince Kelly	Water System Operations Manager South	WaterNSW

Member Councils	Other Eligible Councils	Members (Individuals/Organisations)
Griffith City Council	Bega Valley Shire Council	Riverina Water County Council
Hay Shire Council	Coolamon Shire Council	Joe Burns
Leeton Shire Council	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	Michael McCormack MP
Lockhart Shire Council	Eurobodalla Shire Council	
Narrandera Shire Council	Hilltops Shire Council	
Murrumbidgee Shire Council	Junee Shire Council	
Wagga Wagga City Council	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council	
Carrathool Shire Council	Temora Shire Council	
	Weddin Shire Council	
	Yass Valley Council	

We have had another busy year of involvement in water related forums. These included hosting the newly appointed Chairman of the MDBA, Sir Angus Houston, at Leeton Shire Council; attending meetings of WaterNSW's Murrumbidgee Customer Advisory Group and River Operators Stakeholder Consultation Committee as well as participation in the WaterNSW Rural Valley's Pricing Determination (Metering) 2021–2024 Murrumbidgee Operating Expenditure engagement session.

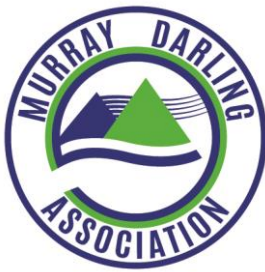
There has been involvement with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Regional Water Strategies, to see better management of the State's water resources. While such partnering ensures improved understanding of each region's needs, we urge State and Federal Governments to ensure their water initiatives are effectively coordinated to achieve outcomes for regional communities that depend on this precious resource. Examples include the National Water Grid Authority and the National Farmers' Federation "2030 Roadmap - Australian Agriculture's Plan for a \$100 Billion Industry", supported by the Federal Government.

Following the prolonged drought and issues associated with water policy over recent years, and the many job losses across agricultural and manufacturing industries, it is pleasing to see General and High Security water allocations now at the maximum limit of 100% for the Murrumbidgee Valley. Furthermore, the outlook is positive for water availability in the 2021-22 water year. This will continue to boost the economies and confidence of regional communities.

Notwithstanding, we will continue to advocate State and Federal Governments and the MDBA to ensure the sustainability of our region at the whole of community level and to support our wide range of agriculture, food processing and manufacturing industries.

Cr Paul Maytom

Chair, Region 9



Murray Darling Association Inc.

TOPIC: MOTIONS FOR 2021 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

BACKGROUND

Attached is MDA's Guide for the submission of motions to the MDA National Conference and AGM.

(Please note that these documents have already been circulated by Melissa Seymour to Region 9 on Wednesday 20 January 2021 with a covering email to say that the topic will be included on the next Region 9 meeting agenda, for further discussion.)

MDA have requested each Region to begin considering and consulting on prospective motions for the AGM, and highlighted the opportunity to elevate regional issues, challenges and opportunities. MDA are also encouraging members to engage with other councils before submitting motions to the MDA.

The key dates outlined in the document include:

- Call for Motions open: 4 January 2021
- *Accepting of Motions closes:* 12 April 2021
- MDA National Conference and AGM: 19 May 2021

Importantly MDA have highlighted that motions should be supported by a resolution at a Region meeting before being put to the Board for final approval before the AGM.

As no motions have been submitted for this meeting, and it is the last scheduled Region 9 Meeting prior to the close of acceptance of motions on 12 April 2021, it is proposed that the approval for any future Region 9 motion is delegated to the Executive Committee (being Crs Paul Maytom, John Dal Broi and Dino Zappacosta as well as Bede Spannagle).

REQUIRED ACTION AND RECOMMENDATION

Region 9 members consider:

- If there are any potential motions that they would like to submit for the AGM prior to 12 April 2021.
- Formal delegation to the Executive Committee to approve any future Region 9 motions for the 2021 AGM.

Guide for the submission of motions for the Murray Darling Association 2021 National Conference & AGM



The purpose of the MDA is to provide effective representation of local government and communities at state and federal level in the management of Basin resources by exchanging information; facilitating debate; and seeking to influence government policy.

Motions resolved at the National Conference and AGM form the foundations of the MDA's leadership and advocacy work for the year and years ahead.

We invite you to begin considering and consulting with your regions on prospective motions for the AGM. These motions are a unique opportunity to elevate your region's issues, challenges and opportunities.

You are encouraged to engage all member councils within your region in the development of your region's motions before submitting them to the MDA.

Motions should be supported by a resolution at a region meeting before being put to the Board for final approval before the AGM.

Where multiple motions are received that are similar in intent, the MDA executive will liaise with proposing regions to identify opportunities to integrate into single motions.

Key dates

Call for Motions open:
4 January 2021

Accepting of Motions closes:
12 April 2021

**MDA National Conference
and AGM:**
May 2021 (date TBA)



How to submit a motion

1. Consult with your region about the proposed motion at your next Region meeting.
2. Use the attached template to write your motion, adding any supporting information such as region meeting resolution.
3. Submit your motion to policy@mda.asn.au no later than 12 April 2021.

The final agenda and meeting paper for the 2021 National Conference and AGM will be distributed at least 14 days before the AGM.

Motion Template

Motion # **Region # – [Proposing Council]**

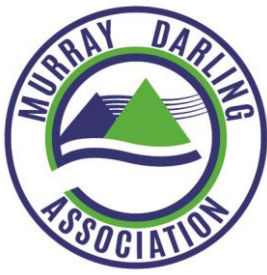
Motion: *Clear instruction / directive / call for action*

Objective:

- *What is your motion trying to achieve?*
- *Who would benefit from your motion?*

Key Arguments:

- *What is the current context/issue?*
- *What are the risks if this motion doesn't get up?*
- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*



Murray Darling Association Inc.

TOPIC: 2021 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

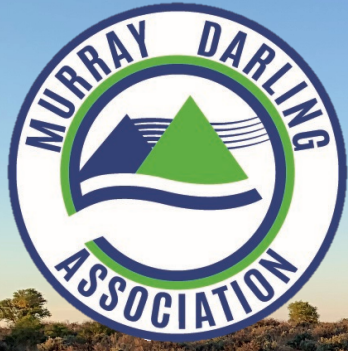
BACKGROUND

Attached are documents regarding the National Conference which have been provided by the MDA Executive for the information of Region 9.

E Bradbury will speak to these documents at the meeting.

REQUESTED ACTION

Attendees review the documents and consider if they have any questions or comments they would like to raise at the Meeting.



2021 National Conference and Annual General Meeting

17-19 May 2021, Wentworth NSW



CONNECTIVITY: CONNECTING COUNCILS AND CATCHMENTS



A POWERFUL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

Proudly hosted by  **Wentworth Shire Council**

JOIN THIS IMPORTANT CONVERSATION IN WENTWORTH WITH THE BASIN'S MOST INNOVATIVE LOCAL LEADERS

In a world forced to confront successive crises in 2020, the towns, regions and countries emerging quickest and strongest are those with innovative, connected local leadership.

It's no surprise then that local government and the communities of the Murray Darling Basin are well placed to adapt and forge ahead in 2021 - and beyond. Basin councils have, after all, spent years building connections across catchments and communities.

With our rivers, our borders and even our attitudes increasingly fragmented, clever councils recognise the importance of innovation to restore and build connectivity.

These councils from all over the Basin are coming together in **Wentworth** from 17-19 May for the **Murray Darling Association's 77th National Conference & AGM** to meet the challenges ahead with creative solutions and collaboration.

Through sponsorship, the MDA's 77th National Conference & AGM is **your opportunity** to be part of the solution – to join the conversation, to inform future policy, and to engage with local leaders from throughout the Basin.

Join us in **Wentworth**, where the mighty rivers connect; where local, technical and political leaders will come together to tackle the big issues of the Basin and forge a future of connected councils and catchments.

Who will attend?

Every year, Mayors, councillors, Chief Executive Officers, General Managers and executive staff from all over the Murray-Darling Basin attend the Murray Darling Association's National Conference & AGM. Additionally, delegates include key Commonwealth and State departmental staff as well as up-and-coming local leaders from all over the Basin.

Speakers of the highest calibre also actively participate in this significant event. Previous speakers have included Commonwealth and state Ministers, peak industry representative body leaders, university and CSIRO academics, the Productivity Commissioner, and the Deputy of the Office of the Inspector General.

Naturally, this event attracts state and national media coverage and is an excellent opportunity to engage with local, state, and federal governments and agencies to inform and influence the decisions that impact your industry.

This is a great sponsorship opportunity with exceptional levels of connectivity and coverage - don't miss out!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP - \$10,000 PLUS GST

The Platinum Sponsor offers

- > Opportunity for a company representative to give a 30-minute presentation including question & answer session
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship by facilitator during conference
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials
- > Full-page company advertisement in 2020/2021 Annual Report
- > Prominent positioning of logo on the Conference Program

In-person opportunities:

- > complimentary exhibition booth
- > company banner displayed at the front of the conference venue
- > Four complimentary delegate registrations to attend the conference

Digital/Virtual opportunities:

- > Company banner displayed on MDA website and conference portal
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on all MDA social media platforms

GOLD SPONSORSHIP - \$7,500 PLUS GST

The Gold Sponsors offers

- > Opportunity for sponsor to provide short promotional video that will be played in between sessions
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship by facilitator during conference
- > Half-page company promotion included in the 2020/2021 Annual Report
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials

In-person opportunities:

- > complimentary exhibition booth
- > company banner displayed at the front of the conference venue
- > Three complimentary delegate registrations to attend the conference, including social functions

Digital/Virtual opportunities:

- > Company banner displayed on MDA website and conference portal
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on all MDA social media platforms

SILVER SPONSORSHIP - \$5000 PLUS GST

Silver Sponsors offers

- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship by facilitator during conference
- > Quarter-page company promotion included in the 2020/2021 Annual Report
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials.

In-person opportunities:

- > complimentary exhibition booth
- > company banner displayed at the front of the conference venue
- > Two complimentary delegate registrations to attend the conference, including social functions

Digital/Virtual opportunities:

- > Company banner displayed on MDA website and conference portal
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on all MDA social media platforms

BURSARY SPONSORSHIP - \$4000 PLUS GST

Offers:

- > the opportunity to present the award at Gala Dinner
- > complimentary exhibition booth
- > Two complimentary delegate registrations to attend the conference, including social functions
- > Company banner displayed on MDA website and conference portal
- > Company logo and short blurb included in the 2020/2021 Annual Report
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials

GALA DINNER SPONSORSHIP - \$3000 PLUS GST

Offers:

- > four complimentary tickets to your sponsored event
- > opportunity for your representative to give a welcome/short presentation at the gala dinner
- > company logo on gala dinner menus
- > opportunity to place promotional material at the venue
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials

EXHIBITION BOOTH SPONSORSHIP - \$1500 PLUS GST

Organisations have the opportunity to showcase resources, programs and initiatives, exhibit products and brochures and speak with delegates during tea and lunch breaks in the conference exhibition.

The exhibition area will be located in close proximity to the conference rooms. The exhibition will be open to the delegates on arrival each morning and during tea and lunch breaks.

Exhibitors receive:

- > one complimentary delegate registration to attend the conference
- > one exhibition booth, 3m by 2m
- > inclusion to the exhibitor listing on the conference website
- > contact details in the program

HOW TO APPLY FOR SPONSORSHIP AND/OR EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES

Please complete and send the attached application form to the Murray Darling Association by e-mail to: admin@mda.asn.au

You will then be forwarded a confirmation letter, agreement, and tax invoice.

The MDA will also provide you with a Sponsorship pack that will include the details of your sponsorship entitlements, what information we require and an information pack from BAX Audio Visual who is delivery the virtual conference.

Should the opportunity be no longer available, you will be contacted by the Association.

For further information, please contact:

Ms Emma Bradbury (CEO)
Murray Darling Association
PO Box 1268 Echuca VIC 3564

Phone: (03) 5480 3805

Fax: (03) 5482 6097

Email: e.bradbury@mda.asn.au

Website: www.mda.asn.au



Murray Darling Association

Annual National Conference

Invitation to tender

Information Pack



Lodgement of responses

Please email your tender to admin@mda.asn.au

The closing date for tenders is 19th February 2020

If you have any questions about this document and our requirements please contact admin@mda.asn.au or (03) 5480 3805

SECTION 1 – INVITATION AND BACKGROUND

Invitation

The Murray Darling Association (MDA) now formally invites detailed submissions from eligible regions to cohost the upcoming 2022 National Conference.

About us

The Murray Darling Association is the peak body for local government in the Murray-Darling Basin, informing policy and contributing local knowledge and regional solutions since 1944. There are 167 councils that sit within the Basin and whose communities rely upon water from within the catchment.

The management of water and other Basin resources is a matter of significant interest to local government. Councils need certainty and reliability to support the communities they lead and serve; responsible for delivering core services, maintaining economic growth, resilience and community health and wellbeing.

About our conference

The MDA's National Conference is an annual event that attracts between 200 and 350 delegates. Delegates attend from all over the Basin. This National Conference brings together local government, industry, relevant agencies and leading technical experts to discuss the Basin's most salient and toughest issues.

Now more than ever, Australia is looking to the communities of the Murray-Darling Basin to lead the way in water management, agriculture, energy efficiency and innovation.

As you know, the MDA is tireless in seeking the right balance between valuing, sharing, and protecting our incredible natural assets, our infrastructure and our local economies.

Severe drought and bushfires, evolving water markets, climate change, innovations in energy, agriculture, water infrastructure and now COVID-19 all form the backdrop to these extraordinary times.

Local government has a critical role to play in the management of Basin resources if we are to ensure the sustainability, vibrancy, and prosperity of our local communities for future generations.

With bold thinking and ambitious planning, we can transform the great challenges of our time into the opportunities of tomorrow. Basin governments already have some extraordinary plans on the national agenda for 2020 and for a generation beyond.

In addition to the two-day conference, a study tour exploring the region's highlights and strengths will also take part. There are two social events – the Civic Reception on the first evening of the conference, and the Annual Gala Dinner on the second day of the conference.

The MDA National Conference is held in a different region every year. It is co-hosted as a collaboration between the MDA the selected Region. The Conference theme changes each year, highlighting a salient topic within the region and the Basin footprint.

The National Conference has evolved into a hybrid event allowing face to face attendance and virtual attendance. This provides a greater opportunity for participants to attend in a way that suits them and enables the conference to reach a broader audience.



The 2022 conference

The 2022 Conference will be our 78th annual conference. It must be held between the months of April and the end of September. The location is to be decided and this will be determined by the tender process.

The date selection of the conference will take into consideration:

- Federal Elections
- Parliamentary sitting dates
- State elections
- Local government elections
- School holidays
- Regional Council Meetings
- LGAQ Conference
- MAV Conference
- LGNSW Conference
- LGA SA Conference
- ALGA General Assembly
- Major local and regional social and sporting events

SECTION 2 – TENDER DETAILS

To apply to become the 2022 National Conference hosting council please complete a tender proposal using the following guidelines. At the close of submissions, all submitted proposals will be considered, assessed and decided on by the MDA board.

Selection Criteria

We recommend that applicants formalize their commitment through resolution at their regional meeting as well as potential hosting council meeting. Collaborations of councils will be considered favourably.

Applicants should address the following selection criteria in their tender proposal:

1. Region Profile:
 - a) Region abstract
 - b) Key issues for the conference to focus on, and including relevance to councils across the Basin
 - c) Host council commitment
 - d) Proposed theme
2. Planning and Logistics:
 - a) Planning committee delegates
 - b) Transport and accommodation options
 - c) Options for study tour
 - d) Proposed venue options – with capabilities to facilitate face to face and virtual delivery
 - e) Potential sponsors/regional partners
 - f) Councils contribution to the event



Conference Requirements

- The MDA requires provisions for a 3-day event and should include the following:
 - Study tour
 - Gala dinner
 - Civic reception
- The selected council's Planning Committee will work closely with the MDA executive team in preparation for the conference including managing logistics and programming.

Lodgement of tender

Please email your proposal to admin@mda.asn.au. We welcome individual and regional specific presentation in any format. We look forward to your creative, innovative and informative showcases of your region and what it can offer from hosting the National Conference.

The closing date is 19th of February 2021. We will send an acknowledgement receipt of your tender.

Decision process

All submitted hosting nominations will be presented to the MDA Board for consideration.

Once the invitation to tender has closed, the MDA Board will consider all applications at the following Board meeting.

Regional Chairs from nominating councils will be excused from the deliberations.

Determination of successful host region will be conducted openly and transparently with the successful and non-successful councils being notified in writing by the MDA executive.

Expected Timetable

Invitation to tender opens	1 December 2020
Opportunity to seek feedback from executive	1 December 2020 – 19 February 2021
Invitation to tender closes	19 February 2021
Board meeting – applications reviewed by Board	March Board meeting
Results of tender advised to all applicants	29 March 2021
Conference planning committee assembled and first meeting	29 April 2021
2022 Conference	To be determined

Enquiries

If you have any questions about this invitation and our requirements, you are welcome to contact the MDA Executive at c.keegan@mda.asn.au or (03) 5480 3805

