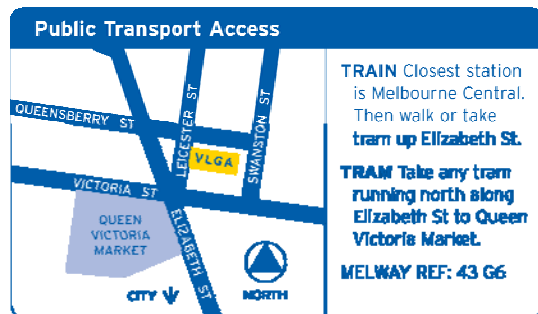




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We are proud to acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional owners of the lands and waters.



Member Benefits



Confidential Advice & Support

- Confidential telephone and face-to-face advice and support
- The only body to specialise in **democratic governance**
- We assist Councillors, community leaders and Council staff to work more effectively together
- You will receive advice and support from experienced current and former Councillors, Mayors and CEOs

Advocating – ‘Sticking Our Neck Out’

- Uniquely, we represent the interests of Councillors and community leaders
- We ‘stick our neck out’ and advocate for our members’ interests
- We strive to improve community respect for Councillors & community leaders by putting some balance into media debates.

Our Local Government and community members represent around 85% of Victoria’s population.

Relevant & Accredited Learning and Development

- The only organisation that provides an **accredited** Learning and Development Program tailored for Councillors and community leaders
- Our Essential Mayors Weekend is unique in Australia and supported by an ongoing Alumni Association, The Mayoral Chain
- We tailor learning and development courses for individual Local Governments and other community needs.

At the leading edge...

- We run regular forums, providing new ideas and debate on current issues
- We take the lead on issues such as Councillor working conditions, learning and development, remuneration, consultation and engagement, governance and support for community leaders
- Rather than duplicate, we support the important **corporate governance** work of other peak bodies such as the MAV and LGPro
- We provide regular print and electronic bulletins to keep members informed.

Your input influences policy!

- We run regular online and other surveys seeking member views on policy
- Our Constitution ensures that the President, Vice-President and a fixed number of Board members are Councillors from member Local Governments
- Our Board is broad-based both geographically and politically; members are from rural and regional, interface and metropolitan areas, and from a wide range of political (or no!) affiliations
- 'Bottom-up' governance - our Working Groups involve Councillors, community leaders and Council staff who have real influence by making decisions and recommendations to the Board.

Recent successes

- Securing amendments to the Local Government Amendment (Councillor Conduct & Other Matters) Bill
- VLGA Tally Room – 2008 Local Government Elections
- Councillor Remuneration Campaign
- Leading Edge Program - Accredited Learning and Development
- Recognition of Local Governments in Victorian Constitution
- Advocacy on Quality Childcare, Pokies, Affordable Housing