



# THINK WOMEN FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

building the numbers and diversity of women candidates for local government

## Victorian local government elections October 2012

Update #1 August 2011

### IMPORTANT DIARY DATE

**Wednesday 9 November 2011, 5-7pm  
Melbourne Town Hall, Swanston Street, Melbourne**

**Local governments celebrate and meet the challenge to build  
the numbers and diversity of women candidates in 2012 – the countdown starts now  
Further details late September**

\*Event hosted by City of Melbourne together with the VLGA, for the Victorian Government and WPILG Coalition\*

### Local government news

**Local governments to host regional forums:** Ten forums will be held between February and June 2012 in Baw Baw, Boroondara, East Gippsland, Gannawarra, Greater Geelong, Hobsons Bay, Horsham, Moyne, Mount Alexander and Nillumbik.

**North East Victoria:** ALGWA North East Branch and local government regional partners will hold a free forum Saturday 12 November 1- 4.30pm, Strathbogie Shire Civic Centre, Euroa.

**Community forums or other events have been offered as an opportunity to the following:** Ballarat, Bayside, Cardinia, Frankston, Greater Shepparton, Kingston, Mitchell, Moira, Moreland, Port Phillip, Surf Coast, Whittlesea, Wyndham and Yarra Ranges. The Project will provide distance support for these community events.

**City of Melbourne** will host the above event on 9 November when you can get your community event kit.

**Frankston City Council models a new idea for inviting women's participation:** in April 2011 Frankston's women councillors began a three step strategy. First, they hosted 20 local women at a Women Get Elected workshop. Secondly, councillors invited participants to attend a full Council meeting. Thirdly, they offered a 'behind the scenes' debriefing to show how decisions are made, the political manoeuvring that can go on, and the negatives combined with the many positives of being a female councillor. "Encouraging and informative," said one participant.

**Join the partnership now:** 53 of 79 councils sign up to the Women's Charter – put your Council's action plan in place now by planning a workshop, forum or other event to get women in your community thinking about candidacy for the 2012 elections.

### Community news

**Northern Loddon Mallee Rural Women Leading Change Reference Group** hosted a forum in June 2011 in Cohuna for women thinking about nominating for a leadership position, including local government in 2012. Fourteen women from four different local government areas attended with a number interested in possible candidacy.

**Women's Health Loddon Mallee** hosted a forum in July 2011 about rural women and gender equity in Maryborough. The forum included information about the opportunities for women as potential candidates in the October 2012 elections.

### Candidate and supporter news

**Facebook:** Are you on Facebook? Join 'More women for local government'  
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/157485827612771/>

**Enquiries: E: [info@thinkwomenlg.org.au](mailto:info@thinkwomenlg.org.au) or T: 9349 7904 (messages for**

**Linda)**



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