

## MEDIA RELEASE

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# Applications open for Leadership Wimmera programs

APPLICATIONS for 2022 Leadership Wimmera programs are now open.

The long-running community leadership development programs aim to provide inspiring leadership learning opportunities to nurture emerging leaders and motivate existing leaders in the Wimmera Southern Mallee; and enhance, develop and promote leadership in the region.

Programs contribute to regional development by providing opportunities to grow the skills of people keen to make a difference; and help to sustain and grow businesses and communities by developing the leadership skills of people in the region.

Leadership Wimmera is auspiced by Wimmera Development Association and began in 2002. It has supported the development of more than 600 emerging leaders in the Wimmera Southern Mallee.

Program manager Jessica Grimble said as Leadership Wimmera celebrates its 20-year anniversary in 2022, its programs enter a new era.

“Leadership Wimmera programs are recognised for offering people an opportunity to learn more about themselves and recognise their potential – as leaders of workplaces and community groups, and as family members and friends,” Ms Grimble said.

“Sometimes people refer to this as being pulled apart and put back together again; or opening doors to living their truth. Others say it helped them identify their superpower.

“Changes in 2022 will take our programs to the next level as we promote opportunities for leadership in action – offering participants opportunities to learn and develop their skills relating to leadership of self, leadership of others, and regional leadership.

“For participants of the Change Makers program, the regional leadership component is an educational opportunity to discuss – and possibly action – some of the opportunities and challenges facing the region. This will occur through awareness-building sessions and completion of a community project, working with an existing group or organisation to identify a need and bring this to life.

“Integration between programs offers new and past participants the change to take on as much learning – locally, and with local people – as they wish and promotes and supports the lifelong learning of leaders in the Wimmera Southern Mallee.”

The 2022 programs include:

- A 10-month **Change Makers** program for existing leaders – those who own or run a business and/or who lead a team at work or in their community life – and who have demonstrated potential to commit to greater leadership involvement in their workplace or community
- A three-month **Emerging Leaders** program designed for those wanting to build leadership skills to increase their influence within the workplace or community groups
- A three-month **Leadership Master Class** for past participants of Leadership Wimmera’s flagship programs – designed to refresh knowledge on previous material and advance their leadership skills for the benefit of business and community leadership in the region

Graduates of Leadership Wimmera programs are known to increase their community involvement with the aid of their new and developed leadership skills, and the entire Graduate Network is a resource for other groups. Programs provide mentoring and networking opportunities.

Ms Grimble said people could contact her on 0429 811 744 for more information. Application information packs are available and information sessions for supporters and prospective participants are scheduled in the coming weeks.

Applications close on Friday, December 3 and offers are due in January.

Leadership Wimmera receives significant financial support from the Victorian Government, through Regional Development Victoria; and recognises the long-running support of local philanthropic and other supporters and sponsors.

It is one of nine community leadership programs across regional Victoria.

**ENDS**

Media contact: Jessica Grimble on 0429 811 744.

Interviews with past participants are available on request.