MDA LEADERSHIP TEAM

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Release Date: 14/11/2023



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION WELCOMES NEW LEADESHIP TEAM: A BLEND OF EXPERIENCE AND RENEWAL

The Murray Darling Association (MDA), Australia's peak body representing local government across the Murray-Darling Basin, has appointed a new, experienced, and capable leadership team for the year ahead.

The MDA Board has appointed Mayor Craig Davies from Narromine Shire Council as its National President. Mayor Davies has been on the Board of the MDA since 2019 and has been an active member of the Country Mayors Association Executive Team and as Chairman of the Alliance of Western Councils. Mayor Davies has an extensive history of advocacy and community engagement both as the Mayor of Narromine Shire, and past work including the initiation of the Bore Pumpers Association in the Lachlan Valley, the Macquarie Valley Infrastructure Priority Committee, the Macquarie-Castlereagh Regional Water Strategy Taskforce, and as part owner of "Burrima," an environmental icon located in the Macquarie marshes.

Mayor Davies hopes to bring a greater focus to the Circular Economy in the Murray-Darling Basin and broaden the appeal of the Murray Darling Association across the Basin, stating that "All water using councils have an interest in ensuring the communities have adequate water security for Critical Human needs."

Mayor Davies said that he "saw no distinction between the Northern and Southern Basins and would be working to engage with all MDA Region Chairs to identify issues and opportunities for the MDA to engage with to support, and advocate on behalf of Basin communities.

Supporting the new National President, the MDA has elected Cr Glen Andreazza from Griffith City Council as its Vice-President. Cr Glen Andreazza has been part of the MDA Board since 2021 and will be an exceptional representative of the Association, and the communities of the Murray-Darling Basin.

Mayor Davies recognised the years of service of the outgoing National President, Cr David Thurley, thanking him for his incredible work, having brought incredible distinction to the MDA.

Indicated that he would be engaging with the Basin communities and reaching out to Federal and State Government Ministers, Mayor Davies emphasised that the MDA would continue its advocacy and engagement set in motion by the outgoing National President Cr David Thurley and further develop emerging and existing partnerships across the Murray-Darling Basin.

CEO Mark Lamb welcomed the new leadership team, acknowledging the work of outgoing National President Cr David Thurley from AlburyCity Council.

"I look forward to continuing to work with this strong Board and experienced leadership team to ensure a healthy Murray -Darling Basin that supports thriving communities, economic development, and sustainable productivity."

The new MDA leadership team will work hard with the Board and the executive to implement the Motions raised during its recent, and past AGMs, as well as its Five-year Strategic Plan, Vision 2025.

The Murray Darling Association is a membership-based peak representative organisation representing local government and communities across the Murray-Darling Basin. 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.

To find out more about the Five-year Strategic Plan: Vision 2025, go to <u>www.mda.asn.au/newsletters</u> .

To find out more about the Murray Darling Association, go to <u>www.mda.asn.au</u> or follow us on social media.

