



MEDIA RELEASE

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Calling emerging Wakool leaders to participate in exciting leadership program

The Murray Darling Association is currently calling for applications from emerging community leaders across Wakool region to participate in the MDA's inaugural Basin Communities Leadership Program (BCLP).

This unique program will be delivered through a mixed method delivery model, including a 2-day face-to-face workshop, online interactive leadership modules through the MDA Learning Academy and project development within their local community.

The MDA Learning Academy includes five learning modules all carefully selected from the world's leading education providers to create a bespoke learning experience for participants, including a unique water literacy module developed for the leadership program.

At the workshop on the 10th and 11th of September 2020, participants will further develop their own leadership skills, and collaborate with peers and community leaders to identify a community project initiative that leads to a stronger Basin community.

After the workshop, local leaders will apply their learnings by continuing with their project, with access to coaching and mentoring along the way.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development The Hon. Michael McCormack MP commended the program and noted the importance of finding the next generation of people who are going to take the issue of water security and water management and water resources forward.

"We need those young people, and some not so young, to be able to stand up to say what they need to say and have the courage of their convictions to make sure they understand the complex and complicated water resources, to clearly articulate what they mean in the national space but for local outcomes."

"We look forward to those young people, those young leaders of tomorrow emerging, putting their hands up and saying I want to work in this space, I want to make sure that my community gets its fair share and making sure they identify the problem, but also have solutions."

By the conclusion of the program, participants will develop:

- Enhanced leadership skills for use and application in your community
- Basic project management proficiencies and planning tools
- Intelligent enquiry and the foundation for informed debate
- Self-reflection skills– enabling improved stakeholder engagements
- Access to resources which will help the emerging leaders with community focused challenges, opportunities and solutions

- Improved awareness of Murray-Darling Basin challenges and opportunities

“We recognise that Basin communities are in an unprecedented era of change. Many communities are finding difficulty in navigating the complex landscape of water reform, many feel that they are not being heard, and that they are being left behind in consultation and community participation processes,” said Murray Darling Association Chief Executive Officer Emma Bradbury.

“The MDA Basin Communities Leadership Program will empower communities to make transformative change. This can only occur within communities when they have strong leadership - this enables communities to join the conversation, make informed decisions and create a vision and framework to determine the success of their own future.”

To apply for this exciting leadership program, please contact the Murray Darling Association via email (bclp@mda.asn.au) or visit the [MDA website](#).

This project was funded by the Australian Government under the Murray–Darling Basin Economic Development Program.