



# Conservation Council SA

**Subject:**

**PRESIDENT & CE REPORT TO MEMBERS**

**Agenda Item: 3.1**

**Meeting Date: 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

## **Positive Response to last Member Forum**

We had a very positive response to the last Member Forum. Attendees appeared to enjoy the range of guest speakers and content-rich discussion.

For our July Forum, we were hoping to again have a range of interesting discussions and guest speakers.

However, with uncertainty over COVID lockdown timing, we will need to shift to a shorter, online version with the following topics:

- The Murray Darling Basin Plan under renewed threat, and what it means for SA
- Essential updates on 4 live law changes: EPBC Act, SA Associations Act, SA Electoral Act and new ACNC Regulations
- Updates on a range of important issues to SA's environment, inc St Kilda Mangroves, Marine Sanctuaries, and Pastoral Act changes.

We look forward to seeing you on Zoom, and back live in September.

## **Member e-updates**

Hopefully you will be keeping up to date with our issue-based, peak body and campaign activity through our regular Member e-updates. If you haven't been receiving them, please contact Andi ([admin@conservationsa.org.au](mailto:admin@conservationsa.org.au)) at the office and he will make sure you are on our distribution list or visit our website:

[https://www.conservationsa.org.au/member\\_comms](https://www.conservationsa.org.au/member_comms)

Update topics include: Pastoral Act, EPBC Act changes, St Kilda Mangroves, Nuclear waste, Murray Darling Basin Plan and many others, as well as a list of some of our media and submissions.

### **New fundraiser**

Our new Strategic Plan includes a specific goal to shift away our reliance on government funding. To help us achieve this the Executive Committee has approved the appointment of a new specialist fundraiser, to be funded out of the reserves we have built up over the last 2-3 years.

Martin Carolan comes to us after a long and successful career in animal welfare and health fundraising. Please make him welcome.

### **Successful SA Environment Awards**

We were delighted with this year's Environment Awards. It was an emotional and joyous celebration of the achievements of some wonderful South Australians.

To read a description of the winners, go to:

<https://www.saenvironmentawards.org.au/2021>

### **State Election**

As the peak body we continue to coordinate key election asks from our sector and ensure a coordinated, strategic voice during this vital advocacy time.

An initial series of workshops in the areas of nature protection, climate & energy, coast & marine and active transport have been conducted, followed by surveys and other prioritisation processes.

These initial asks have been sent through to political parties.

The next stages include identifying key groups keen to lobby and campaign ahead of the election, and planning out how to best use the next 8 months to gain traction on our issues.

As always if you have any issues, questions or suggestions please contact us at [mbanderson@mail.com](mailto:mbanderson@mail.com) or [craig.wilkins@conservation.sa.org.au](mailto:craig.wilkins@conservation.sa.org.au)