



Esperance Shire Reviews Wards

In June, the Shire finalised reviewing the region's wards and representation to ensure there was a similar ratio of Councillors to electors. Currently the Shire has two wards, with three Councillors representing the Rural Ward and six representing the Town Ward. During the April 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council resolved to undertake the review and begin the process of community consultation. Council considered the feedback during the October 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting and resolved to: Adjust the electoral ward boundary to increase the size of the Town Ward and reduce the size of the Rural Ward, as well as adjust the number of Councillors representing the Rural Ward to two (from three) and the number of Councillors representing the Town Ward to seven (from six). The changes will be implemented at this year's local government elections in October, during which, four positions on Council will be up for election in the Town Ward.

New Director External Services Appointed

Holly Phillips was recently appointed as the Shire of Esperance's new Director of External Services. Ms Phillips has over four years of experience working in local government and more than 10 years in private industry. The Director of External Services is responsible for the management of the Bay of Isles Leisure Centre, Esperance Airport, Esperance Public Library, Esperance Museum, Esperance Home Care, Volunteer Resource Centre, and Wylie Bay Management Waste Facility, as well as culture, seniors and disability, emergency services, rangers, planning, building, and health and environment. Ms Phillips said it was a privilege to be undertaking the role, and to work with Council, the Senior Leadership Team and staff to deliver on the Shire's strategic goals. "I am passionate about delivering outcomes and I look forward to being a strong advocate for this thriving and welcoming community," she said. Ms Phillips will her position commence in mid-August.

23/06



2021/22 Community Grants Awarded

During the June Ordinary Council Meeting, Council approved a total of \$325,724 in funding for the 2021/22 Community Grants Program, the highest amount that has ever been allocated. Funding was distributed through four grant categories with Council allotting the following: Support - \$25,000 (for smaller applications that arise throughout the 2021/22 financial year); Assistance - nine applications approved to the value of \$24,144; Development - eight applications approved to the value of \$244,180; Events - seven applications approved to the value of \$32,400. Submissions for grants in the Support Category for 2021/22 will be accepted from late July. Please visit the Shire's website for more information on how to apply.

2021 NAIDOC Week Celebrations

The Shire of Esperance and Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation will celebrate the commencement of NAIDOC Week 2021 with an official opening ceremony in front of the flag poles at the Shire's administration building. The event is open to all and will take place at 10am on Monday 5 July, after which participants are invited to join a procession down Andrew Street to the Whale Tail for more NAIDOC-themed activities and a free BBQ. Running from July 4-11, NAIDOC Week's theme this year is 'Heal Country, Heal our Nation,' which focusses on embracing First Nations cultural knowledge and understanding of Country as part of Australia's national heritage.



Upcoming Council Meetings

Agenda Briefing: 20 July 2021 at 1PM

Ordinary Council Meeting: 27 July 2021 at 4PM

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