



**2019 NATIONAL  
ALGWA CONFERENCE**

**15 - 17 May 2019**

# **CONFERENCE PROGRAM**



**Blacktown**  
City Council

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



**AUSTRALIAN LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT WOMEN'S  
ASSOCIATION**

## Travel & Accommodation



## 2019 NATIONAL ALGWA CONFERENCE

Blacktown is located approximately 34 kilometres west of Sydney, NSW. Delegates can fly into Sydney Airport on most airlines. Blacktown is approximately 45 minutes' drive from Sydney Airport. There are a number of coach services and airport transfers available.

### Car Rental:

Sydney Airport has several car rental companies located at the arrivals level at T2 & T3 Domestic terminals. Search and compare the best deals from quality providers like Avis, Hertz, Europcar, Budget, Thrifty and Redspot at [www.sydneyairport.com.au/info-sheet/rental-car](http://www.sydneyairport.com.au/info-sheet/rental-car)

### Sydney Trains:

Trains depart Sydney Airport regularly. You will need to change to the Western Line Trains, at Central Station which depart from platform 18. You will exit the train at Rooty Hill Station, which is only a short walk to Novotel Sydney West HQ, or use the Taxi service.

### Weather

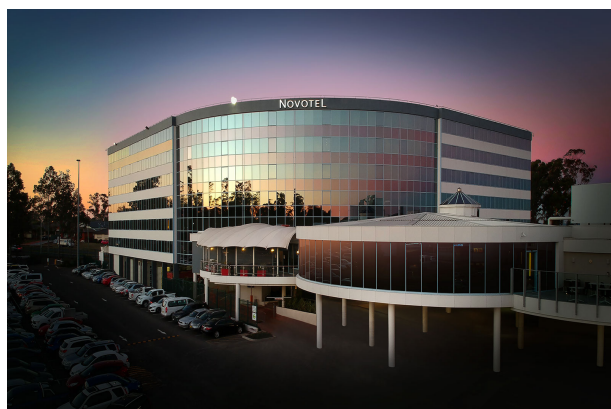
You will be visiting Blacktown during autumn, where there is an average minimum temperature at night of 10° Celsius and an average maximum temperature of 21° Celsius. Please ensure you bring appropriate clothing for autumn condition.

### Conference Venue- The Concept Room, Novotel Sydney, West HQ

Set inside the Novotel Sydney, West HQ, Concept Room is a multi-use space that can be split into half for smaller groups or utilised in full to accommodate up to 400 people, theatre-style. It has sculpted high ceiling, hardwood walls and plenty of natural light.

### Accommodation

The beautifully renovated accommodation at Novotel Sydney, West HQ are among the most spacious hotel rooms in Australia. To ensure you receive the conference rate of **\$219.00** per night (including breakfast)- please advise staff that you are attending the ALGWA Conference at the time of booking.



### Novotel Sydney, West HQ

33 Railway Street,  
Rooty Hill NSW 2766  
(02) 9832 3888

[reservations@novotelwesthq.com.au](mailto:reservations@novotelwesthq.com.au)

### Events Team, Blacktown City Council

Susan Sroba- (02) 9839 6166  
Maryanne Mikhail- (02) 9839 6087

[events.team@blacktown.nsw.gov.au](mailto:events.team@blacktown.nsw.gov.au)



## 2019 NATIONAL ALGWA CONFERENCE

### Presenters



#### **Jessica Rowe AM-** *Master of Ceremonies*

Accomplished journalist, television presenter, author and self confessed 'crap housewife' Jessica is one of Australia's most successful media personalities. Jess is a passionate advocate for mental health awareness, having herself experienced post natal depression. Jess is an ambassador for beyondblue and patron of Mental Health Australia. In 2015 she was honoured as a Member of the Order of Australia for her mental health advocacy work and her contribution to Australian Media.



#### **Libby Lyons**

Libby is the Director of Australia's Workplace Gender Equality Agency and comes from one of the prominent political families of Australia. She is the granddaughter of former Australian Prime Minister Joseph Lyons and Dame Enid Lyons, who was the first woman elected to Australia's House of Representatives, appointed to federal cabinet and chaired the meeting at which the The Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) was created in 1951. Libby has worked in senior management roles across corporate and government sectors in the energy, resources and telecommunication and has advocated to close the gender pay gap and break down occupational gender segregation in Australia.



#### **Deborah Thomas**

An admired and respected business woman, Deborah Thomas is a role model and inspiration for many women. Her outstanding career working for successful magazines such as Cleo, Elle and Mode, Deborah was at the helm of Australia's largest selling magazine The Australian Women's Weekly. In 2011 Deborah took on the role as adviser to Mark Bouris in the top rating television series, Celebrity Apprentice, followed by her election to local government as a Councillor for Woollahra Municipal Council in 2012. Outside of work, Deborah is a wife and mother to nine-year-old Oscar, and is actively involved in many community fundraising projects.



#### **Victoria Weekes-** Australian Gender Equality Council

Board chair for the Australian Gender Equality Council and former Westpac executive, Victoria led the development of Finsia's gender equality campaign, through critical industry research on attitudes to gender equality. Victoria has worked closely with organisations like the Workplace Gender Equality Agency, Women on Boards (WOB), the Sex Discrimination Commissioner, the Male Champions of Change, the AICD and the Governance Institute on gender diversity initiatives and events.



#### **Kate Jenkins-** Sex Discrimination Commissioner

Kate Jenkins is Australia's Sex Discrimination Commissioner and a member of the Australian Human Rights Commission. Her purpose is to advance gender equality, consistent with the Sex Discrimination Act and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Kate is leading a number of projects including the National Inquiry into sexual harassment in Australian workplaces and the Commission's collaborative project on cultural reform with the Australian Defence Force.



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### Presenters



**Glennys James-** Assistant General Manager & Director Design & Development, Blacktown City Council.

Glennys James joined Blacktown City over 40 years ago as a student town planner. She has been at the forefront of Blacktown's growth from a municipality of 180,000 people to a vast city of 360,000. She has worked as a team member, senior manager, director and assistant general manager and was the first woman to become a member of Blacktown City's executive in 1990.



**Elfa Moraitakis-** CEO, SydWest Multicultural Services.

SydWest Multicultural Services is a leading not for profit organization focusing on diverse and disadvantaged communities residing in the Greater Western Sydney. Elfa was 2017 Blacktown's 2017 Woman of the Year and is a respected ambassador of multiculturalism. She is passionate about empowering women of diverse backgrounds to develop their self-confidence and business ideas, and contribute to the economic development of the West. Elfa has almost 30 years' experience in the industry with a focus on engaging community and stakeholder participation. She has a strong track record in strategic direction and innovation, problem solving and strong leadership skills that support high performance teams.



**Rosalie O'Neale-** Office of the eSafety Commissioner

Rosalie leads the eSafetyWomen program for the Office of the eSafety Commissioner. eSafetyWomen empowers Australian women to manage technology risks and abuse and take control of their online experiences. It provides practical guidance and tools, as well as training for frontline domestic and family violence workers. Rosalie has recently developed eSafetyWomen—online training for frontline workers to extend this training to workers in regional/remote areas. Rosalie has many years' experience in the development and delivery of online safety education programs. She also has a long-standing involvement in the conduct of research into the way Australians use and experience technology.



**Eleanor Shakiba**

Eleanor Shakiba is an expert in positive psychology. She has taught over 50,000 people to think and speak in ways which build success. She has a passion for adult education and moved into a training role at the University of Sydney. Today, she works as a training consultant and corporate coach. She specialises in the areas of communication skills, applied psychology and business applications of positive psychology. Eleanor is the author of *Difficult People Made Easy* and is currently writing her second book, *6 Habits of Savvy Female Negotiators*. She has also created over ninety training programs and a range of online learning courses.



## Registration Packages

**Full Conference (Non Member) \$1100.00 (inc GST)**

Includes Welcome Reception, Fitness Activity, Day 2 & 3 conference sessions, Featherdale breakfast and Gala Dinner. Morning/Afternoon tea and lunch daily.

**Full Conference (Member) \$1000.00 (inc GST)**

ALGWA member price only. Includes Welcome Reception, Fitness Activity, Day 2 & 3 conference sessions, Featherdale breakfast and Gala Dinner. Morning/Afternoon tea and lunch daily.

**Day 2 & 3 Only (Non Member) \$900.00 (inc GST)**

Includes Fitness Activity, Day 2 & 3 conference sessions, Gala Dinner, Featherdale Breakfast and morning/afternoon tea and lunch daily.

**Day 2 & 3 Only (Member) \$800.00 (inc GST)**

ALGWA member price only. Includes Fitness Activity, Day 2 & 3 conference sessions, Gala Dinner, Featherdale Breakfast and morning/afternoon tea and lunch daily.

**Day 2 Only (Non Member) \$600.00 (inc GST)**

Includes Fitness Activity, Day 2 Conference sessions, morning/afternoon tea, lunch and Gala Dinner.

**Day 2 Only (Member) \$500.00 (inc GST)**

ALGWA member price only. Includes Fitness Activity, Day 2 Conference sessions, morning/afternoon tea, lunch and Gala Dinner.

**Gala Dinner Only \$150.00 (inc GST)**

Gala Dinner only. Includes meals, drinks and entertainment on Thursday 16th May, 7pm-10pm.



## Day 1 & 2

### Wednesday 15 May

2 pm - 4 pm

#### Early Registrations

West HQ, Rooty Hill

6.30 pm – 8.30 pm

#### Mayoral Reception

The Ponds Community Hub, The Ponds  
*(Shuttle from Novotel Sydney, West HQ)*

### Thursday 16 May

6.30 am – 7.30 am

#### Fitness Activity

Boomerang Room- Rooty Hill RSL, West HQ

8 am - 8.45 am

#### Registrations Open

Exhibition Stalls Open

8.45 am - 8.50am

#### MC Welcome and Housekeeping

Jessica Rowe AM  
Concept Room- Novotel Sydney, West HQ

8:50 am - 8.55 am

#### Welcome to Country

Julie Clark Jones  
Traditional Custodian and Knowledge holder of fresh and saltwater clans of the Dharug

8.55 am - 9.05am

#### Mayor's Official Welcome

Mayor of Blacktown City

9.05 am - 9.15 am

#### Welcome

Councillor Coral Ross  
ALGWA National President

9.15 am – 10.15 am

#### Keynote Speaker

Libby Lyons  
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Director of Australia's Workplace Gender Equality Agency

10.15 am – 11 am

#### Kate Jenkins

Australian Sex Discrimination Commissioner



# Day 2



## 2019 NATIONAL ALGWA CONFERENCE

**11 am – 11.30 am**

**Morning Tea**

**11.40 am – 12.20 pm**

**Victoria Weekes**

*"Are we at a tipping point for gender equality?"*  
Australian Gender Equality Council

**12.20 pm – 1 pm**

**Discussion Panel: 'Equality at Work- The Ongoing Challenge'**

Polly Makim- Mosman Municipal Council  
Soraya Mahomed- Mosman Municipal Council  
Tessa Sullivan- Former Councillor, City of Melbourne

**1 pm – 2 pm**

**Lunch**

Menu 33 Bar & Grill, Novotel Sydney, West HQ

**2 pm – 3.15 pm**

**Workshops - Boomerang Room, Rooty Hill RSL, West HQ**

1. Eleanor Shakiba- Dealing with Difficult People
2. Rosalie O'Neale- E-Safety: Managing Risk and Staying Safe Online.

**3.20 pm – 3.50 pm**

**Conference Sponsor Presentation**

**3.50 pm – 4.10 pm**

**Afternoon Tea**

**4.15 pm – 4.45 pm**

**Donna Wallace**

'Sustainability in our City'  
Manager Environment, Blacktown City Council

**4.50 pm**

**Conference Day 2 Close**

**7 pm – 10.30 pm**

**Gala Evening**

Theme: 1920's  
Concept Room- Novotel Sydney, West HQ



## 2019 NATIONAL ALGWA CONFERENCE

### Friday 17 May

**7.30 am – 9 am**

#### **Breakfast Function**

Featherdale Wildlife Park, Doonside

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**9.30 am – 9.45 am**

#### **House\_eeing**

Concept Room, Novotel Sydney, West HQ

**9.45 am - 10 am**

#### **Glennys James**

Assistant General Manager & Director Planning And  
Development, Blacktown City Council

**10 am - 10.45 am**

#### **Deborah Thomas**

'Challenges & Opportunities: Careers, Motherhood and  
Dealing with Negative Publicity'

Former Councillor, Woollahra Municipal Council

Former Editor, The Australian Women's Weekly

**11 am - 11.30 am**

#### **Morning tea**

**11.30 am - 11.45 am**

#### **Conference Sponsor Presentation**

**11.45 am– 12.30 pm**

#### **Elfa Moraitakis**

Blacktown City Council 'Woman of the Year 2017'.

CEO, SydWest Multicultural Services

**12.30 pm – 1 pm**

#### **Dharma Drumming**

Drumming with Purpose

Jessica Varela- Blacktown City Council





# Day 3



## 2019 NATIONAL ALGWA CONFERENCE

**1 pm – 1.45 pm**

### **Lunch**

Menu 33 Bar & Grill,  
Novotel Sydney, West HQ

**1.45 pm – 2.45 pm**

### **Question & Answer**

Open Mic Session

**2.45 pm - 3.15 pm**

### **2021 Conference Bids**

**3.15pm - 4 pm**

### **Afternoon Tea & Voting**

**4 pm**

### **Closing Address**

Councillor Coral Ross  
ALGWA National President

**4.30 pm**

### **ALGWA Annual General Meeting**

Concept Room- Novotel Sydney, West HQ

For more information or to register, please visit [www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/algwaconference](http://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/algwaconference)  
or email [events.team@blacktown.nsw.gov.au](mailto:events.team@blacktown.nsw.gov.au)

*NB: program schedule and speakers are subject to change without notice.*