

COMMON EQUITY

E-BULLETIN

29 JUN 2020

CENSW BOARD

JUNE 2020 MEETING - KEY TAKEAWAYS



1. The Board approved the budget for FY20/21. This will see CENSW using some of its reserves for growth and a larger than usual Schedule 3 program in the next financial year, with the Board recognising the need to be careful about future budgets.
2. CENSW's strategic review process was completed. Board and Staff agreed on the direction and goals for the organisation for the next 3 years, which aligns with sector feedback from the last Co-op forum. A new Strategic Plan 2020-2023 with specific strategies and actions will be presented at the August meeting for approval.
3. A new Business Continuity Plan was approved which addresses how CENSW responds to issues like the COVID 19 pandemic and other disasters.
4. The NSW Government is developing a new Housing Strategy. The Board acknowledged the value of this strategy and will prepare a response to promote co-operative housing as an important part of any housing solution.
5. The Board acknowledged the contribution of Melanie Carmeci who will be leaving the CENSW Board at the end of July after serving for 6 years. Recruitment will commence for a new Technical Director to replace Melanie and for a Member Director to replace Paul Wilson Brown who left earlier in the year after serving on the Board for 3 years.

Carmen Osborne, Chair

BOARD CHANGES

Melanie Carmeci, Technical Director & Paul Wilson Brown, Member Director are moving on

Common Equity NSW would like to thank Melanie & Paul for their hard work and efforts while they sat on the CENSW Board.

Melanie served as a Technical Director over a period of 6 years. Her experience and expertise in legal matters greatly assisted the Board's work.

Paul brought great insight of the co-op sector to the Board for 3 years, having been actively involved in co-operative housing since 1986.

Thank you & good luck!



CENSW ANNUAL REPORT

Call out for Co-op Stories

It's that time of year again! We are starting to plan our 2020 Annual Report and are calling out to co-operatives who may have some interesting tales to tell and would like to share their stories in this year's report.

If you need some inspiration, please have a look at previous Annual Report Co-op stories [here](#).

To contribute please contact nicole@commonequity.com.au or call 02 9356 9223

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CO-OPERATIVES 2020

Theme: Co-operatives for Climate Action



The United Nations International Day of Co-operatives is celebrated every year in July to increase the awareness of co-operatives. Each year the theme for the event is set by the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Co-operatives (COPAC) members.

This year the theme is **Co-operatives for Climate Action**. To highlight the importance of taking action against climate change, and to encourage others to also make a difference, you are invited to visit their website (<https://www.ica.coop/en/2020-international-day-cooperatives>) to learn about initiatives that have

been undertaken this year.

#Coops4ClimateAction

APPLIANCE REPLACEMENT OFFER - ARO

The **NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment** together with industry partners, is assisting households across NSW to achieve an estimate energy bill saving of \$5 million a year. A few of their initiatives have been shared via the CENSW Bulletin previously, such as information on the Social Housing Upgrades and Energy Hardship Assist. The Office is also helping eligible people replace older fridges and televisions with new energy efficient models. Please check the eligibility criteria here- <https://energysaver.nsw.gov.au/households/rebates-and-discounts/appliance-replacement-offer>

**Common Equity NSW acknowledges the funding support from the NSW Government as part of the Home Energy Action Program*

PUBLIC INTEREST ADVOCACY CENTRE (PIAC) Energy Reform

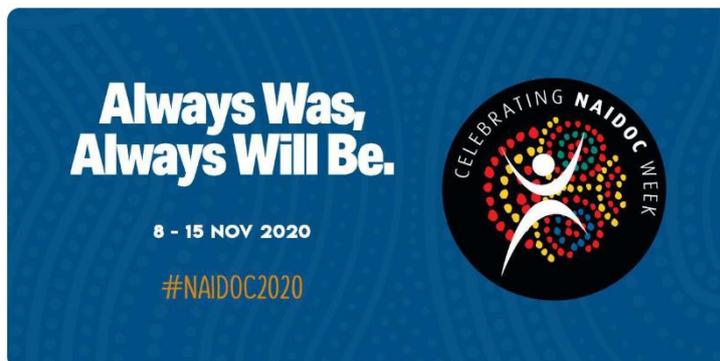
PIAC's energy and water consumers' advocacy program had a huge win recently. The Australian Energy Market Commission finalised a landmark reform to create a demand response mechanism in

the energy wholesale market to lower energy prices, reduce blackouts and hasten the transition to a renewable power system. For more information visit PIAC - <https://piac.asn.au/>

NATIONAL NAIDOC WEEK 2020

NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples and is usually held in July every year.

The National NAIDOC Committee (NNC) made the decision to postpone NAIDOC Week due to the COVID – 19 pandemic. This is aimed at protecting elders and those in the community with chronic health issues. The NNC understands that the July dates for NAIDOC may still be acknowledged by some, however, are mindful of current State and Territory restrictions and social distancing measures.



WAYS TO SUPPORT FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE

Here is a beginner's guide - <https://theindustryobserver.thebrag.com/a-beginners-guide-to-supporting-first-nations-being-anti-racist/>

This article includes information on: significant dates for Indigenous people, books about/ by Indigenous Australians, podcasts, documentaries and more.

LEGAL AID UPDATE



Have you been the victim of threats or calls for violence because of your race, gender identity or religion? NSW has new laws to protect you. Learn more about these laws here - <https://stoppublicthreats.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/>

To report an incident call the Police Assistance Line on 131 444 or contact a support service, listed [here](#)

#StopPublicThreats

MANAGING MOULD IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD

As winter has well and truly set in, it is timely to think about potential mould build-up in your home. This can occur in winter due to humidity (moisture) from heater use and keeping windows closed. This can lead to condensation building up on walls, windows, clothes and furniture which in



turn may encourage mould to grow. Not only can mould cause damage to clothes, furniture and your living space it can also lead to serious health issues for some people.

Below are some simple steps you can do to help prevent mould build up:

- **Ventilation** try to cross ventilate rooms by opening windows, bedroom doors and balcony doors. This is particularly important in bedrooms, bathrooms and laundries where condensation is more prevalent.
- **Clean exhaust fans** ensure exhaust fan vents are free from dust and dirt, this will ensure they work to maximum capacity, it also helps clear steam from bathroom, laundries and kitchens.
- **Limit use of clothes dryers** using dryers can increase the build up of condensation and humidity. If you must use a clothes dryer, try to make sure there is enough ventilation in the laundry to help avoid the build-up of condensation.
- **Moisture absorbers** placing moisture absorbers like 'damp rid' or 'closet camels' in rooms and wardrobes may also help reduce the amount of moisture in the air and help protect cloths from potential damage.
- **Dehumidifiers** can be used, they are designed to extract excess moisture from the air, which in turn decreases the humidity in a room and the build up of condensation on walls, ceilings and windows.
- **Regular cleaning** where there is evidence of mould spores it must be cleaned properly.

You can find information on how to properly clean and remove mould on Choice's website here- <https://bit.ly/3fX9Fml>

Remember some products that are sold as mould killers actually only make the mould white so it cannot be seen and they don't kill the mould spores.

Source: <https://www.netstrata.com.au/>

WAKING THE ASIAN PACIFIC COOPERATIVE POTENTIAL Webinar- 2 July 2020 – 1430H (EST)

The International Co-operative Alliance Asian and Pacific (ICA-AP) is hosting a webinar with lead authors and editors of the book Waking the Asian Pacific Cooperative Potential. The book provides numerous case studies drawn from successful co-operative organisations across the region.

Panel members include: Dr Akira Kurimoto Hosei University, Japan; Mr Robby Tulus, co-operative practitioner/activist; Dr Anthony Jensen, University of Newcastle, Australia; Dr Yashavantha Dongre,

University of Mysore, India and Mr Balasubramanian Iyer, Regional Director ICA-AP.

Register here - <https://bit.ly/3hsABfv>

This email bulletin is printable and meant for all members, so please feel free to share it with others.

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We acknowledge the traditional Aboriginal owners of the country throughout Australia and pay our respects to them, their culture and their Elders past, present and future.

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