



Terms of Reference Mildura Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

Introduction

The Mildura Arts and Culture Advisory Committee has been created to provide an opportunity for community members with an interest and passion in the arts to participate in the development of arts and culture in our region.

The Advisory Committee will work with Mildura Rural City Council to ignite arts and culture and develop the Mildura Arts Centre as a leading regional arts and cultural precinct, enhancing the vitality and viability of the region at a national and international level.

In partnership with Council, The Advisory Committee will build upon this vision to enrich people's lives through arts and cultural experiences and launch a new strategic direction for the Mildura Arts Centre.

Objectives of the Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee shall act as a consultation, support and promotion body for the sustained growth of arts and cultural activities throughout the entire municipality, including small rural communities and outlying areas.

The Advisory Committee is to provide support and advice, by way of its Chairperson, to the Arts and Culture Development Manager.

In particular:

- (a) To support Council to achieve the Arts and Cultural Heritage goals as outlined in the Council Plan.
- (b) To foster community engagement with the arts as an essential component of a healthy and vibrant community and to be an advocate for the importance of arts as a vital component of community development.
- (c) To encourage a community driven sense of ownership through a representative community network of cultural, business, professional,

educational and political contacts with a view to long term involvement in and support of arts and culture programs.

(d) To advocate for and promote arts and culture within the community, in particular the Mildura Arts Centre, including:

- Visual Arts
 - The Senator RD Elliott and Mrs Hilda Elliott foundation bequest
 - Fine art collection
 - Public art and sculpture collection including Mildura Sculpture Triennials
 - Local artists' exhibition program
 - A diverse and relevant in-bound touring exhibition program.
- Performing Arts
 - A diverse and relevant in-bound professional touring program
 - Access for local companies and organisations to use facilities.
- Heritage
 - Presentation and interpretation of Rio Vista Historic House
 - Conservation and preservation of cultural heritage assets, such as Rio Vista Historic House and Mildura Station Homestead.

(e) Act as the principal advisory body to Council with regard to the identification and initiation of arts and culture programs within the municipality.

(f) Take a leading role in consultation with the community and key stakeholders across the performing and visual arts with a focus on local participation.

(g) Provide input to and support in the development of appropriate capital works programs and art based concepts associated with the Mildura Arts Centre and major projects such as the Mildura Riverfront Precinct Redevelopment.

(h) Explore and facilitate appropriate external funding opportunities and nurture relationships with stakeholders (eg sponsorship, partnerships, commercial and philanthropic) in accordance with established Council policies and processes.

(i) Foster the development of the **444 Foundation** – established in 2011 as an avenue for community fundraising to enhance arts and culture facilities.

(j) Through the Arts and Culture Development Manager engage in evaluation of Mildura Arts Centre programs and activities.

(k) Through the Arts and Culture Development Manager maintain a productive dialogue with Arts Victoria as a major funding provider for Mildura Arts Centre.

(l) Maintain a close working relationship with the Friends of Mildura Arts Centre, providing support and identifying opportunities for the Friends to participate in the operation of the facility and the broader arts community.

The Advisory Committee shall not:

(m) Have any authority to involve itself in day to day operations and staffing matters which are the direct responsibility of Council.

(n) Expend or incur any liability to expend any sum from any source not authorised by Council.

Appointment to The Advisory Committee

Appointments to The Advisory Committee shall be determined by Council following an appropriate public advertising process.

The Advisory Committee shall consist of seven community members with full voting rights and the Arts & Culture Development Manager, or his / her appointee, as ex-officio member.

One member of The Advisory Committee shall be nominated by the Friends of the Mildura Arts Centre as their representative.

The relevant Portfolio Councillor(s) will be non-voting observer member(s) of The Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee will be representative of the community and preferably incorporate some or all of the following skills:

- Performing / visual arts
- Business / entrepreneurial / marketing / legal / finance
- Arts education and professionals
- Community engagement
- Heritage and conservation

Chairperson

Chairing of The Advisory Committee will be determined by the committee through a nomination and voting process to be ratified by Council.

The role of chairperson has a 12 month tenure.

Role of The Advisory Committee Members:

The Advisory Committee members will attend bi-monthly meetings and smaller workgroup meetings if required on specific issues.

The Advisory Committee members will make recommendations as a group and will be responsible for ensuring that decisions and recommendations made are in the best interest of the community and Council. The Advisory Committee members will work with Council on identifying priority issues and areas of work that will be focused on within a Council and community context.

Appointment of Advisory Committee Members

Advisory Committee members will initially be appointed for a period of two years (three positions) and three years (four positions) to provide continuity across the change of Advisory Committee members at appointment. All subsequent appointments will be made for a three year period.

Resignation of Advisory Committee Members

Within three months of the resignation of an Advisory Committee member an advertisement will be placed to fill the vacancy, unless the vacancy coincides with the regular appointment of Advisory Committee members.

Representatives of Organisations

Where an organisation or group is represented on The Advisory Committee, the organisation or group will have a designated representative and a proxy selected by the organisation.

Authority

This Advisory Committee has been formed as an advisory group to Council as defined in the Local Government Act 1989:

Advisory Committee means any committee established by the Council, other than a special committee, that provides advice to:

(a) the Council; or

(b) a special committee; or

(c) a member of Council staff who has been delegated a power, duty or function of the Council under section 98