

## **Terms of Reference Mildura Arts and Culture Advisory Committee**

### **Introduction**

The Mildura Arts and Culture Advisory Committee (MACAC) 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.

MACAC will provide advice to Mildura Rural City Council regarding projects, programs and initiatives relevant to arts and culture within the municipality.

In partnership with Council, MACAC will build upon our vision to create a vibrant arts community, enriching people's lives through the provision of a diverse range of arts and cultural experiences.

### **Objectives of MACAC**

MACAC 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.

MACAC should maintain a high level of awareness of arts and culture within the broader community and be a conduit for new ideas and initiatives to Council.

MACAC is to provide support and advice to Council, by way of its Chairperson, through the Arts and Culture Development Manager.

In particular MACAC is:

- (a) To support Council to achieve the Arts and Culture goals as outlined in the Community Vision and Council Plan.
- (b) To support Council to achieve the implementation of Council's adopted plans and strategies.

- (c) 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.
- (d) 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.
- (e) To advocate for MRCC arts and culture programs within the community, including:

#### Visual Arts

- Mildura Arts Centre collection
- Fine art collection
- Public art and sculpture collection including Mildura Sculpture Triennials
- Local artists' and exhibition programs
- A diverse and relevant inbound touring exhibition program.

#### Performing Arts

- A diverse and relevant inbound professional touring program across the municipality
- 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.

- (f) To advocate for the creative industries and arts and culture sector within the community, including:
  - Community and cultural groups
  - Artists
  - Events
  - Festivals
  - Historical Societies
  - Galleries
  - Educational
  - Retail spaces
- (g) To act as the principal advisory body to Council with regard to the identification and initiation of arts and culture programs within the municipality.
- (h) To take a leading role in consultation with the community and key stakeholders across the performing and visual arts with a focus on local participation.

- (i) To provide input to and support in the development of appropriate capital works programs and art-based concepts.
- (j) To explore and facilitate appropriate funding and partnership opportunities (e.g. sponsorship, partnerships, corporate, commercial and philanthropic avenues) in accordance with established Council policies and processes.
- (k) To foster the development of the **444 Foundation** – established in 2011 as an avenue for community fundraising to enhance arts and culture facilities.
- (l) To assist to build new audiences and relationships with key stakeholders including but not limited to key community partners, funding bodies and networking opportunities.

**Council will:**

Coordinate an induction for new committee members upon commencement with MACAC.

Provide information and where relevant, briefing and updates on Council planning and development strategies and initiatives which include components relevant to arts and culture.

Engage, inform and where appropriate invite a MACAC representative to attend council working groups / meetings regarding projects, ideas and initiatives relevant to arts and culture seeking advice and feedback.

Promote, recognise and raise awareness of the activities undertaken by MACAC.

Provide necessary resourcing for the function of the committee.

**MACAC shall not:**

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

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

**Appointment to the MACAC**

A public expression of interest process will be conducted when vacancies occur on MACAC. Applications will be referred to an assessment panel which will consist of the chairperson of MACAC, Portfolio Councillor and designated Council Officer. Appointments to MACAC shall be recommended by the assessment panel and approved by Council's CEO.

MACAC shall consist of eight community members with full voting rights and the Arts and Culture Development Manager, or his/her appointee, as ex-officio member. The relevant Portfolio Councillor(s) will be non-voting observer member(s) of MACAC.

MACAC 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 / Deputy Chairperson**

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

The role of chairperson and deputy chairperson has a 12-month tenure with elections held at the first meeting of each year.

### **Role of MACAC Members**

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

MACAC 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. MACAC members will act as a conduit and sounding board to Council and will work with Council on identifying priority issues and focus areas within community.

### **Appointment of MACAC Members**

MACAC members will be appointed for a period of three years. Existing committee members must re-apply at the end of their term should they wish to continue as a member of the committee.

### **Resignation of MACAC Members**

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

## **Authority**

MACAC 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*

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