



# FEDERATION COUNCIL

## Council Meetings

Ordinary meetings of Council are held on the third Tuesday of the Month commencing at 9.30 am.

To help ensure we slow the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) within our workforce and the community from the 21st of April 2020 Council Meeting our public gallery has remained closed.

Federation Council is pleased to offer LIVE streaming of our monthly Council Meetings on YouTube. This gives residents the opportunity to observe Council business via their computers and mobile devices.

Please visit Council's website and click on the LIVE STREAM link to watch the Ordinary Council Meeting live on YouTube.

The following schedule outlines the 2021 ordinary meetings of Council commencing at 9:30am.

<b>Tuesday 17 August 2021</b> Corowa Chamber	
<b>Tuesday 21 September 2021</b> Corowa Chamber	<b>Tuesday 19 October 2021</b> Corowa Chamber
<b>Tuesday 16 November 2021</b> Corowa Chamber	<b>Tuesday 21 December 2021</b> Corowa Chamber

## Change in Waste Facility opening hours

Federation Council waste facilities located at Corowa, Howlong and Mulwala will be changing opening hours from Sunday 1 August, 2021.

Federation Council Mayor, Cr Patrick Bourke said, these Council facilities have been open 3 days per week and currently run at a financial loss each year due to the gate fee income being significantly less than expenditure required to operate each site.

“Council has made the decision to reduce the opening hours at the Corowa, Howlong and Mulwala facilities by removing the Sunday opening hours, and changing the Friday morning at Corowa to a Tuesday morning to provide a more even allocation of opening hours.”

“C“Our facilities receive an average of one customer every 15 minutes during opening hours which is not an efficient use of labour resources. Although Council has a few different funding mechanisms to cover the costs of providing these facilities, the most fair and equitable method is a user pays system.” he said.

“With the Corowa landfill nearing the end of its life, Council is faced with an upcoming large closure and rehabilitation cost, plus the cost of a new transfer station so Council has explored cost saving measures to ensure that our community can still have access to essential waste services as well as being able to fund large upcoming expenditures as they arise.”

This change is set to take effect from the Sunday 1 August 2021, meaning the last Sunday that the waste facilities will be open is Sunday 25 July 2021.

The new hours from Sunday 1 August 2021 will be;

Waste Facility Opening Hours		
Corowa Waste Management Centre	Tuesday 9am to 12pm	Saturday 1pm to 4pm
Howlong Waste Management Centre	Tuesday 1pm to 4pm	Saturday 9am to 12pm
Mulwala Transfer Station	Wednesday 9am to 12pm	Saturday 9am to 12pm

## Register your Pet

Do you know that you are legally required to register your dog or cat? The registration fee is a once-only payment, which covers the cat or dog for its lifetime in NSW, regardless of any changes in ownership.

Registration in another state or territory cannot be transferred to NSW.

At Council, there is no better joy for our rangers to be able to return your pet home safely, however, if your pet is not microchipped and registered we won't know where to return them to.

Registration is easy, contact Council and our friendly customer service team will assist you.

Find out more from Council's website [www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au](http://www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au)



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## Council launches new tourism product

Federation Council is pleased to announce the launch of its latest North of the Murray Tourism product - The Shearing of the Rams Trail.

## Federation Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee - seeking nominations



Federation Council is currently seeking expressions of interest from members of the community to participate in the new term of the Federation Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee from July 2021 to June 2023.

Council is looking for a range of community members who represent diverse creative forms and practices, and reflect the diversity of Federation's population and geographic spread.

Further information along with the nomination form is available from Council's website [www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au](http://www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au)  
Nominations are open until Friday 20 August 2021.

## Art of Ageing Exhibition



Federation Council is proud to be hosting the 'Art of Ageing' Exhibition at the Corowa Art Space during August this year.

The Art of Ageing is a photographic exhibition that celebrates the value, experience and contribution that older people bring, and it also challenges out-dated perceptions of ageing.

The Exhibition will be on display at the Corowa ArtSpace from Friday 6 August to Sunday 29 August, 2021. The Corowa ArtSpace is open 9.30am – 4.30pm Fridays and 9am– 2pm Saturdays and Sundays.

Find out more from Council's website.

The trail celebrates the collaboration of six local attractions and experiences the coming together of a trail that highlights Corowa's rich cultural history and one of Australia's most beloved artworks - Shearing the Rams. The trail was formed based on collaboration with local tourism operators and coordinated by the Federation Council Tourism Team.

The self-guided trail starts at the Corowa Visitor Information Centre where visitors can pick up a copy of the brochure, which is also available on the tourism website.

The trail brochure will provide visitors with the opportunity to learn about the special points of interest and the history behind the trail before they commence their journey.

The trail was officially launched on Monday, June 7 and was supported by tourism staff, volunteers and operators who were first to experience the many offerings of the new tourism product on a guided bus tour. Attendees received presentations from operators who feature in the trail: Sue Davis Photography, The Corowa Federation Museum, Corowa Landcare, Andrew Whitehead Sculpture Artist, Gallery 294 and The Corowa Sale Yards.

Destinations included for visitors to explore on the trail include: Corowa Visitor Information Centre, Corowa Federation Museum, The Shearing Shed on Redlands Rd, Shearing the Ram Sculpture at Lowesdale, Corowa Saleyards and Gallery 294 Corowa.

The trail has been well received by North of the Murray visitors and operators with several positive comments and images on social media.

Federation Council Mayor, Cr Patrick Bourke commended Council's tourism team and local operators following the launch of the trail. "Tom Roberts' legacy looms large North of the Murray and it is fantastic that we now have a trail dedicated to Tom's legacy for our visitors to take a step back in time," he said.

Learn more about the famous Australian oil painter Tom Roberts and the inspiration behind his legacy, North of the Murray by visiting the Corowa Visitor Information or [www.northofthemurray.com.au](http://www.northofthemurray.com.au)



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## Corowa Visitor Information Centre extends its hours

**COROWA VIC**  
to operate 7 days  
a week



As part of Council's Visitor Servicing Review, the operating hours of the Corowa Visitor Information Centre (VIC) are set to expand as of July 2021.

The Centre which was previously operated Monday to Friday 9.00am – 4.00pm and Saturday 10am-3pm, will now be open Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm and Saturday and Sunday 10am-2pm.

The change in operating hours is to meet the guidelines for NSW Accredited Visitor Information Centres (AVIC) and will result in budget savings due to the change in staff structure and ongoing support from volunteers. Federation Council Mayor, Cr Pat Bourke said the new service model would ensure visitors had access to Council's tourism team, supported by the many wonderful volunteers seven days a week, all whilst meeting AVIC accreditation requirements.

"The AVIC sets a benchmark of industry standard for Visitor Centres, provides resources, reports, statistics and industry news relevant to the operation of visitor information services in NSW," he said.

"Accreditation provides accredited VIC owners such as Council access to the national brand and signage, state and federal funding opportunities, state tourism projects and marketing campaigns; and inclusion in maps and printed collateral. VIC's also gain entry to a nationwide network of centres and the collaborative opportunities that membership provides. Council saw it as imperative to ensure we stay connected to the AVIC brand and meet our accreditation requirements." For further information on the Corowa Visitor Information Centre, and all things tourism, North of the Murray visit [www.northofthemurray.com.au](http://www.northofthemurray.com.au)

## Corowa Aquatic Centre Learn to Swim Program to commence

Young swimmers will have a chance to grow their skills and confidence in the water with a new Learn to Swim Program set to commence at the Corowa Aquatic Centre in August.

Federation Council has announced the launch of its new Learn to Swim Program which will see classes offered every week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays during the school terms.

Federation Council Mayor, Cr Pat Bourke said he was delighted to announce the program would be starting after Council received over 500 expressions of interest in the learn to swim program to be hosted at the Corowa Aquatic Centre earlier this year.

"The team at the Corowa Aquatic Centre have been working diligently to deliver a fun and affordable Learn to Swim Program that will teach local children the life-long skill of swimming, so they can be comfortable, strong and happy in the water," he said.

"Teaching your child or yourself to swim is one of the most important decisions you will make in life and our Corowa Aquatic Centre team are committed to promoting fun and enjoyment of all things water for swimmers of all abilities."

Lessons will be \$16.00 per lesson, which includes the lesson and entry fee and for those children nominated on a family or child membership, they will be eligible for a discount on their lessons, which are priced at \$14.00. Enrolments for the Learn to Swim Program are now open, and parents are encouraged to complete the online enrolment form on the Corowa Aquatic Centre website, or alternatively, attend the Corowa Aquatic Centre to complete a paper based form.

Following the enrolment lodgment, a team member of the Corowa Aquatic Centre will be in contact with individual families with children aged over three, to arrange a time to complete a complementary assessment by a qualified swim instructor to determine children's skill level and suitable class allocation.

For further information, including class information and times, online enrolments and to view frequently asked questions visit [www.corowaaquaticcentre.com.au](http://www.corowaaquaticcentre.com.au)





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## **Council Adopts Operational Plan, Delivery Program and Financial Plan**

Council has adopted its 2021/2022 Operational Plan, 2018-2022 Delivery Program and Financial Plans at its June Council meeting.

Combined, these documents provide a guide to Council's operations and help the organisation meet community demands for services and infrastructure by maximising what it can achieve with its available resources.

In adopting the plans, Federation Council Mayor Patrick Bourke said the overall plans primary focus was to ensure Council services are sustainable into the future, while delivering on the many major projects outlined in the Community Strategic Plan.

"Council is pleased to adopt, its 2021/2022 Operational Plan, 2018-2022 Delivery Program and Financial Plans," Mayor Bourke said.

"Under the proposed budget Council will complete \$16M in capital projects. We will continue to deliver \$6.5M in road works, and \$5.8M on our sewerage and water network."

Mayor Bourke said Council's budget is delivering on the improvement to roads and the community facilities that the community expressed their requests for in the development of the Community Strategic Plan – Our Community Our Opportunity, developed under extensive community consultation in 2017.

"Since the formation of Federation Council in 2016, Council has worked extensively to deliver a range of new community infrastructure projects, as well as complete a monumental number of internal system upgrades and projects to provide a strong foundation for the new Council moving forward," he said.

"Council as a result of the \$10 million dollar Stronger Communities Fund (merger funds) as well as many other grants since then including from the Stronger County Communities Grant Program, COVID Stimulus, Drought Funding and other grants, has invested in many new, and or upgraded community assets right across the Council region.

These include Skate Parks, Tennis and Netball Courts, Boat Ramps, extensive playgrounds, a new \$10.5 million dollar year round pool in Corowa, additions to and the list goes on. This is also enhancing the areas reputation for liveability greatly. Council has also undertaken significant investment into its roads and related infrastructure network, however there remains a significant challenge in managing these assets with current revenue levels."

Mayor Bourke said Council as a business has experienced rapid changes and growth since its creation, with both former Councils having historically low rate bases and disproportionate asset bases to population levels.

"These challenges include a road network of 2322 km of roads broken into 964 km of sealed roads and 1,358 km of gravel roads," he said.

"Council also due to having 14 towns and villages, have a large amount of relatively low usage but high priority to the community, facilities, such as Halls, Courts and Ovals. These are spread across the towns and villages of Corowa, Howlong, Mulwala, Urana, Balldale, Boree Creek, Buraja-Lowesdale, Coreen, Daysdale, Morundah, Oaklands, Rand, Rennie and Savernake. Council also has varying service levels across each of these facilities.

In closing, Mayor Bourke said that Council had some challenges to reach a point of sustainability into the future, and planning well for maintenance and operations of assets was critical.

"This budget presents a vision for the long-term and a strong starting point for us to have conversations with our community about service expectations and subsequent costs associated with them," he said.

"Community feedback has been consistently positive in respect to the investment made by the NSW Government and Federation Council since the merger, displaying to Council our communities desires to continue to further invest in the area to improve the liveability and provide economic stimulus to the region through the creation and ongoing maintenance of such assets. Council is committed to working with the community to sustain this type of growth for the betterment of Council's communities into the future, with a strong focus on how to continue funding the creation and ongoing asset life cost of our growing asset base and services." Council would like to thank all residents who took the opportunity to provide their feedback on the draft documents during the month of May.