

### **Council Meetings**

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

Due to COVID-19 restrictions regarding gatherings and the need to comply with social distancing measures, Advice from the NSW Office of Local Government is that Council meetings will continue to go ahead by audio-visual link and they should continue to be accessible to the public.

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 will be 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:

Tuesday 16 March 2021	Tuesday 20 April 2021
Video Conference	<b>Urana Chamber</b>
Tuesday 18 May 2021	Tuesday 15 June 2021
Corowa Chamber	Corowa Chamber
Tuesday 20 July 2021	Tuesday 17 August 2021
Corowa Chamber	Urana Chamber
Tuesday 21 September 2021	Tuesday 19 January 2021
Corowa Chamber	Video Conference
Tuesday 19 January 2021	Tuesday 19 October 2021
Corowa Chamber	Corowa Chamber
Tuesday 16 November 2021	Tuesday 21 December 2021
Urana Chamber	Corowa Chamber

# Council vote to apply for Special Rate Variation

At an extraordinary meeting in February, Federation Council voted unanimously to submit the Corowa Aquatic Centre Special Rate Variation Application to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for determination.

Based on the extensive feedback. Council Officers recommended that the 2021/22 rate peg of 2% be applied based on the value of land, and the Special Variation of 6% be applied evenly to each property in the Federation Council area. This results in an increase to average residential rates of \$1.26 per week to go towards the operation costs of the new aquatic facility. Following the proposed change, average residential rates in Federation will remain in the lowest 20% in the state. Council's application has now been submitted to IPART for determination with rate payers having the opportunity to have their say on the application directly to IPART before a final decision is made in May 2021. Should the application be approved, the increase would be applied to Council's 2021/2022 first quarterly rates instalment due in July this year.

Visit Council's website www.federationcouncil.nsw. gov.au for further information.

## **Child Restraint Fitting Day**



Our children are especially vulnerable in a crash if they are not in an approved and correctly fitted child restraint that is appropriate to their age and size.

Federation Council has organised a free Child Restraint Fitting Day on Monday 15 March, 2021 in Corowa and Howlong.

The purpose of the day is to assist parents and carers to ensure that their little ones are safe by checking that the restraint being used has been fitted correctly. Register to attend by completing the online form from Council's website.



## **Roadworks Riverina Highway, Howlong**

Federation Council wishes to advise that Transport for NSW will carry out road rebuilding work on a section of the Riverina Highway, to provide a stronger surface and smoother ride for motorists. The work will take place on a 2.2 kilometre section of road, starting about 200 metres south of Read Street to the intersection of Jude Street.

Works have commenced and will occur between 7am and 6pm till Thursday 4 March, weather permitting.

Night work will be carried out on Tuesday 16 February to Thursday 18 February from 7pm to 11pm between Sturt Street and Hovell Street, to minimise disruptions to motorists.

Further information is available from Council's website.

# Corowa Aquatic Centre -Learn to Swim Program

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN COROWA AQUATIC CENTRE SERVICES

Planning is underway for the Learn to Swim Program at the new Corowa Aquatic Centre. To understand service demand, Council is coordinating a Learn to Swim Expression of Interest (EOI) survey.

Your participation in this will assist Council to understand the community needs and provide you with an opportunity to express an interest in enrolling your child/children in the program.

The survey is available from Council's website and will close on Wednesday 10 March, 2021.

The new Corowa Aquatic Centre, which will provide a state of the art aquatic facility, features a 50 metre outdoor pool, Splash Park, indoor heated 25 metre pool and kiosk facilities is scheduled to open to the public in April 2021.

# **Festival of Fun for Seniors**

Federation Council invites residents aged over 55 years to join the Festival of Fun for Senior's during April as part of the 2021 NSW Seniors Festival.

The Festival of Fun for Senior is a series of free organised tours encouraging people to get out and about, have fun and celebrate the wonderful contribution seniors make to our community.

Guests can hop on a bus, be chauffeured to the event, and enjoy spending time with like-minded people. Five events are scheduled over the two-week program which includes return buses to and from each event.

Bookings for events and buses will open on Friday 12 March 2021 from Council's website. For assistance with bookings residents are being asked to contact the Corowa Visitor Information Centre on P: 02 6033 3221.

View the full program from Council's website.

## **Library Storytime**

Federation Council is pleased to advise that Storytime at Federation Council Libraries in Corowa, Howlong and Mulwala have recommenced.

Children and their parents/carers are invited to participate FREE, sessions are suitable for ages 0-5 years and run for 30-45 minutes.

Join in the fun, meet new people, introduce your child to a world of books and lay the foundation for a lifelong love of reading.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, a maximum of 20 people are able to attend at each library. Bookings are required and can be made via Council's website or by contacting your local library.





### Community Grants Program Now Open



Round two of the Federation Council 2020-2021 Community Grants Program has opened, with funds available to help local community groups, organisations and clubs to deliver a range of community projects and events.

Federation Council Mayor, Cr Pat Bourke is encouraging not-for-profit groups and organizations to apply for funding for this year's Community Grants Program.

"The Community Grants Program is an initiative aiming to empower groups to develop ideas, projects and events tat can contribute to the vibrancy and connected community of Federation Council," Mayor Bourke said.

"We see this as a way to bring forward new ideas and help to develop existing projects to a new height. The grants program is a community focused initiative that gives Federation organisations a way of involving the wider community, their participation in local activities and, championing projects that have a strong economic and social impact."

Eligible applicants can apply under one of three categories:

- Category 1 Seed funding grant; to support the establishment of new initiatives, applicable up to \$3,000 per applicant.
- Category 2 Emerging Grant funding; to support the promotion of emerging projects, applicable up to \$2,500 available per applicant.
- Category 3 Community events grant; to support the strategic development for small to medium events, applicable up to \$1,500 per applicant.

Eligible applicants can apply for grant funding for oneoff projects through one of the nine focus categories:

- Arts And Culture;
- Events & Tourism;
- Community Work and Welfare;
- Skill Development and Learning;
- Health Promotion;
- Accessibility and Inclusion;
- Young People;
- Senior Residence; and
- Children and Families.

"We have a great guide available to all residents and organisations, that can assist with ensuring your application and initiatives are eligible for funding available through our website," Mayor Bourke said.

"If you are an eligible group and you have a great idea that can benefit the wider community, submit your initiative through the Community Grants Program via our online form which is available from Council's website."

Applications close Friday 19 March, 2021.

### **Council Portable Speed board**

Federation Council's solar powered portable speed board will be located in Howlong from the middle of March throughto June 2021 at various locations.

The board provides real-time feedback to motorists of their vehicle speed and a reminder of the appropriate speed for the road they are travelling on.

Speed is the biggest contributing factor to injury and fatality crashes on New South Wales roads with 29% of injury and fatality crashes in the Federation Council area involving speed.

Find out more about road safety from Council's website www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au







Residents, friends, family and visitors celebrated everything that's great about living in Australia at this year's Federation Council Australia Day celebrations. A crowd of more than 200 people were joined by Member for Albury Justin Clancy, Federation Council representatives and the Urana Community Group to participate in festivities at the Aquatic Centre in Urana on January 26.Council would like to congratulate all the award recipients and nominees for the 2021 Federation Council Australia Day Awards.

**\*2021 Citizen of the Year:** Vivian Spilva.

\*2021 Young Citizen of the Year: Maxim Blockley.

\*2021 Community Event of the Year: Corowa Rutherglen Virtual Relay for Life Event.

\*Local Achiever of the Year Awards: Cassandra Hughes of Corowa, Paul Carrol of Coreen, Kathryn Bruce of Savernake, Yvonne Smith of Urana, Wayne Lamb of Howlong and George Jenkins of Mulwala.

\*Student Achievement Awards Winners: Boree Creek: Ruby Routley - Academic Excellence and Jacinta Westblade – Outstanding Sporting Achievement. Corowa High School: Jacob Read – Academic Excellence and James Frazer – Academic Excellence. Corowa Public School: Zach Arnold – School Leadership & Citizenship and Riley Collins – Citizenship Award.Corowa South Public School: Alexis Macarteny – School Leadership and Mila Bratt – Academic Achievement. Howlong Public School: Scarlett Longley – Citizenship Award and Charlotte Shepherd – Academic Excellence. Lowesdale Public School: Lucia McLellan – Academic Achievement and Harley Cooper - Citizenship Award. Oaklands Central School: Alexis Finch – Citizenship Award and Tahlia Hunter - Citizenship Award. Rand Public School: Charlie Williams – Academic Excellence and Aiden Emmerton – Citizenship Award. St. Francis Xavier Urana: Jack Butler – Academic Excellence and Josie Gooden – Citizenship Award.St. Mary's Catholic Primary School: Archer Coppolino - Outstanding Sporting Achievement and Tahlia Morley – School Leadership. Urana Public School: Hunter Bell – Citizenship Award and Melissa Smith – Outstanding Sporting Achievement.