



NAME: LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee	
DEPARTMENT: Community Building and Inclusion	DATE: 4 November
PANEL: Cr Katherine Copsey, Cr Peter Martin, Tony Keenan (GM Community Wellbeing and Inclusion) Ewa Zysk (Diversity Officer)	

The following nominees are recommended for term 2021-2024

One nominee of the Pride Centre (Council endorsed via Terms of Reference)

- Justine Dalla Riva, CEO

One LGBTIQA+ person from creative sector/industries

- Dianne Toulson, Theatre Works

One LGBTIQA+ person who operates a business in the City

- David Demmer, business based in Wellington Street, St Kilda

Two representatives from community organisations that represent, work with or support Port Phillip's LGBTIQA+ communities.

- Ange Barry, Joy FM
- Rebeckah Loveday, Sacred Heart Mission

Up to six other members from the LGBTIQA+ community

- Shaun Williams, Port Melbourne
- Coco Dywer, Elwood
- Liam McAuliffe, Elwood
- Rebeckah Loveday, St Kilda
- James Seow, South Melbourne
- Binti Mohamud, Balaclava
- Felicity McIntosh, St Kilda

LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee Nominations 2021-2024

Justine Dalla Riva is the CEO of the Pride Centre and she comes with significant experience as acting CEO of the Victorian Pride Centre and in-service management and delivery. She has a master's in marketing, a graduate diploma in graphic design, and BA (Hons).

The Victorian Pride Centre is the first purpose-built centre for Victoria's LGBTIQ+ communities. It is a place to pave new directions for the future of LGBTIQ+ communities, while honouring and celebrating our brave – and at times difficult – past. It is home to practical and supportive services and will grow into a destination for visitors from across Australia, and beyond.

The Victorian Pride Centre Ltd. is a not-for-profit organisation structured as a company limited by guarantee and was registered in October 2016. It has been established with a skills-based board of non-executive directors.

The nomination is was endorsed by Council 18 August 2021; the Pride Centre is embedded in the Terms of Reference.

Dianne Toulson is the General Manager and Creative Director at Theatre Works. Theatre Works is a company and a community located in a historic Parish Hall in St. Kilda. For 40 years, Theatre Works has been a vital national incubator of high-quality Australian theatre. Dianne has 25 years' experience as Executive Director, Executive Producer, General Manager and Board Member across a diverse range of theatre sectors including women's theatre, disability sector, regional and ensemble theatre. She is passionate about developing artists and audiences as well as pushing the boundaries of creative and community arts by diversifying the narratives, practices and voices on our stages. Dianne has an extensive background in the not-for-profit arts and culture sector including project management and cross-cultural development.

Community Involvement/Representation

- Theatre Works
- Red Stitch
- Women's Circus
- Australian Circus & Physical Theatre Association
- Rollercoaster Theatre
- Victorian Association of Performing Arts Centres

Focus/interests/key issues

- LGBTIQ+ Story telling
- Inclusiveness arts
- Queer arts programming
- Social connection

Rebeckah Loveday is a proud woman of transgender experience and has been a City of Port Phillip resident for over seven years. Rebeckah is currently employed at Sacred Heart Mission, supporting people experiencing homelessness in a rapid housing program. The Journey to Social Inclusion program at Sacred Heart Mission is designed to provide holistic, long-term support in assisting vulnerable people experiencing homelessness to regain their independence, maintain suitable housing and reconnect to the community. Rebeckah is one of the Co-founders of Trans Pride March Melbourne and Trans Sisters United. Trans Sisters United has worked closely with the Sistergirls of the Tiwi Islands, a community of First Nations people of diverse gender and sexualities. Rebeckah is also the host of The Gender Agenda on Joy 94.9, Australia's only LGBTIQ+ radio station. The Gender Agenda is a radio program by trans people for trans people.

Rebeckah was the first openly transgender woman to be employed at Sacred Heart Mission and she set about a cultural change within the organisation and currently chairs the Sacred Heart Mission LGBTIQ+ Working Group. She is passionate about raising awareness on trans issues, specifically safe access to public spaces, which she articulated in the interview as a right and a necessity for participation in civic life, in the workplace and other public spaces. Through the Committee, she would also contribute to raising awareness and promoting educational spaces while humanising the transgender experience.

Community Involvement/Representation

- Sacred Heart Mission
- Chair of the Sacred Heart Mission LGBTIQ+ Working Group
- GLOBE Melbourne
- Joy 94.9
- Co-founder of Trans Pride March Melbourne
- Co-founder of Trans Sisters United

Focus/interests/key issues

- Housing and homelessness.
- Accessible public spaces
- Human rights

- Trans Awareness
- Diversity and Inclusion

David Demmer is a clinical psychologist and he has established and grown two private psychology practices that specialise in supporting LGBTQIAP+ mental health. His passion is for mental health, however, through his work he has encountered key concerns, such as violence against trans, non-binary, and gender diverse people, social isolation, lack of LGBTQIAP+ identifying role models, and substance abuse, misuse, and addiction. Through the committee, he would like to influence some of the systemic change around some of these issues through a proactive approach to ensure that City of Port Phillip is a welcoming place for all.

Community Involvement/Representation

1. Chair of the Australia Psychological Society Clinical College Victorian Committee
2. Movember (Consultant/Subject Matter Expert for mental health)

Focus/interests/key issues

1. Mental health
2. Social isolation and connection especially for older persons
3. The development of safe spaces and role models
4. Substance abuse, misuse and addiction
5. Violence against trans, non-binary, and gender diverse people
6. Nurturing a culture of safety and acceptance in the community

Ange Barry is the CEO of JOY Media, Australia's only LGBTIQ+ (Rainbow) Community Media organisation, located right in St Kilda at the Victorian Pride Centre. JOY's team of 200+ community members informs, entertains, and empowers rainbow communities across Australia and the world, with the purpose of building a more inclusive society. In her interview, Ange stated that "the role of JOY is to give a voice to the Rainbow community, and in doing so our community becomes aware of and champions for the issues and needs of our people. Our content makers work closely with everyday people, artists and performers, politicians and community leaders, young people and adults, from all backgrounds, every day of the week". Ange's professional goal with JOY is to make the organisation an even more inclusive platform for the LGBTIQ+ community.

Ange hopes to bring to the Committee the voices of the LGBTIQ+ community that she encounters daily through the radio station. Prior to coming to JOY, she was one the inaugural CEO of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program for 11 years. She holds a Business Management qualification and she has worked across the corporate and community sectors for 30+ years leading large teams and managing substantial financial budgets.

Community Involvement/Representation

- Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program
- Heads Together for ABI
- Sustain Australia
- The Lantern Project
- LGA Pro Local Government Leadership Mentoring

Focus/interests/key issues

- Safety and belonging
- Intersectionality
- LGBTIQ+ Older people
- Inclusive Arts
- Nurturing a culture of safety and acceptance in the community

Shaun Williams identifies as a gay father of four children, and he currently lives and studies in the City of Port Phillip. He is an experienced Project Manager, working for Melbourne Health for more than 13 years. He has vested interest in services for LGBTIQ+ communities, including developing

a Men's Health counselling service. During pandemic, he started Gay Fathers Worldwide, an online group supporting 350+ Gay Dads worldwide

Community Involvement/Representation

- Founder of Gay Fathers Worldwide
- LGBTIQ+ Health Australia
- Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras
- Australian Counselling Association
- Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia

Focus/interests/key issues

- Men's health
- LGBTIQ+ Older people
- Rainbow Families

Coco Dywer feels a strong sense of community in Naarm (Melbourne) and is especially connected to the LGBTIQ+ community. As a young person with a disability, they stated in the interview that "it's harder to find others in the same situation. It can be a really lonely experience, and really isolating". Through the committee, they would like to see in Port Phillip, the creation of programs and opportunities for young people from LGBTIQ+ community to connect and feel safe and queer friendly mental health support and access to queer-centred community events that are no limited to night life. In 2020 they were offered a position at the Reach Foundation where they are enrolled in a scholarship program training as a social worker specialising in the social and emotional wellbeing of gender diverse young people.

Community Involvement/Representation

- Friends of Elster Creek
- Future Healthy (VIC health initiative)
- Minus 18/Queer Formal.
- Reach Foundation

Focus/interests/key issues

- Youth mental health
- Accessible public spaces for LGBTIQ+ young people
- Access to queer-centred community events
- Intersectionality
- Advocacy for young people with disability

Liam McAuliffe is a Barrister at the Victorian Bar and he has appeared in the Supreme and County Courts of Victoria. He has also provided advice to both government and private clients on a range of legal issues. He grew up in Elwood and he is of Greek and Irish background. His passion is advocating for the inclusion of young people in community services and planning and specialises in providing legal services to children and young people. This specialisation arose from over three and a half years of employment in three legal organisations both of which specialise in assisting children and young people.

Community Involvement/Representation

- Volunteer Solicitor (evening advice sessions)
- Member NSW Young Lawyers – Criminal Law Committee (2015-18)
- Member April 2015 Law Reform and Policy Committee, Community Legal Centres NSW (2013-15)

Focus/interests/key issues

- LGBTIQ+ young people
- LGBTIQ+ health and well-being,
- Youth justice

James Seow is a skilled migrant and former international student, and identifies as a Southeast Asian (Chinese, Malay and Indonesian) gay cisgender man from a culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) and multi-faith background. He has lived experience as a person from intersectional LGBTIQ+ communities, and carries a deep, profound understanding of our complex and multi-dimensional lives. He is passionate about LGBTIQ+ health and well-being, social equity and innovation, capability building, community empowerment, and multiculturalism. As a member of the committee, he would like to support minority, marginalised and intersectional groups to be heard in policy and program planning, and service framework design. He also currently sits on City of Port Phillip's Multicultural Advisory Committee and on numerous other advisory committees for example, with the Victorian Pride Centre, Switchboard Victoria, and ACON (AIDS Council of New South Wales). He was involved in arts and culture management in Singapore, and he is a qualified group facilitator in community engagement, intersectionality, and enhancing intercultural understanding.

Community Involvement/Representation

- Victorian Pride Centre: Community Reference Group member
- Switchboard Victoria: Queer, Trans & Intersex People of Colour (QTIPOC) Advisory Committee member
- Monash University & Alfred Health: Researcher and Group Facilitator of Victorian Consortium for HIV Reduction in Overseas-Born Gay, Bisexual, and Queer Men
- Mental Health Foundation Australia: CALD LGBTIQ+ Support Group Facilitator and Multicultural Ambassador
- Thorne Harbour Health: LGBTIQ+ Health Education Workshop Facilitator
- Gay Asian Proud Melbourne: Lead Coordinator
- ACON (AIDS Council of New South Wales): National LGBTIQ+ Intimate Partner Violence Prevention Advisory Group member

Focus/interests/key issues

- LGBTIQ+ health and well-being,
- Multiculturalism
- Nurturing a culture of safety and acceptance in the community
- Social equity and innovation

Binti Mohamud wants to join the committee because she wants to help misrepresented people in the LGBTIQ+ community. In her interview, she spoke about how often the voices of LGBTIQ+ people of colour are not heard or listened to. She wants to help in making sure those voices aren't just seen as statistics but actual people with thoughts and ideas that can contribute to the community.

Binti currently is engaged with YLaB, which is a social enterprise which equips young people with the skills and networks to design a better future. With YLab, she started Sisters of the Future and the goal was to raise awareness and break down the misconceptions around female genital mutilation. She is a second-generation migrant from refugee and Muslim background.

Community Involvement/Representation

- YLAB

Focus/interests/key issues

- Young people
- Mental Health
- Safe spaces for Person of Colour from LGBTIQ+
- Female genital mutilation (FGM)

Felicity McIntosh is a Marketing and Communications Manager at Midsumma Festival, Victoria's premier three-week LGBTQIA+ arts and cultural festival celebrating diversity and inclusion; including the Midsumma Pride March held in St Kilda each year. She is also the first, and youngest, non-patched member of the Dykes on Bikes.

In her interview, Felicity talked about the importance of talking with the community rather talking to the community as she brings with a wealth of knowledge in community engagement. As part of her work with the committee, she would like to see the correct language been adopted by Council and she would also like to see Council adopt community engagement strategies that bring about a positive dialogue with LGBTQIA+ communities.

Community Involvement/Representation

- Joy FM
- Dykes on Bikes

Focus/interests/key issues

- Community Engagement
- Inclusive language
- Nurturing a culture of safety and acceptance in the community
- Communication strategies, digital media, marketing, public relations, and brand development.

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