



NCOSS Sector Development e-Bulletin

August 2010

If this email is not displayed correctly click [here](#) to view in a web browser
This edition offers internal links to navigate within the e-bulletin

1. Sector News and Resources

- Equal remuneration case for social and community workers [go to](#)
- Social Enterprise Development and Investment Fund (SEDIF) for Australia [go to](#)
- Social Enterprise in Australia is mature, sustainable and diverse [go to](#)
- Social Return on Investment (SROI) – a UK study of preparedness of the third sector [go to](#)
- Systemic capacity building: an insightful academic article from 2004 retains its relevance [go to](#)
- NSW Mental Health NGO Infrastructure Grants Program (IGP) [go to](#)
- Community Services Grants Program (CSGP)- the transition to Community Builders [go to](#)
- NCOSS 75th Anniversary Conference 5-6 August 2010 [go to](#)

2. Management Support Unit (MSU)

- Recent changes to the Federal Corporations Act [go to](#)
- Organisational mergers [go to](#)
- Governance: contemporary challenges for Board members [go to](#)
- NCOSS Sector Development Rural Road Show, Wagga Wagga, 7-8 September 2010 [go to](#)

3. Insurance

- Renewal time [go to](#)
- Renewal of Insurance for ADHC funded NGOs [go to](#)
- Insurance Information [go to](#)

4. Information Communication Technology (ICT)

- InfoxchangeTV seeking video content, comments and feedback [go to](#)
- Digital Inclusion Initiative Report and the Wired Community Collingwood [go to](#)
- Community Organisations Social Media- Twitter and Facebook [go to](#)
- Internet Intermediaries: a major OECD report on their economic and social role [go to](#)

1. Sector News and Resources

- **Equal remuneration case for social and community sector workers**

This Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) article aims to 'resource all social and community sector workers about the national equal remuneration pay case and the campaign for funding of the anticipated recommendations'.

The article offers links to the online resource kit developed by ACOSS for sector organisations to lobby government and non-government sources of funding.

Read more: [Equal remuneration case for social and community sector workers](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Social Enterprise Development and Investment Fund (SEDIF) for Australia**

Two new Australian initiatives were announced by Senator Stephens in July. \$20 million is being invested in the Social Enterprise Development and Investment Fund (SEDIF) to provide financial support for starting or expanding social enterprises in Australia.

Consultation sessions about the SEDIF will commence soon.

Read more: [Social Enterprise Development and Investment Fund \(SEDIF\)](#)

Email to register interest in consultation: socialinnovation@deewr.gov.au

[Return to contents](#)

- **Social Enterprise in Australia is mature, sustainable and diverse**

The Australian social enterprise sector is mature, sustainable and diverse according to new research conducted by Social Traders and the Australian Centre for Nonprofit Studies at Queensland University of Technology.

View summary online: [Social Enterprise in Australia: a preliminary snapshot June 2010](#)

Download full report: [Finding Australia's Social Enterprise Sector: Final Report](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Social Return on Investment (SROI) – a UK study of preparedness of the third sector**

The paper *Measuring Social Value*, published June 2010, discusses how single measures of social value, such as the Social Return on Investment (SROI) model, are failing as interpretive tools and as measures of risk in the United Kingdom. The need remains for simpler and clearer ways of measuring effectiveness and for communicating between funders and grantees.

Download: [Measuring Social Value: the gap between policy and practice](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Systemic capacity building: an insightful academic article from 2004 retains its relevance**

A brief and well illustrated article in the Health and Policy Planning Journal, published in , 2004, continues to be of interest in support of ongoing dialogue between government and the sector. Many aspects of capacity building will not achieve their desired effect unless structures, systems and roles are prioritised.

Read more: [Systemic Capacity Building: academic article retains its relevance](#)

View on-line: [Systemic capacity building: a hierarchy of needs](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **NSW Mental Health NGO Infrastructure Grants Program (IGP)**

The NSW Government, under the NSW Mental Health NGO Infrastructure Grants Program (IGP), assists NGOs that provide mental health programs in NSW. The grants are to improve service delivery by enhancing organisational infrastructure and encouraging NGOs to work towards service quality review and/or accreditation. The grants are administered by the Mental Health Coordinating Council (MHCC).

Final date for applications: Monday 9 August 2010

Download: [Expression of Interest](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Community Services Grants Program (CSGP)- the transition to Community Builders**

A new Local Community Services Association (LCSA) initiative, the Transition Resource Project, will focus on working with the sector and providing resources, information and advice throughout the reform and realignment of CSGP funded services.

Read more: [Transition Resource Project](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **NCOSS 75th Anniversary Conference 5-6 August 2010**

NCOSS Conference: Fairness in NSW will be held at Australia Technology Park, Redfern, 5-6 August 2010, as part of the NCOSS 75th Anniversary celebrations. The program is available on-line and registration is still open.

View online: [Fairness in NSW- 75 Years of NCOSS](#)

[Return to contents](#)

2. Management Support Unit (MSU)

- **Recent changes to the Federal Corporations Act**

The Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH) provides a concise overview of changes to the Federal Corporations Act 2001, designed to reduce reporting requirements for smaller organisations.

View online: [Reduction of red tape for companies limited by guarantee](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Organisational mergers**

The Non –Profit Conversation forum considers the process of successfully merging two NGOs.

Read more: [Building Blocks for Successful Nonprofit Merger](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Governance: contemporary challenges for Board members**

How to handle a situation where you disagree strongly with a Board decision.

Read more: [What to do when you really, really disagree...](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **NCOSS Sector Development Rural Road Show in Wagga Wagga, 7-8 September 2010**

On July 1 2010 the new *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* came into force. How will your organisation be affected? What do Board members need to be aware of? What are the risks and how should they be managed? NCOSS Sector Development is bringing workshops to the Wagga Wagga region on 7-8 September 2010. The Public Interest Law Clearing House

(PILCH) and Aon Risk Services will present workshops in partnership with NCOSS Management Support Unit and NCOSS Community Cover Insurance.

Read more: [NCOSS Sector Development Rural Road Show 2010 Wagga Wagga Flyer](#)

[Return to contents](#)

3. Insurance

- **Renewal time**

August-September is a common time to renew contracts with insurance providers. This *NCOSS Community Cover* article includes a check list of factors to consider.

Read more: [It's that time again! – Renewing your insurance policies](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Renewal of Insurance for ADHC Funded Service Providers**

One of the strategies from the NSW Governments *NGO Red Tape Reduction* report is to standardise the Department of Human Services grants funding application for the human services NGO sector.

Insurance requirements will no longer be prescribed by the funding agreement. Instead the coverage and amount of insurance will be determined by the NGO, based on their own assessment of risk. This article considers factors that may need to be considered with the introduction of changes.

Read more: [Renewal of Insurances by ADHC Funded Services](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Insurance Information**

For general information about insurance for the NGO sector, or to organise a quote for *NCOSS Community Cover*, an insurance scheme designed for and delivered by the sector, contact:

Liz Shreeve
NCOSS Community Cover
Phone: 02 9211 2599
Email: insurance@ncoss.org.au

[Return to contents](#)

4. Information Communication Technology (ICT)

- **InfoxchangeTV seeking video content, comments and feedback**

InfoxchangeTV is a new niche video sharing service that targets, and raises awareness of, the community sector. Infoxchange Australia is calling for all community organisations, NFPs, council representatives and individuals to contribute and share their videos and multimedia.

Email for more information: info@infoxchange.tv

[Return to contents](#)

- **Digital Inclusion Initiative Report and the Wired Community Collingwood**

The Digital Inclusion Initiative is a joint project of InfoXchange and Department of Housing, Victoria, bringing computers and internet access to a community of residents in Collingwood, Victoria over the last year.

Assessing the economic benefits of digital inclusion details the economic benefits generated for the community over 5 years.

Download: [Assessing the economic benefits of digital inclusion](#)

Download: [Wired Community @ Collingwood: ... Executive Summary](#)

Together these reports are a powerful model of how to measure and report on the impact of improved IT connectivity. The NSW NGO sector has been requesting funding for improved strategies for ICT service provision for many years. ICT capacity is integral to effective service delivery, whether to clients, communities or members. The NCOSS ICT research report, *Community Connexions*, was published in 2008.

Read more: [NCOSS ICT Strategy](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Community Organisations Social Media- Twitter and Facebook**

This TRI Community Exchange presentation visually explains the difference between Web 1.0 and Web 2.0 and provides many accessible links for beginners for staff who maintain the social media profile of small organisations.

Download: [Blacktown Community Services Conference on 15 April](#)

[Return to contents](#)

- **Internet Intermediaries: a major OECD report on their economic and social role.**

The Economic and Social Role of Internet Intermediaries is the first part of a major two-part report by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The goal of the report of the Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP) is to “obtain a comprehensive view of Internet intermediaries, their economic and social function, development and prospects, benefits and costs, and responsibilities.”

Download: [The Economic and Social Role of Internet Intermediaries](#)

[Return to contents](#)

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[Return to contents](#)