



# NCOSS Sector Development e-Bulletin

November 2009

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## 1. Sector News and Resources

- **Productivity Commission's draft report into the contribution of the NFP sector**

The Productivity Commission's draft report into the contribution of the not-for-profit sector was released on 14 October.

Submissions to the draft report are being accepted until the 23 November 2009.

**View document links:** [Contribution of the Not for Profit Sector](#)

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- **ACOSS Community Sector Survey 2010**

The 2010 Community Sector Survey is now open on-line and the closing date is Wednesday the 16th of December 2009. This Australia wide survey is conducted regularly by Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) to provide valuable information/evidence that assists our sector.

**View Survey links:** <http://www.acoss.org.au/>

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- **COSS Network submission on the proposed National Compact**

Submissions to the latest round of consultations on a national compact between the Australian Government and the Not for Profit Sector (NFP) closed on the 30th of September. The COSS network submission, developed by ACOSS, is substantially informed by ACOSS consultations with its members and the sector, as well as the experiences and impacts of compacts at the state and territory levels across the country.

**View on-line:** [COSS submission on a National Compact](#)

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- **Statistics on the contribution of Non-Profit Institutions to the Australian economy**

Data for 2006/07 was recently released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) confirming the importance of Non-Profit Institutions (NPIs) to the Australian economy. There is graphical and other data, on important issues such as share of gross domestic product (GDP), income, assets, employment and volunteers.

**View report:** [The Australian National Accounts: Non-Profit Institutions Satellite Account, 2006/07](#)

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- **Community Indicators Summit Declaration**

Community indicators, as measures of progress and well being in society, influence planning, policy making and budgets. Delegates to the Australian Community Indicators Summit in Brisbane in July 2009 considered a draft *Community Indicators Summit Declaration*. The declaration outlines the principles, achievements, issues and challenges that face the development of a national community indicators strategy for Australia in the 21st century.

**View on-line:** [Community Indicators Summit Declaration](#)

Other sources on this topic include the Australian Institute for Social Research, [communitybuilders.nsw](#), and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

**AISR Clearinghouse:** [Community Indicators On-line](#)

**NSW projects:** [communitybuilders.nsw](#)

**ABS on-line data:** [Measures of Australia's Progress, Summary Indicators 2009](#)

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- **Festive Season greetings from NCOSS**

NCOSS wishes you a safe and happy Festive Season.

NCOSS will be closed from midday 22 December 2009 until 9 am on 4 January 2010.

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## 2. Management Support Unit (MSU)

- **NCOSS Management Support Unit- Evaluation Survey**

NCOSS Management Support Unit Evaluation Survey will be open on-line from Wednesday 11 November until Wednesday 23 December (6 weeks).

NCOSS would appreciate your feedback as a subscriber of this e-Bulletin. The survey below evaluates other MSU services that your organisation may have utilised: on-line and phone enquiry service; templates, information sheets, articles; training register; Board Assist vacancies; consultants register and seminars.

Click [here](#) to complete the survey:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=V3EA1mAgaqwxbetq9Q4w4Q\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=V3EA1mAgaqwxbetq9Q4w4Q_3d_3d)

If you have any problems accessing the survey using the link above, please contact [msu@ncoss.org.au](mailto:msu@ncoss.org.au) or Janette Prichard on (02) 9211 2599 ext 122.

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- **Charitable status and good governance: a contemporary reminder**

A recent Federal Court ruling has revoked the charitable status of an organisation that monitors Australia's international aid programs. Third Sector e-news includes an article about the deregistration of Aid/Watch because its political activities were viewed as its main purpose. Good governance for all NFP organisations should include regular reviews of their entitlement to endorsement.

View on line: [Maintaining the balance: charitable purposes versus political agendas](#)

Other sources on this topic include an article by PILCH titled *Commissioner of Taxation vs Aid/Watch Incorporated*, an article by Philanthropy Australia, titled *ATO on revocation of charitable status: good governance tools*, and the Australian Tax Office Non-Profit News Service Bulletin 0252- *Revocation of endorsement as a tax concession charity*

**View article:** [Commissioner of Taxation vs Aid/Watch Incorporated](#)

**View article:** [ATO on revocation of charitable status: good governance tools](#)

**ATO Bulletin:** [Revocation of endorsement as a tax concession charity](#)

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- **CCWT Emerging Leadership Program 2010: call for expressions of interest**

This nine-month Emerging Leadership Program, provided by the Centre for Community Welfare Training (CCWT), is designed specifically to develop the talents and leadership skills of 'promising staff' within the community sector, using an active, transformative and collaborative approach. It aims to "strengthen the relationship between management and leadership as a key workforce development strategy".

**Read more on-line:** <http://www.acwa.asn.au/elp.html>

**MSU training register:** <http://www.ncoss.org.au/content/view/954/156/>

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- **Strategic Planning: New MSU Information Sheet**

This information sheet examines the process of strategic planning. It defines the concept, examines concerns and barriers to effective planning, outlines the benefits and the process of achieving an effective strategic plan. There is also a list a useful resources.

**View pdf:** [Information Sheet 25 Strategic Planning](#)

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- **JB Reid Nonprofit Governance Colloquium**

Queensland Institute of Technology (QUT) and The Australian Centre for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Studies (ACPNS) are convening a *free* governance colloquium in **Sydney on Monday the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009**. Presenters at the JB Reid Nonprofit Governance Colloquium include Dr Alan Hough (ACPNS) on his recent research on Boards, and Dr Gavin Nicholson (QUT) on the Developing Your Board Project.

**View flyer:** [JB Reid Nonprofit Governance Colloquium flyer](#)

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### 3. Insurance

- **Reading the Fine Print**

*Insurance News* report on a workshop held by the Australasian Institute of Chartered Loss Adjusters, highlighting that even delegates from the insurance industry can have difficulty interpreting insurance policies.

**View on-line:** [Policy comprehension gaps emerge in workshop](#)

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- **Are you prepared to survive?**

Preparation is good insurance. The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) has developed a four step program starting with the Household Assessment Tool, a simple to use program that will enable a householder to assess their risks in a bushfire emergency and help decide on an appropriate course of action.

The Insurance Council of Australia has also released its *Tips for protection during the NSW bush fire season*, which focuses on preparing your insurance policy.

**View on-line resources:** [NSW Rural Fire Service \(RFS\)](#)

**View on-line media release:** [Tips for protection during the NSW bush fire season](#)

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- **National Disability Insurance**

The Disability Council of NSW reports, in their October *i:D Bulletin*, that a National Insurance Scheme, similar to workers' compensation or third party car insurance is

being proposed by the Rudd government to provide for people with disabilities. The insurance scheme would involve a universal, compulsory, no-fault insurance scheme providing essential care and support for those disabled at birth or through an accident or illness.

**View article:** [End Poverty for Disability](#)

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## 4. Information Communication Technology (ICT) Strategy

- **Working with an IT Support Company**

*Working with an IT Support Company* (Lasa, UK) outlines the research and assessment of requirements that should be completed prior to approaching an IT company. It also makes suggestions on the selection process, particularly when networks and servers are involved.

**View article:** [Working with an IT Support Company](#)

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- **Contracting with an IT Support Company**

When an organisation does not have an Information Technology (IT) expert on their payroll, they may engage an IT company to provide IT support, IT management *and* timely repair of their computers and networks.

*What to Expect from an IT Support Contract* clarifies what a support provider may expect from an organisation, as well as the support providers responsibilities. The article emphasises that the contract must include clear specifications of procedure for responding to escalating faults and emergencies.

**View article:** [What to Expect from an IT Support Contract](#)

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- **Guide to Twitter - Ditto**

Makeuseof.com offers a comprehensive, free, downloadable, pdf guide on how to use Twitter.

**Read more:** <http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/the-complete-guide-to-twitter-pdf/>

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