

NCOSS AGM 2025: Board Election Information

Can I stand for election to the NCOSS Board?

To be elected as a Director to the NCOSS Board, you need to be 18+ (a requirement under Corporations law) and be either:

- A fully financial member of NCOSS in your own right (an individual member)
- The nominated representative of a fully financial NCOSS member organisation (organisational member). That is, the person an NCOSS member organisation nominates to be their representative for the purposes of their NCOSS membership.

Who is currently serving on the NCOSS Board?

The NCOSS Board currently comprises:

- John Robertson, CEO of Foodbank NSW and ACT and the NCOSS President
- Mark Degotardi, CEO of the Community Housing Industry Association and NCOSS Treasurer
- Jenni Beetson-Mortimer, CEO of Northern Rivers Community Gateway
- Belinda Field, CEO of Eleanor Duncan Aboriginal Services
- Wendy Foote, an individual member and an Associate Professor in the School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences at the University of Newcastle
- John Leha, CEO of AbSec
- Emma Maiden, General Manager Advocacy & External Relations at Uniting NSW/ACT
- Simon Rice, individual member and Emeritus Professor
- Yolanda Saiz, CEO of the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW
- Elisabeth Shaw, CEO of Relationships Australia NSW.

You can read more about our Directors on our [website](#).

Strengthening the diversity of the NCOSS Board

NCOSS aims to ensure a Board with a skills' mix and diversity. Two groups that have been identified to strengthen NCOSS's governance are: younger people and people living in regional, rural or remote NSW. People who meet these criteria are encouraged to apply.

We encourage NCOSS members to think about how they can best support the inclusivity and diversity on the NCOSS Board when casting their votes for the election of Directors at the AGM.

First Nations representation on the NCOSS Board

The NCOSS Constitution requires at least one Director to be a First Nations person – even if that would mean there were more Directors on the Board than the maximum number the Constitution allows. This is set out in rule 29.2. The current First Nations Directors on the NCOSS Board are:

- Jenni Beetson-Mortimer, who comes from the Ngemba people from Brewarrina in Western NSW and works on Bundjalung country
- Belinda Field, a proud Wiradjuri woman working on Darkinjung Country
- John Leha, who is a Birra Gubba, Wakka Wakka and Tongan man born and raised on Gadigal land and who works across NSW.

Vacancies to be filled at the 2025 AGM

1. Board Appointed Directors

The NCOSS Constitution requires any Directors appointed to the Board between AGMs to stand down at the AGM following their appointment. They must either retire or submit for election. This is set out in rule 41.2.

A casual vacancy was created during the year when Elfa Moraitakis, CEO of Sydwest Multicultural Services, resigned as a Director. This vacancy was filled when the Board appointed Yolanda Saiz in December 2024. Yolanda is eligible to nominate for election to the Board at the 2025 AGM.

NCOSS wishes to recognise the significant contributions both Elfa and Yolanda have made to the organisation during their time on the Board.

2. Elected Directors standing down at the 2025 AGM

Rule 32.1 of the NCOSS Constitution requires at least one third of elected Directors to stand down each year and prohibits any elected Director from serving more than three years before standing for re-election. The following Directors will be standing down at the 2025 AGM under this rule:

- Jenni Beetson-Mortimer
- Wendy Foote
- John Leha.

During their first term on the Board, both Jenni and John have served on the Board's Audit and Risk Committee (and its predecessors). During the time Wendy has been an NCOSS Director, she has served on the Human Resources Committee including as Chair.

Jenni, Wendy and John are all eligible to nominate for re-election.

Directors' meetings since the 2024 AGM

There were four Board meetings held between the AGM and the date of issue of this information sheet (8 August 2025). Additionally, the Board held a strategy workshop on 2 May.

There are two further Board meetings scheduled before the AGM, in August and October and an additional meeting may also be scheduled in September.

Name	Position	Date elected or appointed	Meetings attended	
			Possible	Attended
John Robertson	President	First elected 2019 Last re-elected 2024	4	4
Mark Degotardi	Treasurer	First elected 2023	4	4
Jenni Beetson-Mortimer	Director	First elected 2022	4	2
Belinda Field	Director	First elected 2024	4	3
Wendy Foote	Director	First elected 2019 Last re-elected 2022	4	4
John Leha	Director	First elected 2022	4	2
Emma Maiden	Director	First elected 2024	4	4
Simon Rice	Director	First elected 2024	4	4
Yolanda Saiz	Director	Appointed 2025	4	4
Elisabeth Shaw	Director	First elected 2024	4	4