



# Community Leadership

## LODDON MURRAY INC.

(Incorporating the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program)

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### Women on Boards

A clear need and interest in improving skills was demonstrated by the twenty-nine women who registered for the recent Women on Boards forums held in Swan Hill during November.

Conducted by Community Leadership Loddon Murray with the assistance of funding from the Victorian and Australian Governments, and Business Professional Women Swan Hill, these two forums were designed to assist women to become more effective board or committee members in a practical and engaging environment.

"It's great to have quality training in a regional accessible location - thank you!" said a participant from Kerang.

Over the two days three workshop facilitators and six speakers shared their knowledge with the women.

Topics such as communicating with confidence and personality differences with Robyn Bull, and life balance planning with Clare Fountain, helped the women to focus on their personal skills development.

Developing the confidence to speak up and understanding how different personalities think proved most beneficial to the women.

Juggling family, work and community was a challenge that everyone identified with.

"Overall, it has given me a new outlook on my position and my work life balance," said one participant.

The second day focused on governance issues with Nigel McGuckian taking the women through the theory and into a board room scenario.

"My understanding of the roles and responsibilities of board members has increased tenfold," said a Swan Hill participant. "I feel much better equipped to take on a board role."

Cr. Yvonne Jennings, Marie Schlemme, Wendy McAllister and Rosanne Kava also generously shared their vast wealth of knowledge and experiences assisting the women to put the theory into a practical perspective.

Julie Slater and Kerry Anderson from Community Leadership Loddon Murray provided a comprehensive resource manual and helped to identify future pathways that the women may like to explore.

"The forums were extremely helpful for both my work and personal life," concluded a very happy participant.

Networking was a key component of the forums and a follow up event – Celebrating Rural Women Dinner - is being planned for Tuesday 8 March to coincide with International Women's Day. Further details can be found at [www.lmclp.org.au](http://www.lmclp.org.au) or by calling 5470-5122.

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For further information about this media release please contact the project manager, Kerry Anderson, on 5470-5122 or 0418 553 719.

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*Engaging, encouraging and empowering members of the community in leadership*