



VLGA

LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
ELECTIONS
OCTOBER 2020

**PRE-CANDIDATE
TRAINING
PROSPECTUS**



About the VLGA

The Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) is an independent body supporting councils and communities in good governance. As part of its service to members and communities, VLGA offers a range of training and community development opportunities.

We promote and advocate for the importance of effective local government, increasing awareness in the community of the work of local government.

We encourage participation in local government by equipping community members with the skills, knowledge and connections required to be successful community leaders.

October 2020 Local Government Elections

Throughout the VLGA's 25 years, we have worked to support communities and councils in good governance over many election cycles.

It is crucial that candidates start early in their preparation for local government elections. By providing quality information, resources and education about the business of local government and candidate development, the VLGA can assist councils in attracting and supporting high calibre candidates who reflect the communities they serve.

The VLGA invites councils to partner with the VLGA to deliver workshops in their local communities ahead of the 2020 elections. These workshops are designed to increase understanding of councils and council elections in the community, leading to more informed candidates and voters.

The VEC provides information sessions on the logistics of local government elections and the responsibilities of candidates; whereas the VLGA's sessions take a holistic approach to building community leadership capacity and informing community members about the business of local government.

Key components

Candidate development

Interactive workshops on key considerations for candidates, including developing a policy platform, connecting with community and key skills and campaigning techniques.

Local Government 101 - the fundamentals

A comprehensive overview of the business of local government, the roles of councils and councillors, and the electoral system.



GENERAL COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS 2020

Format

Three hour training program

Outline

- Welcome, introduction and expectations
- What is local government?
- How does local government work?
- Council CEO and administration
- Break*
- What is the role of a councillor?
- What is the role of council?
- Accountability of councils and councillors
- Key dates and candidate eligibility
- Understanding your council/ward
- Break*
- Your personal values and election platform
- Your campaign team, tools and resources
- Debrief, wrap up and Q&A

Presenters

- VLGA

Cost

Member Councils FREE

Non-Member Councils \$5000 + GST

Responsibilities of partnering council

- Advertising and marketing of training
- Appropriate and accessible venue
- AV/IT (projector, laptop), note pads/pens
- White board, markers and butcher's paper
- Catering as required for participants



We cater to your community

The VLGA provides relevant, accessible and comprehensive training on the business of local government and the journey from community member to candidate and (potentially) councillor.

Our workshops are flexible in content and delivery and can be co-designed with your community where appropriate (i.e. for community leadership programs; council advisory committees, etc).

Benefits of VLGA training

Consistency

All VLGA training is developed based on our in-depth knowledge of council operations and community interactions. We offer consistency and relevance in our training as the scope and type of services offered by councils are similar despite differences in council size and demographics.

Authority

All VLGA trainers have experience within local government, either as elected councillors or as council staff members. We have a thorough understanding of the legislative framework under which councils operate in Victoria.

Quality

The VLGA is in regular contact with key government departments, agencies and Ministers. We are up to date with current issues facing councils and their communities and continually seek feedback on issues facing the sector.



**VICTORIAN LOCAL
GOVERNANCE ASSOCIATION
SUITE G06, 60 LEICESTER ST
CARLTON VIC 3053**

P 03 9349 7999

E vlga@vlga.org.au

 viclga  @_vlga

www.vlga.org.au