



Central Midlands & Coastal  
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# Shire executives share scholarship

TWO managers from the Shire of Moora and the Shire of Dalwallinu have been announced as joint winners of a \$5000 professional development scholarship.

They are Moora Shire Council community and economic development manager Rebecca McCall and Dalwallinu Shire Council economic development and marketing officer Richard Milloy.

The inaugural scholarship is one of three that has been awarded under the Perth Convention Bureau's convention ambassador program and is designed to assist the winners to attend national and international conferences.

Ms McCall and Mr Milloy were nominated by the bureau's convention ambassador Ricky Burges who is the WA Local Government Association chief executive.

They plan to use the scholarship to attend the Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia (SEGRA) national conference in Geelong later this year.

They will lobby support for a potential WA bid to host the conference in 2013.

"The scholarship provides Richard and I the opportunity to attend one of Australia's premier conferences on regional issues that has a focus on assisting regional, rural and remote Australia to source and identify the techniques, skills and issues they need to achieve successful economic growth and development," Ms McCall said.

"I am humbled that our submission was successful and look forward to assisting to have the conference return to WA so that we can showcase our state's regional development achievements."

Mr Milloy said regional WA had much to offer and it was great to get a chance to potentially showcase the diversity of the Mid West and Wheatbelt areas.

Another country shire council manager nominated by Ms Burges was also among the scholarship winners.

She is Cranbrook Shire Council business and economic development manager Cassandra Stipanicev.

Ms Stipanicev plans to use the scholarship to attend the national conference of Economic Development Australia (EDA) in Adelaide in September where she will canvass support for WA to host the 2013 event.

Bureau chairman Ian Laurance said the announcement of the scholarship winners represented a new initiative designed to broaden the scope of the bureau's existing scholarship program and engage its convention ambassadors.

"The main point of establishing the ambassador program in 1998 was to profile WA as a business events destination as well as raising the profile and role of the bureau and the significant economic contribution the sector makes to the WA economy," he said.

"The ambassadors in their normal business lives carry the message that Perth has the infrastructure and ability to successfully stage large national and international conventions.

"In particular, they promote the message that WA is an innovative and progressive community at the forefront of global research and development in many industry sectors."

Under the expanded scholarship program, originally launched in 1998, 15 scholarships worth \$80,000 are now available to applicants annually.

The bureau, which was established in 1972, is responsible for marketing WA as a business events destination encompassing conventions, exhibitions and incentive travel groups.

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Rebecca McCall from the Shire of Moora



Richard Milloy from the Shire of Dalwallinu