





#### A word from our Chairperson

**Regional Development Australia (RDA) Goldfields Esperance** performs an active and facilitative role across the Goldfields Esperance regional community, with a focus on growing strong, confident regional economies that harness competitive advantages, seize on development opportunities and optimise the flow of investment into the region.

We had a busy year in 2021, which included welcoming Raz Ion on board as our Director of Regional Development. Raz hit the ground running in April and has certainly settled well into the Goldfields and the role, driving many of RDA Goldfields Esperance activities during the past year.

I am pleased to present our first annual update to the region from RDA Goldfields Esperance for our 2021 sponsorships and activities.

I look forward to continuing to work with our key regional stakeholders to support and deliver strong economic outcomes for Goldfields Esperance in 2022.

Lee Jacobsen Chairperson

#### **Our Committee**



Lee Jacobsen, Chairperson



**Brian Joiner** 



**Patrick Hill** 



**Priscilla Davies** 



Raz Ion, Director



**Shaun Meares** 



**Peter Rampellini** 



**Shane Reilly** 



**Travis Tucker** 



**Peta Griffiths, Project Officer** 

RDA Goldfields Esperance acknowledges the traditional custodians of the Goldfields Esperance region and their continuing connection to land, water and community.

We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.



RDA Goldfields Esperance have been proud to support and recognise achievements of local businesses in the Goldfields Esperance region through partnerships with the Esperance and Kalgoorlie-Boulder Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

We are pleased to sponsor the Innovation and Excellence Award which was proudly presented to Cindy Poole of Cindy Poole Glass Gallery and the Business Person of the Year award which was proudly presented to Tim Topham of TopDrill.

### Political Engagement



Raz and Peta escorted the Hon Wilson Tucker MLC, Member for the Mining and Pastoral Region, during his first official visit to the region in August including a tour of the Superpit, and ending the day with a beautiful but chilly golf course sunset.

Raz and Lee hosted the Hon Nola Marino MP when she attended the national SEGRA (Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia) conference in November. Opening the WA RDA Forum and an escorted tour of the BHP Nickel Smelter were particular highlights of her visit.



### Local Business Recognition



Raz and Lee took the opportunity to catch up with Rick Wilson MP, amongst others, at the RDA National Forum held in Canberra in June. At the Forum, Lee presented on the challenges of attracting population and business to remote Australia, where she gave examples such as the lack of housing, cost of land and cost of wages in competing with the mining sector.





RDA Goldfields Esperance offered a twelve month scholarship program for future leaders of the region through two separate programs, one based in Esperance and one based in Kalgoorlie. The program comprises of a Certificate IV in Leadership & Management (completed through the local TAFE), a specialised mentorship program and a series of targeted workshops to benefit participants, their employers and mentors.

The Esperance program celebrated the graduation of 11 participants in November, while the Kalgoorlie program is approximately half way through delivery.

The Esperance cohort have continued on to establish the Esperance Young Professionals network which will focus on providing periodic social and professional development opportunities to young professionals. This is a fantastic initiative which we fully support.

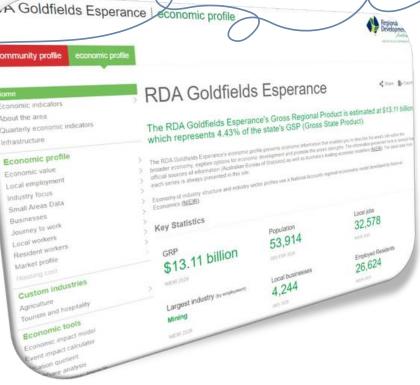
Future Leaders Program



We were particularly pleased to note that one of our Goldfields participants, Kirsty Brooks of Full Circle, was the winner of the Supervisor / Manager award at the Goldfields Business Awards event. A further five participants were recognised through various award category nominations.

RDA Goldfields Esperance hope to expand on the pilot programs in the future to offer similar opportunities to more participants across the region.





The economic profiling tools provided by .id allow RDA Goldfields Esperance to perform both Economic Impact Modelling and Event Impact Assessments. This information is useful for project planning and grant applications, a service that is provided free of charge.

## **Economic Modelling**

RDA Goldfields Esperance have partnered with Informed Decisions (.id) to provide economic and community profiling tools to the region. The Goldfields Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils (GVROC) have agreed to join in the partnership which will break the data down further into local government areas, allowing access to even more valuable data in 2022.



# Grant Applications & Project Support

RDA Goldfields Esperance support local proponents through promoting local, private and government grants. We can provide letters of support, which will include Economic Impact Modelling, and can assist with your application in general (to a limited capacity).

Our region had two successful applications in Round 5 of the Building Better Regions Fund, both of which were supported by RDA Goldfields Esperance.

Round 6 was announced in December 2021. We were able to provide support to numerous applicants and we are hopeful that more successful recipients from our region will be announced in 2022.

If you have any questions about grant applications, finding sources of funding, or any other project support that benefits our region, contact us today.

We will be offering workshops in the future to assist with the grant writing process so make sure you follow our socials for all the details.





RDA Goldfields Esperance have been proud to sponsor local events and initiatives throughout the Goldfields Esperance region.

We have provided sponsorship for the following events and entities:

- Coolgardie Rodeo and Ute Muster
- Curtin University Commerce Study Tour
- ECCI Celebration Evening
- Esperance Young Professionals
- Goldfields Cyclassic & Community Fondo
- Goldfields Girl
- KBCCI Goldfields Business Awards
- NAIDOC Youth Ball
- SEGRA Conference
- WA RDA Network Forum
- Women's Leadership Forum



In November we were Gold Sponsors of the 2021 SEGRA Conference (Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia). The conference, widely recognised as Australia's most credible, independent voice on issues affecting regional, rural and remote Australia, brought approx 160 visitors to our region.

We also hosted the WA RDA Network forum in conjunction with SEGRA, welcoming 30 visitors from RDA's all over the state and showcasing some highlights of what our region has to offer.



RDA Goldfields Esperance have a limited annual budget for sponsorships and events. We endeavour to support events which have benefits for the region and align with the RDA charter.



Wherever possible, RDA Goldfields Esperance partner up with local, state and national stakeholders to provide the best outcome for our region. Promoting and supporting the Goldfields Esperance region is always our top priority.







GOLDFIELDS ESPERANCE

