



WALGA



WALGA People & Culture  
Seminar **25 July 2025**



**Date**

Friday, 25 July 2025

**Location**

Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre  
21 Mounts Bay Rd, Perth WA 6000

**Theme**

Leading People: Compassion, Compliance and Collaboration

## PROGRAM

8.30am

**Registrations open**

9.00am

**Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country**

Blake Williams, MC

9.05am

**Opening Remarks**

Nick Sloan, WALGA CEO

9.15am

**SESSION** What makes a good leader? Seeking responsibility, roles and relationships, building trust and building confidence. The session will conclude with a Q&A

Greg Hire, Founder, A Stitch in Time

10.15am **MORNING TEA AND NETWORKING**

10.45am **SESSION** State IR systems in action: dispute resolution, industrial instruments and recent reforms

Chief Commissioner Kenner,  
WA Industrial Relations Commission (WAIRC)

11.30am **SESSION** Navigating the WAIRC and the Industrial Magistrates Court: A guide to conciliation, litigation and resolutions in the State IR system.

Heather Millar, Barrister

12.30pm **LUNCH AND NETWORKING**

1.30pm **PANEL DISCUSSION** A focus on ability...setting your Local Government up for success

Erika Everitt, Senior Community Development Officer, City of Stirling  
Jethro George, Ability WA  
Myreesa Hurtado, Ability WA  
Georgia Miller, National Manager, Job Access

2.30pm **SESSION** Inclusion and employee relations: managing compliance and compassion

Philippa Lonie, Director / Principal, Green Shoots

3.15pm **AFTERNOON TEA AND NETWORKING**

3.30pm **SESSION: WALGA** Training update: Why invest in upskilling your workforce?

Eva Godwin, Training Services Manager, WALGA  
Christine Taylor, Trainer / Assessor, WALGA

3.45pm **Closing remarks**

Tony Brown, Executive Director Member Services, WALGA

4.00pm **NETWORKING**

Green Shoots Seminar Sundowner



GREEN SHOOTS



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### **Greg Hire**



Greg Hire is the former vice captain of the Perth Wildcats, a mental health advocate, and the 2018 West Australian of the Year Youth Award recipient. In 2014, he founded A Stitch in Time, a mental health awareness organisation. A Stitch in Time delivers workshops aimed at educating participants on the significance of fostering positive psychological well-being, whilst also providing strategies to navigate periods of uncertainty, change, and adversity.

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### **Stephen Kenner**



Stephen Kenner has led the WA Industrial Relations Commission as Chief Commissioner since May 2021, and is a long-standing member of the Commission, having been appointed to the bench of the Industrial Commission by the Western Australian Government in March 1998. Prior to this, he worked as an advocate, solicitor and then a partner in national law firm Mallesons Stephen Jaques. He has also lectured at the University of Western Australia and University of Notre Dame.

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### **Heather Millar**



Heather Millar's practice specialises in employment law, contractual disputes, industrial relations, and health and safety. Her work also covers commercial disputes, discrimination, wage underpayment, and negligence claims before disciplinary tribunals. Heather regularly appears in hearings and appeals in the Federal Court and the Full Federal Court, as well as the Federal and State employment jurisdictions.

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### **Erika Everitt**



Erika Everitt is a passionate and experienced Community Development Practitioner. With over a decade of experience in Local Government, she is dedicated to fostering inclusive communities. Erika has led the rollout of the Sunflower Hidden Disability Initiative, a program designed to help staff recognise and better support community members with hidden disabilities.

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### **Jethro George**



Jethro George has worked across Local Government, business and not-for-profit organisations. His roles focused on disability support, hospitality, telecommunications, housing, community development, and organisational leadership. He has experience leading teams, coordinating programs, and supporting inclusive practices in both metropolitan and regional settings. He is passionate about improving access to employment and services for people with disabilities.

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### **Myreesa Hurtado**



Before her accident, Myreesa Hurtado worked as an instructor at an adventure camp, teaching activities such as abseiling, mountain biking, and canoeing – always with safety top of mind. Four years later, she sustained a spinal cord injury while working at a daycare centre. Risk had always been part of her lifestyle, but she never imagined experiencing a life-changing injury in the workplace. Myreesa will share her lived experience during the panel session.

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### **Georgia Miller**



Georgia Miller has over 15 years' experience in occupational rehabilitation and disability employment services. With a background as a qualified occupational therapist, she has built a strong clinical foundation to help people with disability achieve their vocational goals. She is the National Manager for JobAccess, which is the national hub of workplace and employment information for people with disability, employers and service providers.

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### **Philippa Lonie**



Philippa Lonie is an experienced Human Resources professional, employment lawyer and licenced Investigator. She is the Founder and Director of Green Shoots, a workplace solutions business specialising in trauma-informed investigations, HR consulting, and workplace rehabilitation. Driven by a commitment to enhancing workplace culture, Philippa is passionate about helping businesses improve workforce engagement and productivity to help people thrive at work.

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**WALGA**

Influence. Support. Expertise.

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