

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA – SOUTH AUSTRALIA COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DEPUTY CHAIRS

RDA ADELAIDE HILLS, FLEURIEU AND KANGAROO ISLAND

Chairperson: Ann Ferguson

Ann is currently the Mayor of the District Council of Mount Barker and a member of the Adelaide Hills Regional Development Board. She is also a member of the Monarto Precinct Strategic Direction Group, the Police Credit Union Board of Management, Mount Barker Residents Association, past Chief of the Mount Barker Caledonian Society, and a life member and Vice Chair of the Mount Barker Agricultural Show Society.

Ann is a member of the SA Regional Community Consultative Council. She is a champion for environmental, infrastructure, employment and health issues.

Deputy Chairperson: Carol Schofield AM

Carol is a dairy farmer and aquaculturist in the Inman Valley. She has also worked as a consultant assisting dairy farmers in the development and documentation of quality assurance systems.

Carol was the first woman Chair of the Advisory Board of Agriculture and the first woman to be elected as President of the Agriculture Bureau.

Her achievements and awards include Member of the Order of Australia (awarded in 2004), induction into the National Pioneer Women's Hall of Fame in 2001 and a SA Great Certificate in Recognition of Outstanding Achievement and Contribution to State Pride.

Carol was a member of the Fleurieu Regional Development Board and is currently a member of the Premier's Food Council, the Dairy Industry Development Board, Australian Women in Agriculture, the Women's Industry Network and the SA Advisory Board of Agriculture.

RDA BAROSSA

Chairperson: Ian O'Loan OAM

Ian is a self employed Livestock Biosecurity Auditor. He has been a primary producer in the Mallala area for over 30 years. He is an active member of a number of Agribusiness organisations and community organisations. Ian was the Chair of Yorke Regional Development Board and is a member of the SA Regional Communities Consultative Council. He is the Chair of Regional Development SA.

In 1997, Ian was awarded an Order of Australia medal for services to the community and local government, and in 2008, won a national leadership award from Economic Development Australia. He is a Justice of the Peace.

Deputy Chairperson: Alex Zimmermann

Alex is a member of the South Australian Police Force and is the Local Service Area Commander for the Barossa Region. He is a member of the Police Credit Union Board and the Chairperson of Workskil (an Employment Services provider). He has successfully completed the SA Governor's Leadership Foundation program conducted by the Leaders Institute of SA, which has provided him with a strategic overview of the issues facing the South Australian and broader Australian community into the future.

As a Local Area Service Commander, Alex works in partnership with local stakeholders including local government organisations, service organisations and community groups.

Alex was a member of the Marion City Council for eight years.

RDA WHYALLA AND EYRE PENINSULA

Chairperson: Jim Pollock

Jim Pollock was raised and educated in Woomera and has worked and lived in Whyalla since 1973. He has many years experience as a small business operator in a regional community and in 2003, was elected Mayor of Whyalla.

Along with his local government commitments, he is an active member of the Whyalla community, Eyre Peninsula Natural Resource Management Board, Vice President of the Local Government Association of SA, and a member of the Upper Spencer Gulf Common Purpose Group. Jim was a member of the Whyalla Economic Development Board (RDB) and the SA Regional Community Consultation Council.

Jim is President of the Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association and Deputy Chair of the Provincial Cities Association.

Deputy Chairperson: Jeff Pearson

Jeff is a farmer from Cockaleeche on the Eyre Peninsula. He has held positions on many local committees and spent a number of years as a Community Fire Service volunteer. He is a life member of the Agricultural Bureau of South Australia.

Jeff was awarded Citizen of the Year by the Lower Eyre Peninsula District Council in 1997. He was a founding member and the Chair of the Eyre Regional Development Board. He is also a Justice of the Peace.

RDA FAR NORTH

Chairperson: Jennifer Cleary

Jennifer holds the positions of Research Associate and Senior Research Development Manager within the Centre for Rural Health and Community Development at the University of South Australia. She is based at the Centre for Regional Engagement, Whyalla.

Prior to taking up her role with the University of SA, Jennifer led a national research project with the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre. Other roles have included a community development program leadership role in SA Government and as an education manager and lecturer in TAFE SA.

Jennifer has a passion for rural and remote community and economic development and the value it contributes to the rest of Australia. She has developed national and international networks in these fields. She is a member of the International Rural Network, the International Food and Agribusiness Management Association, Scottish and Canadian rural networks and a number of other bodies and organizations. Jennifer lives with her family in Port Augusta in rural South Australia.

Deputy Chairperson: Andre Kuys

Andre is an engineer with particular expertise in power plant construction, commissioning, operations, maintenance and project development and management.

He was Chair of the Northern Regional Development Board and is a former member of both the Port Augusta and the Northern and Far Western Regional Health Services Inc.

RDA LIMESTONE COAST

Chairperson: Dale Baker

Dale is a prominent South Australian businessman, operating a major diversified agribusiness group involved in broadacre cropping, tourism, viticulture, beef, wool and lambs. Dale was Chair of the Limestone Regional Development Board.

Dale was the State Member for MacKillop from 1985 until 1997 and is a former leader of the South Australian division of the Liberal Party of Australia.

Deputy Chairperson: Mark Braes

Mark is a lawyer who was raised in Broken Hill. He works as a Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner with Centacare.

He is the Mayor of Wattle Range Council, elected in 2006 after having served on Council since 1999, and is committed to promoting increased economic development, job creation, and greater access to hospital, medical, social and human services in regional, rural and remote communities.

Mark was a member of the Limestone Coast Regional Development Board and the SA Regional Communities Consultative Council. He is the Chairman of the Social Justice Committee, Society of St Vincent de Paul (SA).

RDA METROPOLITAN ADELAIDE**Chairperson: Gail Sulicich**

Gail has over 20 years experience in economic and community development and is currently the Economic Development Manager on a major urban renewal project in Adelaide. Gail is also a member of the Advisory Board of Community Foods SA, which provides low cost groceries and promotes healthy eating for low income families. She is also a Board member of the North West Business Development Centre in Western Adelaide.

Before relocating to Adelaide, Gail was a member of the Sunshine Coast Area Consultative Committee and worked in local government.

Deputy Chairperson: William Galimi

William is a Community Development Officer with the City of West Torrens. He has held a number of positions in different organisations, including 12 years with the SA Department of Human Services, coordinating programs in a community development framework. He is an executive board member of the Calabria Association Incorporated and the Western Toros Soccer Club Board, the sporting arm of the Association.

William is a lifeChange specialist and operates a private business. He is also a Justice of the Peace.

RDA MURRAYLANDS AND RIVERLAND**Chairperson: Neil Martinson**

Neil has a long history of employment in SA Local Government and is currently the Director of Environmental Services at Loxton Waikerie District Council. He is Mayor of the Renmark Paringa Council and has been a member of numerous boards involved in aspects of regional development.

Neil has lived in the Riverland for almost 30 years and has been active in sporting associations, including football, tennis and basketball.

Deputy Chairperson: Sam Godden

Sam is a broadacre farmer and business man. He was a Councillor on the former Lameroo District Council for over 12 years. Graeme was a member of the Murraylands Regional Development Board for 12 years and, for most of that time, was the Chair.

He is a life member of APEX and an active member of various local organisations and committees, including the school council and the football club.

RDA YORKE AND MIDNORTH**Chairperson: Michael Pearce**

Michael operates a general store in Melrose. He has held a variety of positions on boards and committees, including as a former Director on the Board of a livestock company. He is a member of the Melrose Community Development Association, and a former member of the Booleroo Centre District Hospital Board, and the Mid North Health Board.

Michael is also the Chair of the Southern Flinders Regional Tourism Authority and former Chair of the Southern Flinders Ranges Development Board. He has been a member of the Mount Remarkable District Council for 6 years.

Deputy Chairperson: John Banfield

John is a former Chair of the Southern Flinders Ranges Development Board. He is an active Rotarian and a Justice of the Peace. He has worked in a range of positions, including as a Regional Manager for the Department of Social Security, based on Port Pirie.

In the community field, he has held a variety of positions including a neighbourhood centre, football and bowling clubs and the YMCA. He is a member of the Central Region Board of Country Arts SA and a community based Job Services Australia Board.