

# MONTHLY MEMO

## EMERGING FUTURES COLLABORATIVE JULY 2021

Each month this year has brought much change at Emerging Futures!

Recapping on June, Emerging Futures Collaborative Limited received a *Certificate of Registration of a Company* from ASIC when eight religious institutes were recognized as the **members of the new company**: the Christian Brothers, the Little Company of Mary, the Marist Sisters, the Missionary Sisters of Service, the Presentation Sisters Victoria, the Sisters of Charity, the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions and the Sisters of St Joseph.

Seven of the members appointed a **Member Representative**: Paul Conn cfc, Cath Lacey sm, Gabrielle McMullen AM (Deputy Chair), Nola Vanderfeen pbvm, Lauren Dixon rsc, Catherine Brabender rndm (chair) and Louise Reeves rsj. The member representatives have now held two meetings, **appointing the first board of EFCL**: Anne Lane pbvm (Chair), Des Powell AM (Deputy Chair), Suzanne Fabian, Robert Fitzgerald AM, Maree Marsh csb, Clare Nolan rsc, Lyn Stabler rsj and Stancea Vichie mss.

During July we have applied for and received, an Australian Business Number (ABN), registration with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) as a religious charity, tax exempt status from the Australian Tax Office and we have applied last week for membership of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Catholic Religious GST Group, and they have applied to the ATO on our behalf.

This month has also brought a new bank account for Emerging Futures Collaborative with the Sydney Archdiocese Catholic Development Fund and our funds from CRA have been paid across into that account. So we have new bank details available should you wish to make a contribution! We also have in development a whole raft of insurance policies with Catholic Church Insurances to provide for all contingencies.

EFCL planned an evening event on Thursday August 5 at Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta with our Service Partners to acknowledge the eight religious institutes that have generously become members of the Company, to thank the members of the Transition Committee and Working Parties who have contributed so much over the last fourteen months to the formation of EFCL and to mission the Member Representatives, the Board Directors and the EFCL Team. We were looking forward to this celebration in real life, but the best laid plans! So the ritual is being held on Zoom and will be recorded and edited into a video which will be accessible on our new website. I had hoped to give you a website address this month, but we are not quite there yet. Hopefully soon!

To news of our Service Partners! Presentation Sisters Tasmania, Missionary Sisters of Service and St John of God Brothers were our three initial service partners. Each of the three institutes are at different places in their journey, because the EFC process is customized to each service partner. Presentation Sisters Tasmania is preparing to send their petition to the ecclesial authority, CICALSAL in Rome, for the appointment of consultors and a canonical delegate, drawn from the group of volunteers identified in 2020. The Missionary Sisters of Service is drawing up a petition to go to Archbishop Comensoli of Melbourne, they too having identified a canonical delegate and consultors. The St John of God Brothers, as a province of an international congregation, is providing EFCL with experience of simultaneous translation meetings in the evening and the challenge to

assist a general leadership team to fully understand our Australian context and experience. EFCL is already managing health and well-being services for the St John of God Brothers provided by Marist Brothers, who will next year also provide Professional Standards services. EFC will shortly be managing the in-house Presentation Sisters Tasmania staff and we are recruiting for a Missionary Sisters of Service Community Coordinator. Having done the work of planning in the Transition Service of EFCL, these Service Partners are beginning to experience Shared Services, as well as the Canonical Delegate service.

Other Service Partners continue to engage with EFCL. We engaged earlier this year with the

- Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny
- Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (of Hilstrup) Australian Province;
- Missionary Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception.
- Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta
- Presentation Sisters, Wagga Wagga

These first three of these institutes are Australian sectors of international congregations and so, again, we are working online with their overseas personnel in two cases. This provides such great experience for the EFCL team, and we are all learning a way forward together. Presentation Sisters Queensland has recently engaged with EFCL, and we are already deep into the work of Transition Service. This latest addition brings to ten our Service Partners and each partner is very different, enabling us to continue to customize our services for each group that engages.

I reported last month that we made a cautious beginning to travelling to regional areas and interstate to work with the members of congregations as well as the leadership teams. That has all come to a halt though due to Covid-19 restrictions and we are now using Zoom and Teams to appear at congregational days and assemblies.

The History Company and Kylie Rees are in the midst of carrying out a short-term project into archives. At the conclusion of the project EFC will receive a report that recommends a storage or some storage sites, along with recommendations about: staff; management; accessibility; and transitioning the archives. Kylie will be working with our EFC Service Partners and a small number of other religious institutes that wanted to be included in the study.

EFCL has recently engaged Sheree Limbrick as our Safeguarding Officer, working on a consultancy basis to enable EFCL to provide Safeguarding for our Service Partners. We are currently recruiting for a Mission Integration Manager one day per week to work alongside Judith Lawson in her role as Charism Animator. We'd love to add another religious to our team: if you are interested email me for a position description.

**Date Claimer:** EFCL plans to hold an event at St Joseph's, Baulkham Hills on **Monday November 8**. The day will certainly include updating all the leaders and teams, providing an opportunity for our Service Partners to reflect with you on their journeys and catch up with each other as well as a preview of what 2022 has in store. Stay tuned for more information and please put the date in your diary!

We exist to be of service to religious institutes, so please contact either Judy Lawson on [judith.lawson@efcl.org.au](mailto:judith.lawson@efcl.org.au) or me on [sharon.price@efcl.org.au](mailto:sharon.price@efcl.org.au) if we can assist in any way.

Sharon Price rsm  
Transition Manager  
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