

MONTHLY MEMO

EMERGING FUTURES COLLABORATIVE JUNE 2021

June has been a month of beginnings!

On June 10 Emerging Futures Collaborative Limited received a *Certificate of Registration of a Company* from ASIC, following months of hard work on the part of many people to achieve this goal.

The eight religious institutes were recognized as the **members of the 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, Nola Vanderfeen pbvm, Laureen Dixon rsc, Catherine Brabender rndm and Louise Reeves rsj. The member representatives held their inaugural meeting on June 3, appointing Catherine Brabender rndm as the Chair of the Member Representatives and Gabrielle McMullen AM as the Deputy Chair.

The initial role of the member representatives was to appoint board members and a board chair in order that Carroll & O'Dea could apply for an Australian Business Number (ABN) and register the company with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

The **board directors** appointed are Anne Lane pbvm (Interim Chair), Des Powell AM (Interim Deputy Chair), Suzanne Fabian, Robert Fitzgerald AM, Maree Marsh csb, Clare Nolan rsc and Stancea Vichie mss. The Constitution allows for nine members and the Member Representatives will consider further appointments at their next meeting on July 16.

EFC has been guided to this point by the Transition Committee and those members have given great support and worked hard in the fourteen months since our first meeting in April 2020. We thank Anne Lane pbvm (Chair); Catherine Brabender rndm; Monica Cavanagh rsj (Deputy Chair); Bobby Court; Gabrielle McMullen AM (Chair of the Governance Working Party); Gabrielle Morgan pbvm; Clare Nolan rsc; Des Powell AM; John Spillane (Chair of the Finance Working Party); John Thompson fms and Stancea Vichie mss. Gratitude is also due to our Working Party members not members of the Transition Committee: Sue Fabian, Chris Townend and John Secker. To Eileen Ann Daffy rsm and Mary Wright ibvm who have provided valuable advice we extend our deep appreciation.

EFCL has planned an evening event on Thursday August 5 at Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta 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 and the Board Directors. Our Service Partners and the team will complete the gathering of forty-five. We look forward to this celebration and hope that Covid

restrictions are lifted by that time. The event will be videoed and the video clip will be accessible on our new website. Next month's communication will be on our new stationery and will contain details of the website.

Presentation Sisters Tasmania, Missionary Sisters of Service and St John of God Brothers were our three initial service partners. Because the EFC process is customized to each service partner, each of the three institutes are at different places in their journey. One group is preparing to petition the ecclesial authority for the appointment of consultors and a canonical delegate, drawn from the group of volunteers identified in 2020. EFC is managing service provision for one group, soon to be all three groups.

Work continues with the five religious institutes who have engaged with EFC this year: the Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny and the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (of Hilstrup) Australian Province; the Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta and Presentation Sisters, Wagga Wagga and the Missionary Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. These institutes are also different in size and they range between international and Australian-based pontifical institutes. Another Queensland religious institute begins work with us in July, so we will have nine service partners and expect to have more before the end of 2021: placing EFCL well on the way to a sustainable financial future.

EFC made a cautious beginning to travelling to regional areas and interstate to work with the members of congregations as well as the leadership teams. We have been to Victoria twice in the past two months, we have congregational meeting dates for NSW groups and we are also visiting with potential service partners. Just as well we still have Zoom though: Covid restrictions have a way of appearing at the most unwelcome times!

After a search, EFC engaged The History Company and Kylie Rees to carry 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.

Date Claimer: EFCL plans to hold an event at St Joseph's, Baulkham Hills on **Monday November 8**. This is a recent decision and we have not yet planned out the scope of the day, but it 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 and 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@cragc.org.au or me on sharon.price@cragc.org.au if we can assist in any way.

Sharon Price rsm
Transition Manager
June 26, 2021