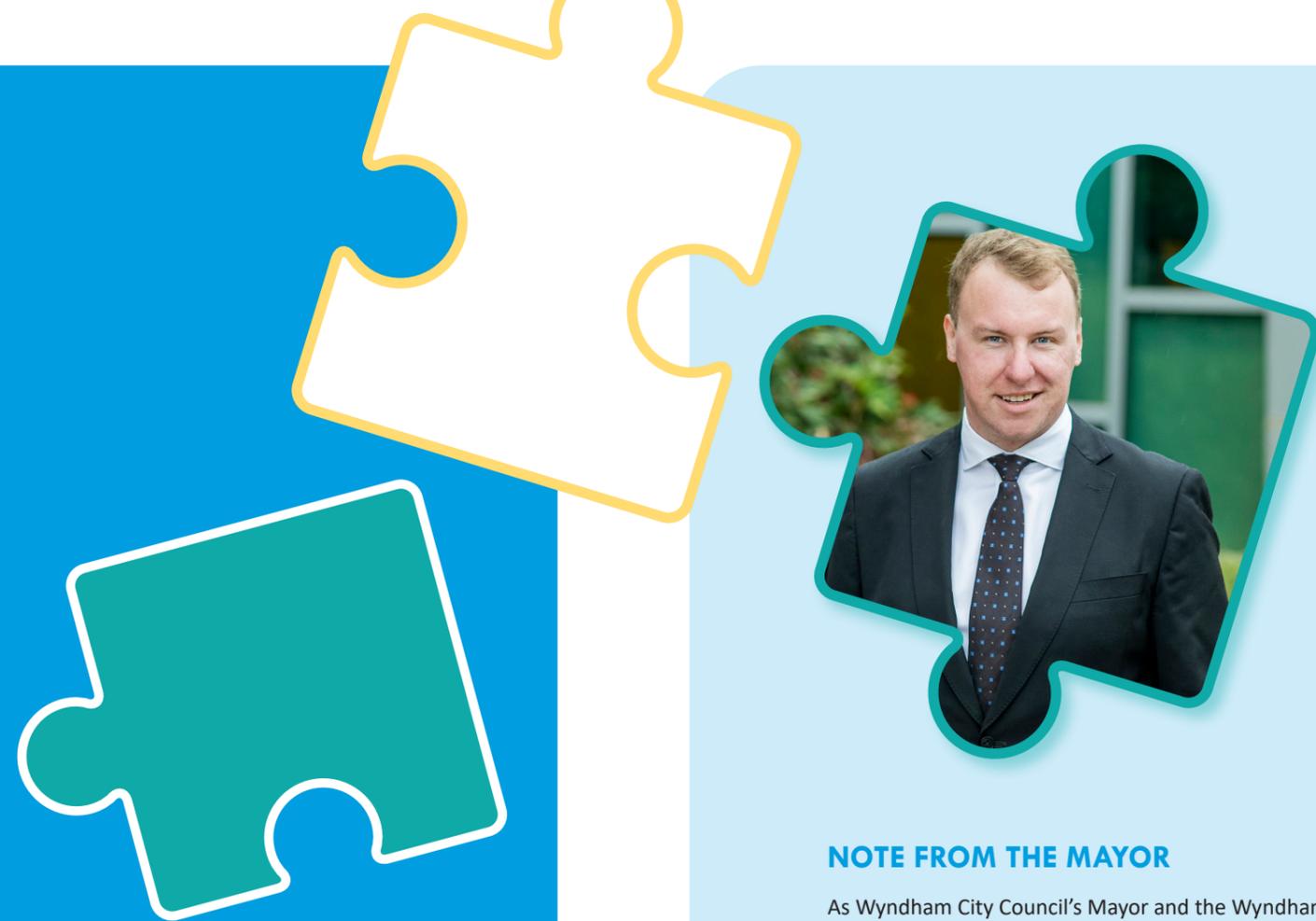




# LEARNING COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2018-2023

Community Update #1

wyndhamcity



## Acknowledgement of Country

Wyndham City Council recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Custodians of the lands on which Australia was founded.

Council acknowledges the Wathaurung, Woiewurrung and Boonwurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the lands on which Wyndham City is being built.

Council pays respect to the wisdom and diversity of past and present Elders. We share commitment to nurturing future generations of Elders in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.



## NOTE FROM THE MAYOR

As Wyndham City Council's Mayor and the Wyndham Learning City Portfolio holder, I am proud of the commitment we've made to building a "Learning City" - a place where our residents embrace technology, knowledge sharing and lifelong learning.

We share a vision of a community where everyone has equitable access to education, and where collaborative, person-centred learning empowers our community and enhances our social cohesion, cultural vibrancy and economic stability. We have been collaboratively promoting and delivering in the learning space in our City by developing Learning Community Strategies and implementing their actions since 2010.

Our Learning Community Strategy 2018-2023 is guiding us as we work to achieve that vision, and this first community update outlines our progress so far. The momentum evident in this Update reflects the hard work of many individuals and teams within and beyond council. Their passion and commitment is inspiring, and I look forward to seeing meaningful and transformative outcomes unfold from their efforts in the years to come.

Those of us who live, work or play in Wyndham have known for some time that Wyndham is a great learning city with a strong commitment to lifelong learning. That's why it is so fitting that Wyndham has been accepted into the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities. The prestigious title was awarded to the City because UNESCO recognised Council's work in helping residents improve their learning outcomes and its commitment to building a Learning City. This is a great acknowledgement of our efforts, and something that we can all be proud of.

Sincerely,  
Wyndham City Mayor, Cr Josh Gilligan.  
April, 2020.



## LEARNING IN WYNDHAM

The City of Wyndham is undergoing a period of rapid change, due in part to a high and increasing birth rate and a large influx of new residents. It is an area with significant cultural diversity, including the largest population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Greater Melbourne area. The population is also relatively young: 58% of residents are under the age of 35, and more than half of all Wyndham households include children.

In order to ensure excellent social, health and economic outcomes for our growing population, Wyndham City Council is committed to cultivating a cutting-edge learning culture which is dynamic, diverse and accessible to residents across all life stages.

The wellbeing, social inclusivity, cultural development and economic stability of our growing population is directly linked to the quality and inclusivity of learning available within our community.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) defines a “Learning City” as one which :

- Promotes inclusive learning from basic to higher education
- Revitalises learning in families and communities
- Facilitates learning for and in workplaces
- Extends the use of modern learning technologies
- Enhances quality and excellence in learning, and
- Fosters a culture of learning throughout life

Wyndham City is proud to have been accepted into UNESCO’s Global Network of Learning Cities in 2019, and has made a commitment to Lifelong Learning to ensure individual empowerment, social cohesion, sustainable development and economic and cultural prosperity for our community.

## OVERVIEW OF THE LEARNING COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2018-2023

The Learning Community Strategy 2018-2023 is Wyndham’s driver for innovation and change in learning, and functions as a roadmap for developing an equitable, inclusive and innovative learning community.

The strategy establishes lifelong learning as the guiding principle driving social, economic, environmental and cultural life in the community, and includes 18 key actions designed to mobilise learning for all. These are organised according to 4 themes:

- Celebrating living and learning
- Advocating for equity and quality in service provision
- Facilitating partnerships and collaboration across sectors
- Innovating learning and fostering new entrepreneurial spirit

Since adopting the strategy, the Wyndham City Council Learning City Portfolio Committee, in collaboration with strategy partners and various community groups, has made significant progress in addressing these key actions.

## ACTION UPDATES

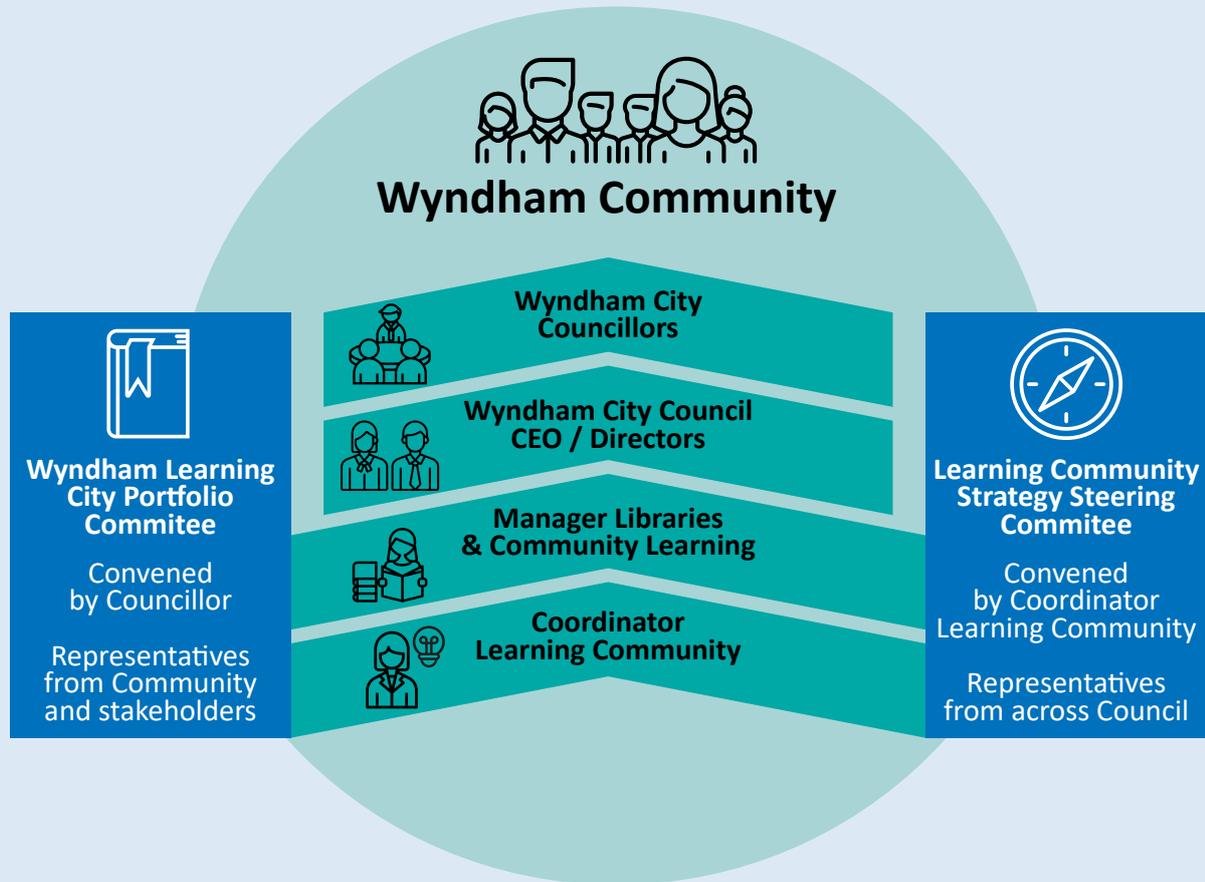
Theme	Action	Progress To Date
Celebrating living and learning in Wyndham.	<b>ACTION 1:</b> Learning Festival as Wyndham's signature learning event	<p>Over 5000 people attended more than 185 learning events from 1-8 September 2019. Led by Wyndham Community &amp; Education Centre (WCEC), the theme was 'Spring into Learning'. encouraging learning for all ages, interests and abilities.</p> <p>Events included cooking, pyrography, craft, hip hop, bowls, gardening, painting, cooking, lego, African drumming, creative writing, knitting, Spanish, ceramics, drawing, gaming, music therapy, dancing and Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).</p> <p>Festival participants listened to author talks, competed in the Young Scientist of Wyndham competition, enjoyed music from a local High School Chamber group, improved their CVs and interview skills, achieved better sleep, practiced their English, joined in the Wyndham Park Party in the Precinct and Pop Up School, talked to the animals at Rhyme Time at the Zoo, heard inspirational stories of refugee survival, learnt about local Aboriginal culture.</p> <p>The stand-out signature event was WynTalk #1 Craig Reucassell bringing his War on Waste to Wyndham – over 400 people were inspired and entertained with recycling, upcycling and sustainability ideas in this timely and enjoyable event.</p> <p>Another stand out event in partnership with Council's Arts and Culture team was Congress; a platform to celebrate diverse voices whilst championing our collective right to be seen and heard.</p>
	<b>ACTION 2:</b> Transformative Education Showcase	<p>Led by WCEC, in partnership with WCC, the first Transformative Education Showcase was held October 2019 and was attended by 65 people. The event focused on young people and adult education, and included sessions addressing re-engagement of disengaged students, trauma-informed practice, after school tutoring programs, the Knowledge Project and pop-up schools, and the Best Start Community Connections program.</p> <p>It was a wonderful networking event for educators and other professionals from a cross-section of organisations. Participants gave extremely positive feedback about the Showcase, which included requests for more opportunities for collaboration within Wyndham's learning community.</p>
Facilitating partnerships and collaboration across sectors to create new learning models and deliver outcomes for all.	<b>ACTION 5:</b> Constructive Relationships with Principals	<p>Both actions were delivered at the Principals Network Breakfast in September 2019. This event provided opportunities for education providers to implement strategies which integrate the objectives of Wyndham's Reconciliation Action Plan. The event was attended by representatives from the Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc and the Department of Education and Training, and included a presentation on best practices for embedding Aboriginal culture into learning spaces. The event provided connection and collaboration opportunities for providers within and beyond Wyndham, and was also an opportunity to showcase Wyndham's library and kinder resources and inclusive programs.</p>
	<b>ACTION 9:</b> Aboriginal Culture driving new ways to Learn	
	<b>ACTION 10:</b> Developing Leaders in Local Communities	

Theme	Action	Progress To Date
Innovating learning and fostering new entrepreneurial spirit through integration with, and promotion of, Wyndham's Smart City Agenda.	<b>ACTION 12:</b> Engaging, Participating and Leading Globally	Wyndham was accepted into UNESCO's Global Network of Learning Cities in 2019.
	<b>ACTION 13:</b> WynTalks	<p>Wyndham staged two WynTalks in 2019:</p> <p>Craig Reucassell's "War on Waste" presentation at the Learning Festival in September (covered previously) and Professor Kathy Mills' (ACU) presentation "The Life-Changing Magic of Multimodality: Stories from Culturally Diverse Classrooms" in November.</p> <p>WynTalk #2 was presented in collaboration with the Wyndham Tech School and was live-streamed via the Libraries in Wyndham Facebook page.</p> <p>Professor Mills' presentation discussed the way standard models of teaching may disadvantage children from various cultural backgrounds, and how new media and a multimodal approach to learning can create more inclusive classrooms, and better learning outcomes. Attendees gave highly positive feedback.</p>
	<b>ACTION 18:</b> Civics Learning and Social Cohesion	Wyndham Community and Education Centre (WCEC) in partnership with the Department of Justice & Community Safety and Victorian Police, delivered "Citizen's Academy - A Walk Through Justice". Two eight-week programs gave participants from diverse cultural backgrounds a deeper understanding of Victoria's justice system, including the government and parliamentary system, the Department of Justice, and the roles which the media and the community play in defining and addressing justice issues.



## GOVERNANCE AND WORKING GROUPS

### WYNDHAM LEARNING COMMUNITY 2018 - 2023 GOVERNANCE MODEL



### LOOKING FORWARD

As the world enters uncertain times due to the COVID-19 virus, we are seeking alternative and creative ways of delivering our 2020 Learning Community Strategy actions. Now, more than ever, Council continues to promote a sustainable Learning Community where lifelong and life wide learning drive equity, inclusion and a healthy and safe environment for all.

### MORE INFORMATION

A copy of the Learning Community Strategy 2018-2023 is available at: <https://www.wyndham.vic.gov.au/about-council/your-council/plans-policies-strategies/learning-community-strategy-2018-2023>

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