

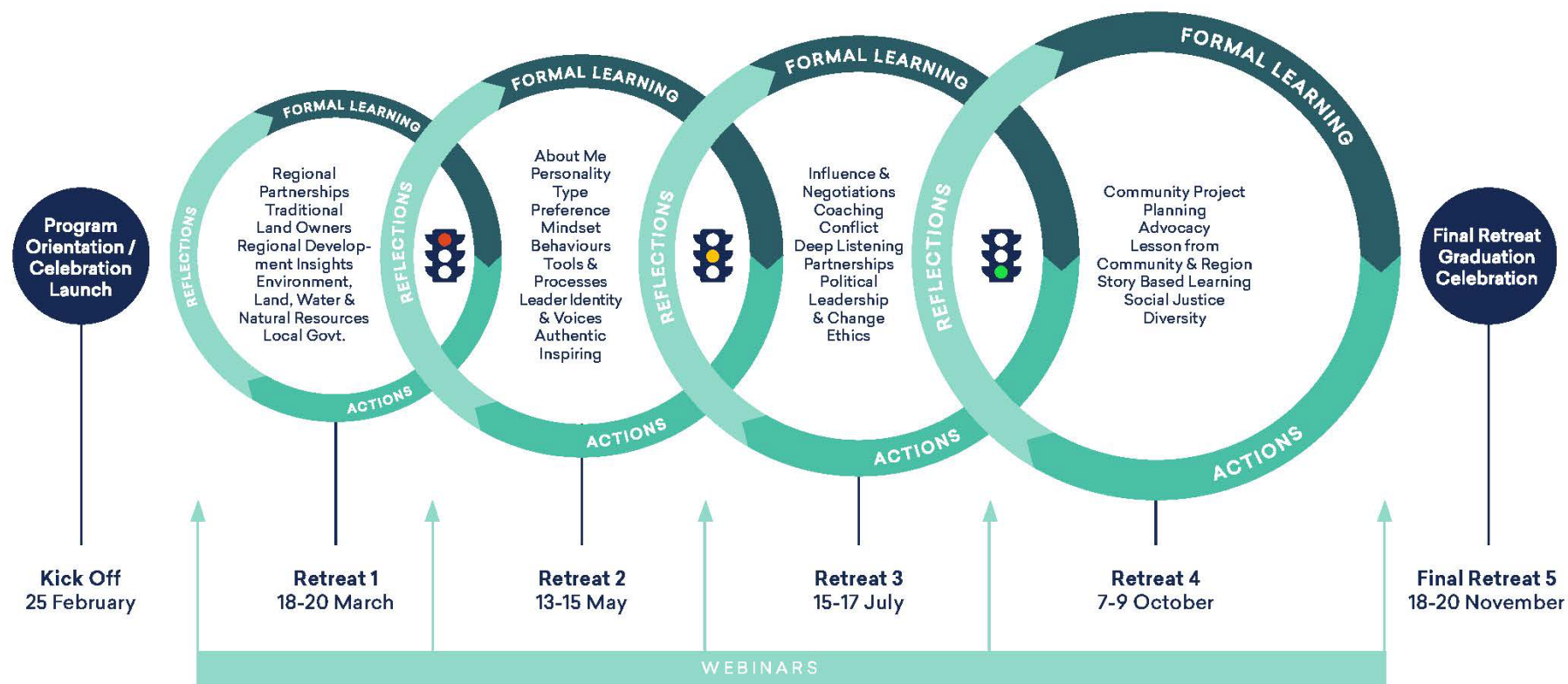
Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program 2022 Mid-Year Update



LEAD Loddon Murray
LMCLP

LEAD Loddon Murray acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands across the region, their rich culture and spiritual connection to Country, and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

LMCLP 2022 Program Overview



2022 First-Half Key Events

February – Orientation Day and Launch

March – Opening 3-Day Retreat - Bendigo

May – Second 3-Day Retreat - Echuca

July – Third 3-Day Retreat - Swan Hill

March to July – 6 on-line learning sessions

March to July – Participant Teams home community visits

Orientation Day

Introduction to the program
Overview of expectations
Allocation of Home Teams
Getting to know the Class of 2022

Participant Insights

"From the first day meeting everyone to the opening night, I was excited but seriously nervous. I was really pushing my comfort zone, but it was clear we were in the same boat."

"It made me more aware of what was around me and the connection I must make to people and to be present in the moment."

Launch



A successful launch celebration was held at Silks, with 80 attendees including sponsors and program graduates showing their support for the program despite uncertainty due to the pandemic



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Opening Retreat – Regional Context

Topics and Presenters

- Welcome to Country; Aunty Marilyne Nicolls
- Indigenous Culture and Challenges; Indi Clarke - Koorie Youth Council, Rodney Carter & Bec Phillips - Dja Dja Wurrung
- Regional Development; Glenn Pomeroy - Regional Partnerships, Brian Westley - City of Greater Bendigo, Darryn Hartnett - Bushfire Recovery Victoria
- Climate Impacts; John Clarke - CSIRO, Rachel Murphy - North Central Catchment Management, Geoff Caine - DELWP

Key Skill Learnings

- Active Listening
- Adaptive vs. Technical Leadership
- Circles of Influence vs. Circles of Concern
- Peer Consultation

Participant Insights

“I was inspired by the speakers who kept working despite the enormity of what lies before us and by their indefatigable belief that they do make a difference.”

“It drives me to want to learn how I can assist with changing perceptions, to point people towards positive outcomes, attitudes and culture.”

“The second day put a particular emphasis on developing an awareness of the strategic context for change in the Loddon Murray Region and given that I’m relatively new to the area provided me with a better understanding of the regional context.”

“I now feel a deeper sense of confidence and belonging in supporting Aboriginal rights and amplifying Aboriginal voices in Australia.”

“I valued the connected threads which spoke to the idea of thinking in new ways and seeing with different perspectives.”

Second Retreat – Leadership of Self

Topics and Presenters

- Awareness of Self and Others; Kerryyn Vaughan
- Local Leadership; Campaspe Shire Cr. Christine Weller, Jason Warren (Vic Roads), Peter Walsh MP
- Values and Purpose; Charlene Crage & Suzie Jacobs (LMCLP Graduates)

Key Skill Learnings

- Immunity to Change
- Preferred Styles of Thinking
- Working in Teams and Leading
- Emotional Competence and Resilience for Leaders
- Communities of Self

Participant Insights

“My biggest take-away from Retreat 2 was the challenge to become articulate and clear on my values, the stories that have shaped them, and how they influence my leadership style in practice.”

“Kerryyn Vaughan ran a profound session working on the psychology of self and creating our own narrative.”

“The idea of creating a bridge between now and the future helped me get out of the stuck mindset I was in.”

“It touched me in how it validated my core personality and traits within that. I wish I had been more aware of this knowledge earlier in my life.”

“I am now able to put this new piece of knowledge to practical use immediately with a leadership challenge I am currently working on. I will Re-appraise it with action 1) to research it and action 2) to practice it! ”

“This retreat led to some more self-discovery for me, diving deeper into who I am and where do I see myself in the near future and long term. To accept my past and explore my future. To start grounding myself in the present.”

Third Retreat

Topics and Presenters

- Inspiring the Creative Mind; Lisa Smith - Minds at Work
- Winning Presentations; Peter Dhu
- Working with Local Government and Private Partnerships; Darryn Hartnett
- Community Asset Mapping Results; Program Participant Teams

Key Skill Learnings

- Problem Mapping & Solving
- Principles of Effective Teamwork
- Influence and Negotiation
- Non-Directive Coaching

Participant Insights

"Peter provided an inspirational and insightful look into facing your fears and using stories to become a great speaker."

"Peter Dhu's comment that 'your communities need to hear what you say' summed up the opening day's proceedings."

"Lisa Smith on The Creative Mind and How to Inspire It was powerful. The key messages I took out of this session were that we can all contribute ideas and that groups should let their team members' talents shine."

"We were introduced to a variety of strategies to better compliment our role as community leaders. A major take away was the importance of both receiving and providing coaching in dealing with interpersonal challenges that you may face working within the community."

"Deeply understanding how your audience forms their opinions is an important dimension to effective influencing. There is a dance between persuasion and seeking to understand where someone is coming from."

"Community Asset Mapping was a great opportunity to reflect on what my community had to offer and what I often take for granted, it was also interesting to hear how other people see the town and what it has to offer."

Participant Mid-Year Highlights

"I have assessed and identified my core values and finding myself stopping and wondering if certain behaviours/ actions align with my core values."

"It's been amazing to meet a wide range of people from diverse career and community backgrounds, to hear local issues and to see my self and others grow and learn around a range of areas including personal and community growth."

"So far through this experience I have travelled more than 2000km, spent 100 hours away from home, learning and developing through this process, while meeting some truly remarkable and inspirational humans."

"I have been impressed with the diversity of participants in the program, and how this shapes our learning of the course content. I have been impressed with the engagement and participation of all the participants and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know a group of inspiring, courageous people who are passionate about their communities."

"So far, we have learnt many things about community, ourselves and our teams. It has been a fun journey, laughing, crying, but most of all gaining the knowledge we need to get out into the community and lead projects and people."

"I'm very grateful that I took the challenge head on, because already I have grown so much personally and as a leader."

"What I've discovered is that I have never done anything like this before and feel so privileged to be a part of such an empowering group of participants and program facilitators."

"The first half of this year has been incredibly rewarding and insightful."

2022 Second-Half Key Events

August – Virtual Federal Parliament Day

September – Fourth 3-Day Retreat - Lancefield & Castlemaine

November – Final 2-Day Retreat - Newbridge

November 25 – Graduation Event - Bendigo Town Hall ([date change!](#))

August to November – 4 on-line learning sessions

Participant Insights

“I cant wait to see what the rest of the program has in store to help me to continue to grow and develop my skills.”

“I’m looking to collaborate with another participant in to create platforms for connection for those living with social isolation and loneliness, especially in the aftermath of COVID. It can be difficult to make connections and feel a sense of belonging when there are barriers like language, access or information about activities.”

“I am in excited anticipation of what the second half of the course will bring and most importantly, implementing my learnings to ultimately ‘Be the change I want to see in the world’ “.

“I feel very lucky to be part of this program and to benefit from the speakers, activities and the other participants. I am certain the second half of the year will bring even greater personal and leadership growth.”

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