

Media Release

Lawyer Awarded for 1000 Hours' Service

Peninsula Community Legal Centre has named local barrister, Victoria Campbell, the winner of its 2012 Kath Neilsen Memorial Award, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the Centre.

General Manager of Volunteers and Education, Andrea Staunton, says:

"We are delighted to recognise the exceptional contribution that Victoria Campbell has made to Peninsula Community Legal Centre over the past 15 years. We estimate that she has donated at least 1,000 hours to our Centre – the equivalent of around 6 months unpaid, full-time work!

Victoria began volunteering with the Centre whilst studying law as a mature age student and juggling the demands of working part-time and raising her daughter as a sole parent. She later became a lawyer volunteer, providing free legal advice to vulnerable clients at evening advice sessions. Additionally, Victoria has continuously served on the Centre's Management Committee for the past 13 years, including terms as Secretary and Vice President. In 2009, she became the Centre's first female President – a role she has undertaken with great diligence and integrity.

Victoria is a very deserving winner of this year's Kath Neilsen Memorial Award, which was created in 2002 in honour of the late Kath Neilsen who was a founder and strong supporter of the Centre."

Victoria Campbell says:

"I am very proud to be associated with such an important and dynamic organisation, which is founded on a fundamental belief that I share – that access to justice is the right of all people, irrespective of their capacity to pay for services."

The Award was presented at a recent function, following International Volunteer Day, at which volunteers were thanked for their support of the Centre and their local communities.

Andrea Staunton says:

"Volunteers continue to play a vital role in our work to advance justice for our community. In the past 10 years both the number of volunteers and the number of free legal advices provided by volunteers have more than doubled and, this year alone, volunteers have provided more than 1,700 free legal advices."

At the function, paralegal volunteers Shai Sommer, Liz Cleary, Jonathan Rhall and Kara Miller, were presented with Volunteer Encouragement Awards, sponsored by Maurice Blackburn Lawyers.

For more information about free legal services, please call (03) 9783 3600 or visit www.pclc.org.au.

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- City of Kingston
- Frankston City Council
- Mornington Peninsula Shire



President's Award Winner – Legal Organisation of the Year Award

Donations over \$2.00
are tax deductible

*Service to the
Community
since 1977*





Peninsula Community
Legal Centre inc

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PENINSULA COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE INC.