

Media Release
Monday 31 August 2015

Scholarships to fund attendance for remote volunteer groups for the 2016 National Volunteering Conference

The call for scholarship applications to attend the 2016 National Volunteering Conference (6 – 8 April 2016, Canberra) is now open!

Thanks to generous support from the Department of Social Services, regional and volunteer-led community groups will have access to the 2016 National Volunteering Conference through the Inclusive Scholarships Program.

“We are very grateful to the Department for its support both to the Conference and to generously supporting the Inclusive Scholarships Program,” said Brett Williamson OAM, CEO of Volunteering Australia.

The scholarships will enable attendance for individuals and organisations who would not otherwise be able to attend.

Minister for Social Services, the Hon. Scott Morrison said this conference plays an important role in creating an open and constructive dialogue which helps innovation and encourages best practice.

The conference brings together the volunteering sector to progress critical issues and foster Australia’s volunteering culture.

“I am pleased my Department is providing \$110,000 to support this conference and help more volunteers to attend.

“The Australian Government recognises the vital contribution that volunteers and the volunteering sector provides to our economy and community life,” Minister Morrison said.

The Conference is an ideal opportunity to establish strong industry networks in the field of volunteer leadership and management. Delegates will be able to share ground-breaking ideas and enthusiasm with like-minded individuals, whilst learning from industry leaders on the national stage.

Scholarship applications are invited from voluntary and community groups in remote areas and or low socio economic areas. The following groups are invited to apply:

- Coordinators and managers of volunteers (paid or unpaid capacity)
- Not for profit leaders and emerging leaders (paid or unpaid capacity)
- Community leaders and emerging leaders (paid or unpaid capacity)

For the full guidelines and information on how to apply go to www.2016nationalvolunteeringconference.com.au

Don’t miss out, the closing date is **Friday 18 September!**

The 2016 National Volunteering Conference is proudly supported by Beyond Bank Australia.

Media Contact: Rikki Blacka, 0447 841 126, rikki@vc-act.org.au