

# Expression of Interest for an observer on the

Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Board



*We are currently calling for expressions of interest from emerging First Nation Australians who live or work in the western region of Victoria to join our Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Board as an observer.*

## **About the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation (WBCF)**

The mission of the WBCF is 'to create experiences that connect and inspire our people and community'. Our community investment at the Bulldogs is different from others. Western Bulldogs Community Foundation is a separate entity that works hand-in-hand with the Club and utilises the Bulldogs brand as a platform to engage a wide range of participants and positively influence their lives. The Foundation is registered as a Public Benevolent Institution with DGR status and has its own Board.

The Foundation works in partnership with government, corporate and community agencies to deliver evidence-based services and programs to over 5000 people annually through four streams i.e. Health & Wellbeing, Diversity & Social Inclusion, Youth Leadership & Development and Community Advocacy.

At the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation we understand the impact that sport can have in creating positive change in society and we are committed to establishing a governing Board representative of our diverse community. We strive to create an inclusive environment where all are accepted and celebrated regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, religion or background. We are a child safe organisation committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. If you are looking to be a part of a committed and passionate group of people wanting to improve outcomes for the community, we encourage you to apply

## **Role of the Board**

The role of Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Board is to ensure legal requirements are met and to provide governance regarding the overall direction of the Foundation's management and operations. The Board are also responsible for ensuring the financial health of the Foundation so that its programs can succeed and grown within the western region of Victoria. The Board also assists with government stakeholder and community relations ensuring the Foundation responds proactively to the changing needs and pressures within our community.

## **Meetings and Time Commitment**

The WB Foundation Board meet up to seven times per year face-to-face at the Western Bulldogs Football Club's Head Office at VU Whitten Oval. Meetings usually take place on Thursday mornings from 9:00am and run for two hours. The Foundation runs several events each year and support and attendance at events are expected of Board Members and observers. Preparation for meetings and supporting the Foundation's operational functions will require additional time. The successful applicant will be expected to attend all Board meetings and other relevant Board Committee and Planning meetings.

## **Role of the Observer**

Recognising that emerging First Nations Australians are under represented in Board roles throughout the community, the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation is providing an opportunity for such an emerging person to gain experience in the workings of a Board in order to prepare them to take on a Board role in the future with the WBCF or another board.

- In attending the Board meetings of the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation, this opportunity will help the successful applicant to build skills and capacity in both leadership and governance.
- It will offer real life experience in and exposure to the world of leadership and strategic planning and decision-making in a community-based organisation.

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- The role is not a decision-making role, it is an observation role, a learner role, but the participant may be invited to contribute to certain discussions at meetings.
- An existing Board member will be appointed as a contact and mentor to support the observer. The observer will be provided with all relevant papers prior to each meeting with the Board contact available for pre and post meeting briefings.
- The successful applicant will be expected to attend all Board meetings and other relevant Board Committee and Planning meetings. A commitment of approx. seven 2-3 hour sessions in a year.

## **Required Skills and Experience**

- Demonstrated experience working with Indigenous / Aboriginal Communities
- Demonstrated experience and understanding of cultural norms in working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities
- Preference given to past participants of the Nallei Jerring Koori Leadership Project.
- To be considered for this role you must identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

This role is a rare opportunity to contribute strategically, to meaningful outcomes for people across Melbourne and Victoria's West.

## **How to Apply**

All EOIs received will be confidential to the Western Bulldogs Football Club's People team and WBCF Board. The Foundation Board will consider all EOIs and will make the final decision on appointees to the Board should a suitable candidate arise.

If you are interested in joining the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation Board as an observer, please send through your personal resume and a cover letter outlining your suitability to [people@westernbulldogs.com.au](mailto:people@westernbulldogs.com.au). Applications close at 5pm on Friday 5 August 2022.

Western Bulldogs acknowledges that we reside on traditional lands of the Kulin Nation. We offer our respect to the Elders of these traditional lands, and through them to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples past, present and emerging. Western Bulldogs encourages Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to apply.