



THE VICTORIAN
PRIDE CENTRE

The Victorian Pride Centre

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Gender Diverse and Queer,
and Intersex (LGBTQI)

Community Reference Group

TERMS OF REFERENCE

About the Victorian Pride Centre

Purpose

The Victorian Pride Centre (VPC) will be a community centre for the LGBTQI community. It will:

- provide an iconic, long-term, safe home for LGBTQI organisations
- showcase our community's history and culture
- connect with isolated, regional and rural LGBTQI people through a 'virtual' pride centre
- bring together LGBTQI organisations and individuals to share ideas and resources to support equality, respect for diversity, inclusion and health and safety, in order to build individual and community capacity and capability.

The VPC may also include retail and event spaces to help to generate revenue to support its operation.

The Victorian Pride Centre Ltd (A.C.N. 615 432 838) is a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee under the *Corporations Act 2001*. Under its constitution, the company's objects are to:

- establish, own and operate a centre in Victoria to facilitate and host support services, facilities and resources for LGBTQI individuals and groups
- facilitate events in the centre in support of equality, diversity and inclusion for the LGBTQI community.

The constitution states the company is not and will not be a peak or representative body, and it will not actively advocate particular positions nor lobby government or public sector bodies.

The original seven directors of the Pride Centre Board were invited to form an independent company at the request of Ro Allen, Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality. The directors are people with the skills necessary to plan, build and operate a LGBTQI community centre, efficiently, effectively and with community support. The board's role is to get the community centre up and running.

Vision and Values

The VPC's Vision is to be the most loved, well known and visited home for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender & gender diverse, and intersex (LGBTQI) community in Australia.

The VPC's Values are:

- Honouring our LGBTQI history and culture, creating our future
- Catalysing our community
- Celebrating and valuing our difference
- Respecting and supporting each other
- Living with courage, pride and strength
- Demonstrating leadership for the LGBTQI community

It is expected that all VPC's activities will be guided by its Vision and Values.

Community Reference Group

Name	The Victorian Pride Centre LGBTQI Community Reference Group
Purpose	<p>The Victorian Pride Centre LGBTQI Community Reference Group will provide advice to the VPC Board through the VPC Property and Facility Program Committee on the build and operation of the Pride Centre.</p> <p>This will help ensure that the development of Victoria's first Pride Centre reflects and responds to the needs of LGBTQI people of all ages, gender identities, sexual orientations and intersections.</p>
Scope	<p>The LGBTQI Community Reference Group will provide an opportunity for a broad range of intersecting LGBTQI perspectives and experiences to be considered during the build and establishment of the Pride Centre.</p> <p>This may include issues relating to the building and site development, communication with community, the virtual Pride Centre, general operations and culture. The VPC Board will, from time to time, seek the Group's views on specific matters.</p>
Governance	<p>The LGBTQI Community Reference Group will provide advice as required to the VPC Board through the VPC Property and Facility Program Committee.</p> <p>The Reference Group can suggest issues for consideration by the Pride Centre Property and Facility Program Committee. The Reference Group will provide their advice by a majority consensus. Members are appointed to the Reference group for a term of one year.</p> <p>Members must attend 75% of meetings. If a member cannot attend, a proxy cannot be appointed in their stead.</p>
Role	<p>The LGBTQI Community Reference Group's Terms of Reference are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Provide general advice on the development of the Pride Centre, to ensure that a broad range of LGBTQI perspectives is considered○ Develop and recommend a code of conduct for users of the VPC and provide advice on how the VPC can meet the needs and priorities of LGBTQI community members○ Provide advice on any other matters referred by the VPC Board or the VPC Property and Facility Program Committee.
Chairing Arrangements	<p>The group will be co-chaired by a community member and a VPC Board member. A member of the Property and Facility Program Committee will be deputy chair.</p>
Secretariat	TBC

Membership

Members are appointed as members of LGBTQI communities and/or intersecting identities. Members are not selected as LGBTQI organisational representatives.

The VPC requires members to have the following personal qualities:

- Ability to work collaboratively in diverse teams to find solutions and develop innovative ways of working together
- Active listeners, willing to consider and empathise with wide-ranging points of view
- Individuals who are relatively well connected within LGBTQI communities and/or organisations, with an understanding of current/contemporary issues faced by the broader LGBTQI community and sub-communities.

Membership is voluntary i.e. members will not be remunerated for their participation. Reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed for members who do not reside in the Melbourne metropolitan area, to attend meetings.

The VPC reserves the right to terminate the membership of individuals who breach the LGBTQI Community Reference Group Code of Conduct (to be formulated and agreed upon during the group's inaugural meeting).

The Reference Group will comprise a total of 28 members, appointed from each of the following groups:

AGE GROUPS

14-24 years, 25-44 years, 45-59 years, 60+

LGBTQI IDENTITIES

The Reference Group will include a broad representation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Gender Diverse and Queer, and Intersex (LGBTQI) identities.

GENDER IDENTITIES

Member positions will be distributed between those who identify as male, female or gender diverse.

INTERSECTIONS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Individuals who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Rural or Regional

Individuals currently residing in a rural or regional location in Victoria (outside Metropolitan Melbourne).

Disability

Individuals with a lived experience of disability.

Multicultural

Individuals who identify as having a culturally or linguistically diverse (CALD) background or identity.

Meetings

The Reference Group will meet at least quarterly or as needed in consideration of key activities or milestones related to the planning and development of the Victorian Pride Centre.

Papers and agendas will be circulated to members approximately one week before each meeting.

Contact

For more information, please send an email to:
refgroup@pridecentre.org.au