

Greater Shepparton Women's Charter Alliance Advisory Committee's International Women's Day event 2014



- *Women's Charter Alliance Advisory Committee Members*

The Greater Shepparton Women's Charter Alliance Advisory Committee held a vibrant and diverse event on the 7th of March 2014 to celebrate International Women's Day.

The accessible event was held at the McIntosh Centre in Shepparton and was a fun evening of food, music, networking, and thought provoking discussion.

The evening began with speeches from Greater Shepparton City Council Councillor Fern Summer, and Mayor Councillor Jenny Houlihan; both of whom spoke about the importance of International Women's Day and the Women's Charter Alliance Advisory Committee's guiding principles of gender equity, leadership, and active participation.

Local community choir 36 Degrees South wowed the audience with three songs, one of which was a traditional South African piece.

An interactive food session exploring the theme of *'Food for all is common cents; the relationship between food, money and health'* was conducted. This saw the audience watch – and taste - a live cooking demonstration which incorporated healthy foods with budget conscious ideas. Resources regarding healthy eating, healthy recipes, and dietary information were on display and available for audience members to take home.

The interactive food session was followed by a Q&A session led by Melbourne based gender and diversity consultant Maria Dimopoulos. The main theme of the Q&A session was *'Diverse women in leadership: unlocking our potential in a changing world'* and saw the audience ask thought provoking questions to the panellists: Nyadol Nyuon (one of Australia's top 100 most influential African Australians), Teena Knight (local orchardist and social media activist), Felicia Dean (CEO of Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative), and Jean Varty (Principal of Ardmona Primary School).

The evening concluded with a modern dance performance by a group of young Samoan girls.

The evening was a great success and would not have been possible without the support of Women's Health Goulburn North East, the Greater Shepparton City Council, PrimaryCare Connect, and other local businesses and groups.



- *Community Choir - 36 Degrees South*



- *Linda McKenzie - Healthy Food Session*

- *Guest Speaker – Maria Dimopoulos*