

# Lifelong Learning in the City of Melton

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# Supporting Equity and Inclusion

*'The City of Melton is managing growth by creating a clear vision to connect and develop a sustainable city. Demographic, geographic, social and economic data are important for making planning decisions and responding to community needs. The City of Melton Community Learning Board, through its Community Learning Plan, embraces particular social, economic, cultural and environmental opportunities and challenges.'*

*(Melton City Council 2015)*



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# Community Learning Board

The purpose of the Board is to bring key people and organisations together to facilitate the implementation of the Community Learning Plan (CLP) for the City of Melton.



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# Supporting Equity and Inclusion in the City of Melton

- Providing no or low-cost activities in community hubs and other Council venues.
- Programming activities for specific demographics, including the elderly or people with mobility issues.
- Using digital and paper-based methods of advertising to reach potential participants.
- Hosting exercise and other activities exclusively for women.
- Feature workshops to share knowledge, skills and culture from people new to the community.



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# How do we know what the community need?

Feedback:

- > Formal
- > Informal

Program Logics work to:

- Identify community need for program via data
- Identify short and long term intended outcomes
- Are a living document to develop and refine programs over time



# Melton Learning Directory

The Melton City Council Learning Directory is a Council owned website that provides easy access to free and low cost, local learning activities to our community. As well as listing Council provided learning programs, external learning providers can also register their learning activities here, giving local businesses and organisations opportunities for free promotion.

The website allows our community to explore learning opportunities in their own space and time. Furthermore, users can also book and pay for a space in these learning programs via the website.



# Melton Learning

# City of Melton Lifelong Learning Festival

Established in 2018, the City of Melton Lifelong Learning Festival is the benchmark celebration of learning in the City of Melton.

The principal of the festival is to provide opportunities for life-wide, life deep and lifelong learning.



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# City of Melton Lifelong Learning Festival

The aim of the City of Melton Lifelong Learning Festival is to continue to engage the City of Melton community in meaningful ways to foster a culture of inclusive learning regardless of age, ability, interest or other potential barriers.

From a community perspective, the aim is part of the long term, ongoing work that Council engages in to ensure as a learning community, we are more resilient, adapt to change more readily, are more skilled and can take advantage of opportunities.



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# 2019 Festival Statistics

- 178 free learning programs
- 2446 attendees, ranging from 6 months to 89 years of age.
- As of February: aware of approximately ten participants who have enrolled in further learning as a result of the festival.
- The most popular event category, measured by the speed of bookings and attendance rate was 'Cooking and Food'.
- No cost associated with activities for participants, removing economic limitations for participation.
- According to Google Analytics, the Melton Learning website received 61.73% more traffic (5984 users compared to 3700)



# Moving Forward

Melton City Council is about to begin a Mobile Digital Literacy initiative targeting seniors and community members whose first language is not English.

## Platform

- Community officers will run classes of up to ten participants on a range of devices including tablets and laptops.
- Classes will focus on topics including but not limited to:
  - Social Media
  - Taking and editing photos
  - Setting up email accounts
  - Using government services online (MyGov)
  - Using the internet
  - Online safety



# Strategic Goals

Melton City Council' new 10 year City of Learning strategy is in the final stages of development. There are a number of goals and commitments in the strategy that aim to address the challenges of inclusion and equity within our city.

- Advocate for equity, inclusion and quality in service provision, infrastructure, learning, programming and strategic planning
- Encourage and enable learners of all ages to actively engage in lifelong learning, capability and skill development for personal and professional growth throughout life
- Increase support, develop and deliver programs and resources that aim to decrease the digital divide in our community across all cohorts.
- Advocate to increase the use of inclusive and equitable language across Council and our wider community.
- Promote, support and encourage participation in civic life for those groups that traditionally have difficulty in being heard or participating



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# Strategic Goals

- Ensure information in regards to community facilities is in appropriate, inclusive and equitable formats that are easily accessible.
- We will practice learning together in Melton by ensuring that we provide programs, activities and events for all cohorts, ages and abilities and enable the sharing stories and successes.
- Provide inclusive and accessible learning opportunities that enables individual empowerment and builds social cohesion
- Encourage and support all people in embracing the concept of learning to earn and provide real-world and meaningful opportunities for them to develop these skills and practices.
- Use learning to foster an inclusive City where diversity is valued and to engage Melton's diverse communities and all age cohorts in creating opportunities for economic, social, cultural and civic participation.



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# Thank You

## Contact Us

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