

PRESS RELEASE:

Australian Seafood Women Celebrate in Melbourne

WINSC – WOMENS INDUSTRY NETWORK SEAFOOD COMMUNITY

A group of women from the Women's Industry Network Seafood Community (WINSC) recently met in Melbourne for their annual conference and a celebration of the groups 10th birthday. WINSC was started by a group of South Australians in 1996, and has now evolved into a national body, with members in every state.

The aim of WINSC is to ensure members influence decision making to ensure a profitable, dynamic, secure, innovative and sustainable seafood industry – an industry which is proactive and responsive to the needs of the industry and community.

Some of the activities of WINSC in the last 10 years have included

- Support, friendship and networking, at their annual conference and at state meetings,
 - Email and website.
- Representation on management committees and national bodies such as the Rural
 - Women's Coalition.
- Training of WINSC members to build capacity for representation
- Enhancing the image/respect of the Seafood Industry:
 - Development of sector/region specific cookbooks
 - Active role in displays/events.
 - Representation on delegations (eg 100 Women to Washington, Australian Women to Spain).
 - Development of Seafood Industry Awards.
 - Projects: WINSC members have actively managed or supported project activities

September 7th – 10th was the 2006 Melbourne conference. Conference schedule:

Thursday 7th – full day face to face board meeting of the Directors.

Friday 8th – tour day visiting following facilities:

- Austrimi Seafoods Pty Ltd – surimi processing facility at North Geelong.
- Great Southern Waters – Abalone Aquaculture Farm at Indented Heads.
- Queenscliff DPI building for lunch and two guest speakers – Daniel Grixti and David Hobday.
 - Daniel Grixti's presentation topic – Research and Monitoring Victoria's Marine Recreational Fishing.
 - David Hobday's presentation topic – Research & Assessment of the Victorian Southern Rock Lobster Fishery.

For further information please contact:

WINSC President: Anne Whalley QLD– 0427 525 723.

WINSC Vice President: Helen Jenkins VIC– 0408 538 873.

September 2006.

Saturday 9th – full workshop day consisting of the following activities and presentations.
AGM.

Career dressing for women workshop.

SEA presentation by Debra Ferguson from South Australia.

Animal Welfare presentation by Paul Hardy Smith.

Adapting to Change presentation by Anne Marie Casey of Bureau of Rural Science Canberra.

Afternoon concluded with compiling stories in digital format.

Saturday evening was the 10th anniversary dinner with special guest speaker Ms Christine Nixon – Chief Commissioner of Police – Victoria. Ms Nixon gave a most inspirational talk to all present. She spoke of the challenges that she has faced to get to where she is and for all of us to have goals, don't be afraid to apply yourself even if others say you can't do it, pull down barriers or walls, question why the walls are there in the first place and most importantly focus on the people around us. Take the time to invest and develop the social capital required for each industry.

The dinner was attended by some high profile seafood industry guests including:

- Mr Ross McGowan - Executive Director - Seafood Industry Victoria.
- Mr Patrick Hone - Executive Director - Australian Government - fisheries Research & Development Corporation - Canberra.
- Ms Jayne Gallagher – Business Development Manager – Seafood Services Australia.

Sunday 10th – full day Corporate Governance Workshop conducted by AICD Mr Tony Hartford. Funding for this event was granted from DAFF Department of Agriculture Fishery and Forestry.

The four day event was sponsored by FRDC Fisheries Research & Development Corporation. SSA Seafood Services Australia and DAFF Department of Agriculture Fishery and Forestry, Prime Super and PIRSA.

Without the continued support of industry bodies such as these WINSC would not be able to function and up skill other women in the seafood industry.

For further information please contact:

WINSC President: Anne Whalley QLD– 0427 525 723.

WINSC Vice President: Helen Jenkins VIC– 0408 538 873.

September 2006.