

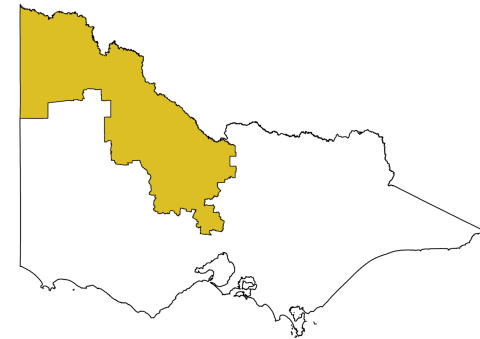
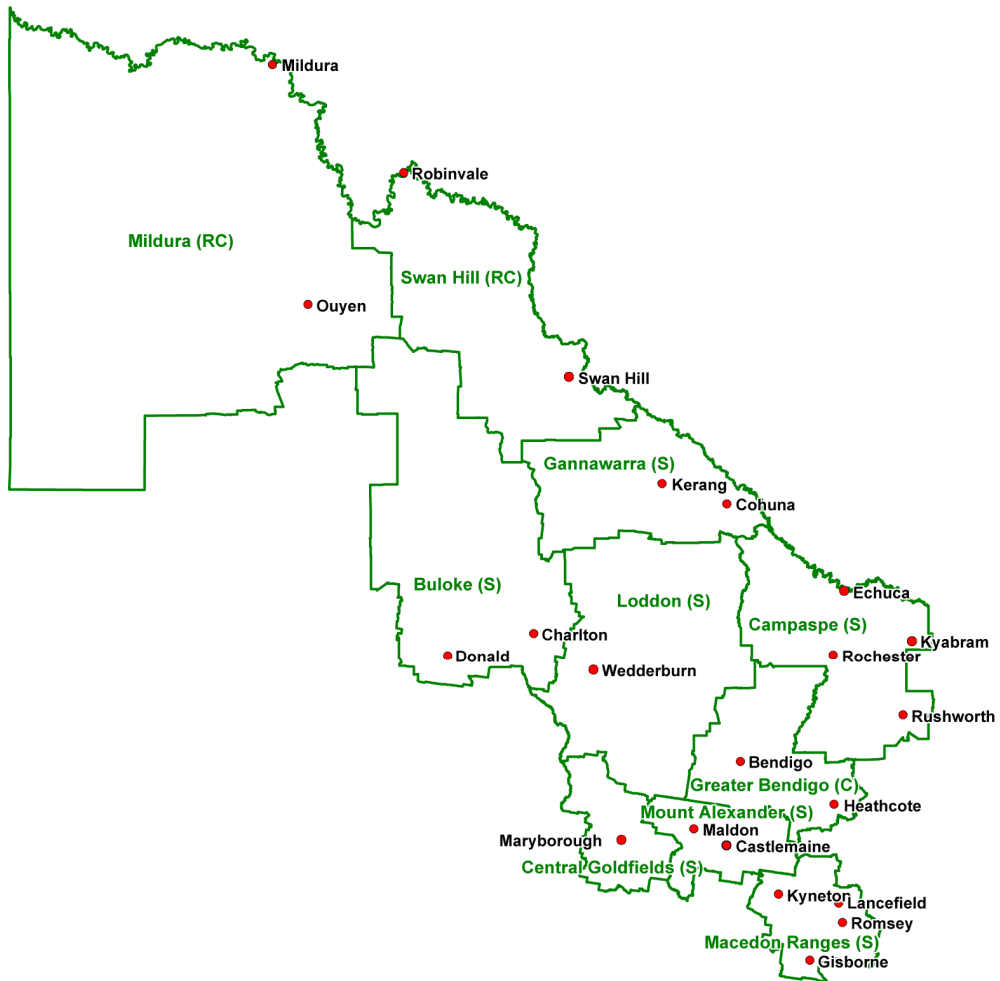
Loddon Mallee Region Education and Research Consortium



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Loddon Mallee Region

Symposium: University-Government Partnerships
Geelong, Wednesday 1 October 2008

Loddon Mallee Region



Purpose and Governance

The Education and Research Consortium aims to provide a regional forum and network to link State Government and other relevant policy with the education and research sectors, in order to maximise policy outcomes and benefits for the community.

Membership

- La Trobe University
- Monash University – Clinical and Rural Schools
- Bendigo Regional Institute of TAFE
- Representatives of Health Services – hospitals, private hospitals & CHS
- Bendigo Health Care Group and Collaborative Health, Education and Research Centre
- Department of Education and Early Childhood
- Regional DHS Community Services, Disability and Health Housing and Aged Care

Objectives

Objectives of the consortium are to:

- Bring together key stakeholders in the Region
- Provide a platform to link education and research with government policy
- Identify linkages between education, curricula and health policy
- Provide a link between academia and industry
- Explore workforce issues & needs
- Identify areas for clinical placement
- Identify funding opportunities
- Focus on areas of disadvantage

Education and Research Consortium current activities

- Improving diabetes service coordination and workforce capacity.
- Focus on strengthening clinical placements across the Region including allied health, medical and nursing.
- Supporting a Regional Conference *Better Practice: What does it take? Showcasing best practice across health and community services sectors.*
- Facilitating 'Seminar Series' to highlight current research, policy and directions.

Sub Committee

- Developed in 2007
- To explore workforce and education issues relating to diabetes
 - Changing nature of roles
 - New roles, new skills
 - Upskilling current roles

Sub Committee activities

Review of literature

- LM Diabetes Service Map, self-management interventions, initiatives through Workforce Development Unit (including trialling assistant roles)

Regional Diabetes Workforce Workshop – May 2008

- Coordinated by Bendigo Health Care Group
- Identify gaps/needs, explore options
- Representatives from across the LMR from organisations across the care continuum

Sub Committee activities cont...

Key issues identified in the workshop included:

- Diabetes educators cannot keep up with demand
- Responsibility for diabetes needs to reflect a multidisciplinary team approach
- Increased understanding and knowledge is required regarding best practice management of diabetes
- Workforce development needs to focus on nationally agreed diabetes skill sets across acute and community health
- Future training needs to focus on self management interventions

Sub Committee activities cont...

Where to from here?

- Draft diabetes workforce document developed
- Continue to progress priority actions

Funding arrangements

- In kind support through Executive participation by all participating organisations
- Administrative support for meetings provided by DHS
- The Consortium provides the opportunity to collaborate on funding applications for research or resources.

Thank you

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