



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SISTER CITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

held on Thursday 21 November 2024 commencing at 5.30pm
in the Council Chambers, 43-51 Tanunda Road, Nuriootpa.

MINUTES

Welcome by Deputy Mayor Kathryn Schilling declared the meeting open at 5.30pm.

1. ATTENDANCE RECORD

1.1 Members Present

Deputy Mayor Kathryn Schilling, Janine Harding, Rick Lane, Bill Simons, Scott Hazeldine, Carol Dadds, Ingrid Day, Jo Seabrook, Carly Hennessey.

Guests

Milly Hoffmann, Nuriootpa High School, Craig Moore, Faith Lutheran College, Heidi Helbig, Team Leader Communications and Engagement – The Barossa Council, Wendy Perry, Workforce BluePrint on South by South West.

Apologies

Mayor Bim Lange, Jo Moen, Vanesa Lambert, Catherine Nacey, Louise Hickinbotham, Rolf Binder.

Not Present

Nil

Leave of Absence

Nil

2. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of previous meetings – for confirmation:

MOVED Rick Lane

That the Minutes of the Sister City Advisory Committee held on Thursday 26 September 2024 at 5.30pm, as circulated, be confirmed as true and correct records of the proceedings of those meetings.

SECONDED Carol Dadds**CARRIED SCACC/10**

2.2 Matters arising from previous minutes

Nil

3. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

3.1 Study tour - September 2025 Update

The Sister Cities Program Manager gave an update on the current status of the arrangements for the Study Tour with Nuriootpa High School. Millie has held a meeting with interested students, within her Agriculture cohort and asked them as part of her lessons to research Grapevine which was well received.

This confirms that Barossa will attend Grapefest in the first instance to gather information on how Student Exchange Programs operate and to garner information of proving Grapevine students with a positive experience when their Study Tour visits the Barossa – date/year has not been confirmed.

Millie is receiving Expressions of Interests (EOIs) with the closing date 3 December 2024. Approximately 12 students have informally showed interest with three completed EOI forms received with parent endorsement.

Including in the EOI form is asking students for ideas for fundraising opportunities and we have received some really great ideas. Parents have also shown interest in facilitating fundraising events.

ACTIONS:

- Ingrid to reach out to Naomi from Grapevine to gain more information on the opportunities to participate in the Art Exchange Program and will provide a report for the next Committee meeting.
- Rick and Millie to update the incoming Principal and seek formal support for the program. Martin McCarthy, CEO and Mayor Lange have offered to meet with the new Principal to update on the entire project as a matter of information.
- Millie to investigate SACE points for students that undergo formal volunteering during the SACE years and will provide a report to the Committee at its next meeting.

- Janine to contact Grapevine to confirm more details around costings, such as, discounted flight costs, accommodation for teachers, specific costs required for food not provided, a draft itinerary – schools visits, cattle drive, Grapefest event etc. This will assist in goals for the students in their fundraising efforts.
- Janine to arrange a time for the selection panel (Rick Lane, Milly Hoffmann, Council Representative, Working Group Representative) to assess applications and make a recommendation to NHS.

3.2 City of Adelaide - Sister City Austin Texas

As presented in the report, the Committee was updated and provided information on the Sister City relationship between City of Adelaide and Austin, Texas. The Committee positively expressed feedback on the video supplied in the agenda report.

On 11 July 2023, the City of Adelaide celebrated the 40th Anniversary of its sister city relationship with Austin with a Civic Celebration held at Adelaide Town Hall.

ACTIONS:

- Janine as Sister City Program Manager, Catherine and Heidi Helbig (Council staff) have arranged a meeting on 11 December 2024, with Ben Makepeace, Executive Advisor, Office of the Lord Mayor, City of Adelaide who leads Sister City Advisory project for the City of Adelaide.

A further report outlining learnings and opportunities will be presented to the Committee at the next Sister Cities Advisory Committee meeting.

3.3 Trade Development Working Group - Update

The Committee highlighted some areas of difference with the Barossa and Grapevine is respect to the city footprint and landscapes, Barossa with township across regional areas as opposed to Grapevine being a city with a Main Street. It was discussed some of the areas that we can tap into and government agencies that may be able to assist.

Heidi Helbig, Team Leader Communications and Engagement has joined the Working Group in her capacity as acting Economic Development Lead and will look at connecting with Rolf Binder regarding the Committees objectives and goals, feasibility around other trade events, importers/distributors, Barossa based outlets and leveraging off Grapevine. Heidi will also investigate educational/information sessions to crack into the market, local traders, Barossa Australia, Chamber of Commerce and connect with Anthony Grundel and if there is any interest in a shop front in Grapevine.

ACTIONS:

- Heidi will provide an update to the working group and Committee at a future meeting.

4. VISITORS TO THE MEETING

Deputy Mayor Schilling welcomed Wendy Perry from Workforce BluePrint on South by South West to present to the meeting.

Presentation by Wendy Perry from Workforce BluePrint on South by South West spoke to Committee and presentation attached at [Appendix 1](#).

5. DEBATE REPORT

5.1 BAROSSA YOUNG AMBASSADOR AWARD RECIPIENT - COMMITTEE SPONSORSHIP 24/107477

MOVED Scott Hazeldine

That the Sister Cities Advisory Committee approve the expenditure of up to \$3000 from the Sister Cities Advisory Committee budget allocation for sponsoring the successful award recipient of the Barossa Young Ambassador 2025 to attend Grapefest September 2025 in Grapevine, Texas, USA as part of the official delegation from the Barossa.

SECONDED Carol Dadds

CARRIED SCACC/11

PURPOSE

For the Sister Cities Advisory Committee to provide sponsorship to assist the award recipient of the Barossa Young Ambassador 2025 to attend (travel) to Grapefest September 2025 in Grapevine, Texas US as our official young ambassador.

REPORT

Introduction

The Sister City relationship with Grapevine Texas as formally agreed to the following objectives:

- Facilitate the sharing of best practice and exchange of new ideas and successful experiences across a range of disciplines to improve capability and build more vibrant cities and local government authorities.
- Foster trade and investment initiatives that promote business development, provide accelerated access and open doors into key markets to connect our cities more effectively with buyers and sellers.
- Promote each other's cities as visitor destinations, cross participation in festivals and events and facilitation of the exchange of destination marketing expertise and experience to enhance the tourism market intelligence of both cities.
- Facilitate of education, cultural and sporting exchanges that empower our youth, support the education sector, celebrate our unique heritage, create opportunities for artistic expression and activate community participation.

- Enhance each other's reputation and capacity to meet emerging policy issues facing our cities in addition to capitalizing on opportunities to explore innovations and improvements in science and technology, viticulture, rural and urban design, public infrastructure and sustainability.
- Foster friendship, mutual regard, and understanding among the citizens of our communities.

These objectives will be achieved by supporting the Barossa Young Ambassador 2025 to attend Grapefest 2025.

GrapeFest

Celebrates wines from around the world, but takes special pride in Texas wine. There are a variety of annual events, special wine tastings and kid-friendly activities across four days when Main Street closes down to traffic for the Largest Wine Festival in the Southwest.

The 39th Annual GrapeFest will be held on 11- 14 September 2025 with the official delegation dates begin a few days prior and a few days post Grapefest event.

Discussion

The Barossa Young Ambassador Program is for people between 18 -25 years old, and is designed to grow future leaders by teaching essential leadership skills, building confidence, creating new networks, and immersing them in the history and culture of the Barossa Valley.

The program connects participants to the local food, wine, arts and tourism industries, and is directly aligned with the 2025 Barossa Vintage Festival. Participants will learn event management skills and collaborate with the community by participating in a BVF committee. They will collaborate with community groups to help create a great experience for locals and visitors alike. By undertaking their own personal project, they will also get to help address local needs and expressing their sense of creativity.

Through the program, Barossa Young Ambassadors undertake:

- Monthly personal development sessions
- Full day road trips around the Barossa, delivering behind-the-scenes insights into the processes and operations of key local organisations
- Barossa Vintage Festival committee participation, learning about event organisation and execution
- Mentorship and support to guide them through the program and aid in the development of their personal project

The Program identifies and raises the profile of future community leaders. It acknowledges that young people play an important role in our community and are essential for the future of the Barossa's vibrant wine, food, tourism and culture. It is a career development program offering young adults an opportunity to undertake

training and networking in the local community, and to actively participate in hosting and promoting the 2025 Barossa Vintage Festival.

On the weekend of the festival, one of the Young Ambassadors will be awarded as the Barossa Young Ambassador for 2025.

PW McCallum has confirmed that Grapevine will cover all costs associated with the Grapevine/GrapeFest portion of the Young Ambassadors time in Grapevine. This will be fully covered by the Grapevine Convention and Visitors Bureau. They need only have a little money for personal expenditures.

It is anticipated that the \$3000 will go towards flights and other essential costs not listed above in what Grapevine has committed to support.

It is also anticipated that the Barossa Vintage Festival Committee will also contribute to travel costs as part of the prize, both to support the Barossa Young Ambassador to have the opportunity to be an 'Ambassador' outside of Australia, as well as to garner additional experiences and skills by being part of the official delegation in addition to those gained by being part of the program.

If the Committee supports the recommendation, the funds will be transferred to the Barossa Vintage Festival Committee to include in the overall prize to be presented as part of the Barossa Vintage Festival 2025. The presentation is anticipated to include our Sister City delegates who will be visiting us during the festival.

On return, the participant will be asked to attend our Council and Committee to present on their experience.

Summary and Conclusion

The Committee is asked to consider sponsoring the award winner by providing \$3000 to go towards attending (travelling) to Grapefest, September 2025 in Grapevine, Texas, USA as part of the official delegation from the Barossa.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Legislative Requirements

Nil

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Sponsorship of \$3000 will be taken from an initial funding allocation of the Committee by Council, leaving \$7,000 to support other initiatives the Committee allocates to support the objectives of the Sister City relationship.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

5.2 BAROSSA VINTAGE FESTIVAL 2025 - SISTER CITY FLOAT IN THE PARADE SEEKING SPONSORSHIP
24/107480

MOVED Rick Lane

That Sister Cities Advisory Committee:

- (1) Delegate Council staff to seek sponsorship from local businesses; and
- (2) Endorse the expenditure of up to \$1000 from the Sister Cities Advisory Committee budget allocation for direct purchases involved in creating the physical float and including the registration fee for the 'Friendship Float' to participate in the Barossa Vintage Parade 2025.

SECONDED Bill Simons

CARRIED SCACC/12

PURPOSE

To seek Committee support in participating in the Barossa Vintage Festival Parade by registering and create a 'Friendship Float'.

REPORT

Introduction

The Grapevine, Texas official delegation will be in the Barossa between 24 – 30 April 2025 and will out watching the parade as part of their itinerary.

The Barossa Vintage Festival Parade is scheduled for Saturday 26 April 2025, starting at 10am with the route from Penrice Road, Nuriootpa to Barossa Rugby Precinct, Tanunda.

Discussion

In order for the Council to participate in the parade the following needs to be considered:

- Float will comprise of a tractor and trailer which has kindly been donated with driver by Louise Hickinbotham.
- Parade Registration - Cost to enter the Barossa Vintage Festival Parade - \$100.
- Parade Registration - Date 14 March 2025.
- Insurance – Investigate if The Barossa Council's Public Liability Insurance can be used.
- Who will build it? Possible opportunities:
 - volunteer council staff, volunteer committee members, Nuriootpa High School students who will be part of the Study Tour to Grapevine in September 2025.
- Who will be in the float - volunteer council staff, volunteer committee members, Nuriootpa High School students who will be part of the Study Tour to Grapevine in September 2025.

- Will need to provide at 1 Traffic Marshall as required by event organisers.
- What will be the approximate costs – decorations, props, structures, giveaways, banner, wine barrels?
- Storage – to be confirmed
- Design – Texan/Australian theme with cowboy and cobbler, Australian/American icons (animals, birds), flags, hay bales, wine barrels, grapes, star spangled banner. See below and attachment.



Summary and Conclusion

The Committee is asked to support Council staff seeking sponsorship to assist with the cost of participating in the Barossa Vintage Parade 2025 and to delegate \$1000 towards building costs associated with the Parade Float.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Sister Cities Float Ideas 

Supporting references

[Barossa Vintage Festival | 23 April 2025 to 27 April 2025](#)

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS4 Council and Committees - Provision of support to Council and Committees through the provision of required information, agendas, and minutes. Council and Committees are provided with support to enable informed decisions

Legislative Requirements

Nil

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

To be discussed during the meeting.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

5.3 FUNDRAISING FOR THE STUDY TOUR**24/108579****MOVED** Jo Seabrook

That Sister Cities Advisory Committee:

- (1) Receive and note the report; and
- (2) Endorse the expenditure of up to \$500 from the Sister Cities Advisory Committee budget allocation for direct purchase of marketing material required for fundraising events to promote the Student Study Tour to Grapevine, Texas in September 2025.

SECONDED Ingrid Day**CARRIED SCACC/13****PURPOSE**

To seek Committee support in participating in a fundraising opportunity at the Tour Down Under and other fundraising opportunities which will support the Student Study Tour to Grapevine, Texas in September 2025.

REPORTDiscussion

Janine Harding, Sister City Program Manager has been offered an opportunity for the future selected Study Tour students from Nuriootpa High School to fundraise at the Tour Down Under (TDU) event which will be held on 22 January 2025 based at the Tanunda Town Square Community Event, adjacent to the Council's Visitor Information Centre.

Fundraising at this event would require student participation to sell soft-drinks and water, under the TDU sponsorship requirements of Schweppes and Cool Ridge.

The council will provide a marquee, tables, table clothes, efitpos, and other stationary type items that will be required.

Kiwanis have also agreed to provide tea and coffee fundraising at the Australia Day Community Breakfast 2025 event and would like to see the exchange student/s volunteer alongside them at this event. We will be looking at similar involvement with Barossa Valley Lions Club who are providing the BBQ on the day.

The purchase of a pull-up banner will assist with brand recognition and community engagement whilst assisting the students to fundraise to support the cost of their travel to Grapevine, Texas in September 2025.

We highlight that this banner could also be used at events, where appropriate, during the delegation visit in April 2025.

Example Pull Up banner:**Update on Presentation to Kiwanis Barossa Valley**

Janine presented to the Kiwanis Barossa Valley Committee Meeting on 10 October 2024 on the Barossa and Grapevine Sister City relationship focusing on the Student Exchange Program. Kiwanis showed a keen interest in sponsoring students.

Janine will liaise with Barossa Valley Lions Club and Rotary Club of Barossa about sponsorship opportunities and collaboration as services groups for the program.

Presentation to Rotary Club of Barossa

Janine is scheduled to present to Rotary Club of Barossa on 3 February 2025, alongside a former Rotary Youth Exchange Student who will also be presenting.

Presentation to Barossa Valley Lions Club

Janine to present to Barossa Valley Lions Club in 2025, date to be confirmed.

Summary and Conclusion

The Committee is asked to support Council staff seeking fundraising opportunities for the Student Study Tour by approving the allocation of \$500 towards the purchase of a pull-up banner to use at events supporting fundraising for the Study Tour students for costs associated with their travel to Grapevine in September 2025.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS4 Council and Committees - Provision of support to Council and Committees through the provision of required information, agendas, and minutes. Council and Committees are provided with support to enable informed decisions

Legislative Requirements

Nil

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

To be discussed during the meeting.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

6. CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA

Nil

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 PICKLEBALL

The Sister City Program Manager is currently investigating Pickleball operating at The Rex.

Currently casual games on at The Rex Wednesday's 9.30am – 11.30am. 3 Courts. Available are 3 nets, bats and balls available. Cost \$7 per person to participate.

Have email contact for organizer and we could formally register [Home - Pickleball South Australia](#)

8. NEXT MEETING

Thursday 23 January 2025

9. CLOSURE

Councillor Schilling declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Confirmed at Sister Cities Advisory Committee Meeting on 23 January 2025.

Date:.....

Chairperson:.....

Appendix 1



WORKFORCE

BLUEPRINT

Back of the Napkin Lunch Networking Event
Wendy Perry, Managing Director, Workforce BluePrint
Founder, Switch Start Scale
Facilitator, Sea to Valley Startups

SXSW EDU

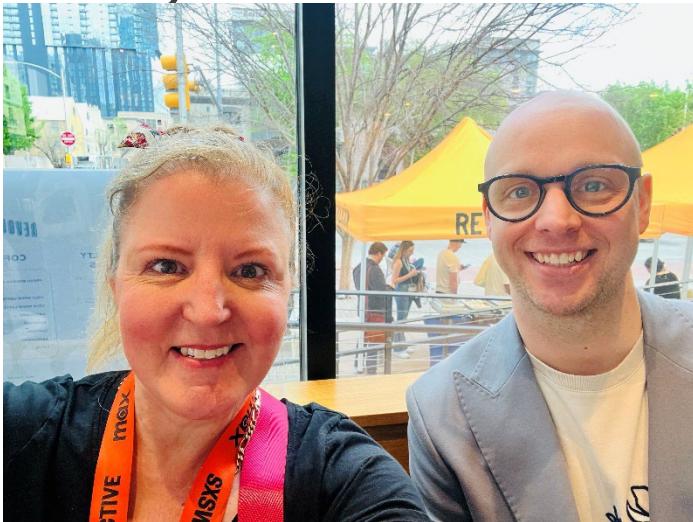
1. [Association of Texas Professional Educators](#)
2. [Aurora Institute](#)
3. [CFR Education](#)
4. [IgnitED by WGU](#)
5. [Natakallam](#)
6. [The Advocates Educator's Handbook](#)





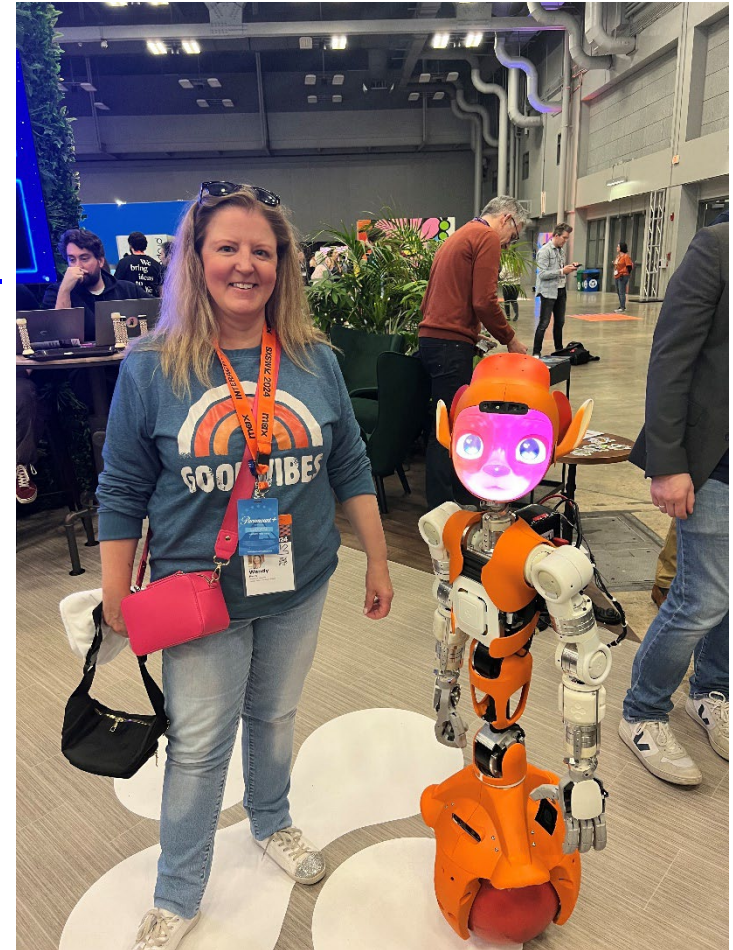
XR and Humble Hustle

1. [XRts](#)
2. Australian of the Year
3. K Rudd
4. Jeremy Martin, ACC
5. Mark Bryan, Future Today Institute



Creative Expo

1. [Enchanted Tools](#)
2. [Golf](#)
3. K Metaverse – Tripbtoz; [Animae](#)
4. [LAIVE](#)
5. [MAGALARVA](#)
6. [NetBall](#)
7. [Shrunk](#)
8. [StepFrame AI](#)
9. [Smart Goal](#)
10. [SOLAMENT](#)
11. [Wifkain](#)



Government of South Australia



South Aussies Scaling Up to the World





Speakers





Houses

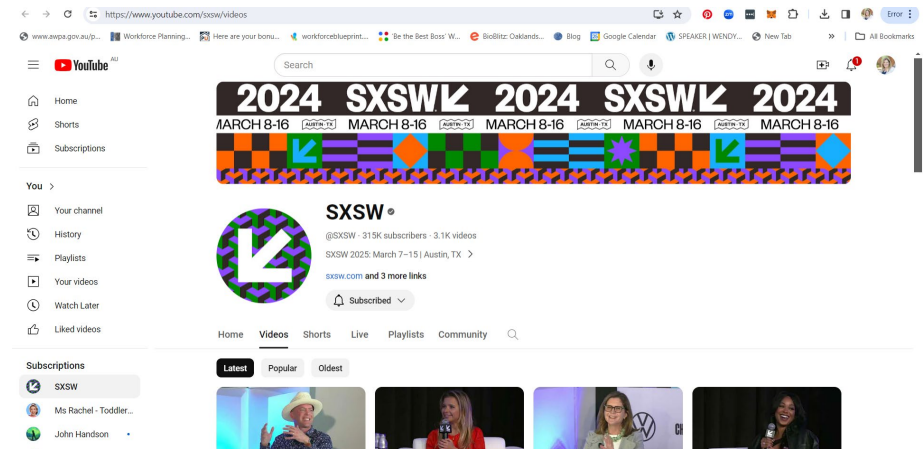
1. Australia House - [video](#)
2. Canada - [GroundUp](#)
3. Paramount - [Survivor](#)
4. Registrants Lounge
5. TIDE EVO - [video](#)





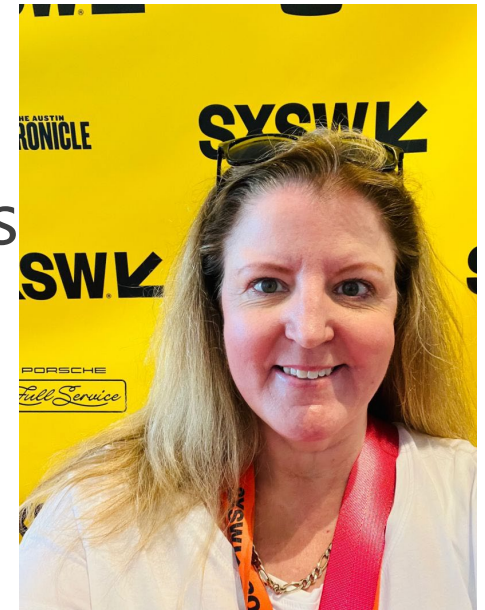
Lessons and Takeaways

1. Clean Energy
2. Fandom & influencers
3. Gen AI + robotics
4. G'day, Aussie, Aussie, Aussie goes a long way
5. Little steps vs step change
6. Psychedelics
7. [Sharpie](#)
8. Strategic Foresight
9. SXSW 2025 – Austin, London, Sydney

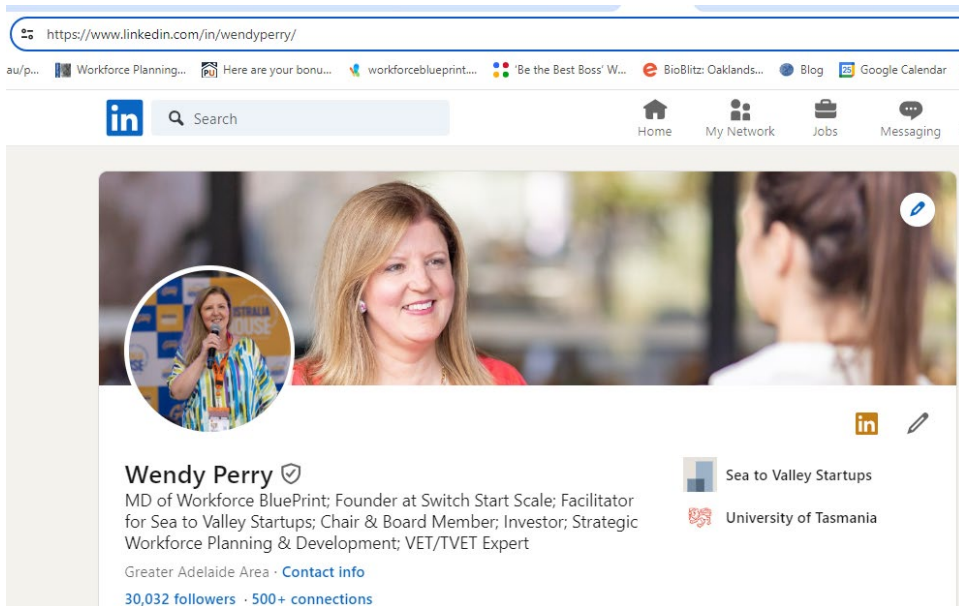


Sister Cities

1. Councils, Businesses, Industry and Regional Leaders (LGA, SAGov, peaks etc)
2. Bespoke connections for collaboration and partners (ACC, Capitol Factory)
3. SA Government office in Houston, WA Government in Austin – reach out to reps
4. Sister City Committee Chair, VC & Members
5. South Australia to Texas with highest number of SC outside of China



Connect



wendy@workforceblueprint.com.au
www.seatovalleystarts.com.au
www.switchstartscale.com.au
www.wendyperry.com.au
www.workforceblueprint.com.au

