

# Regional Arts NSW

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**LGCSAA: *Just Communities* Oct 2005**

**Session D: *Cultural Vitality***

**Regional Arts Australia:**

***Strengthening Cultural Communities in  
Australia***

***Cultural Planning with Local Government***

Victoria Keighery: CEO, Regional Arts NSW.

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## RABs & RADOs

### Region

*West of the Darling*

*Far West*

*North West*

*Mid North Coast*

*Upper Hunter*

*Central West*

*Southern Tablelands*

*South East*

*Eastern Riverina*

*Albury Wodonga*

*South West*

*Northern Rivers*

*Central Orana*

### RADO

James Giddey

Angela Sidoti

Jack Ritchie

Richard Holloway

Ruth Neave

Hannah Semler

Elizabeth Brown

Jennifer Hunt

Melissa Delaney

Chris Pidd

Sally Branson

Lois Randall

Kylie Moppett

State Secretariat

Board of Directors

Unserviced areas

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## Our Strategic Objectives:

-  Advocacy
-  Building Capacity
-  Communication & Promotion
-  Governance and Management
-  Support

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## **RABs work with:**

- Over 1900 regional arts & cultural groups.
- 28,000 volunteers
- 104 local governments
- 1.7 million people (23% of state population & 33% of national regional population)
- 780 sq kms.

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## **RABs, per annum, on average:**

- Employ 495 artists on own projects.
- Generate employment for a further 868.
- Do around 200 projects per year.
- Support 180 projects with partners.
- Support 137 volunteer RAB Directors.
- Employ 40 staff: only 17 full time.

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## **RADOs employed by RABs generate:**

- \$4.56 for every \$1 of NSW Ministry for the Arts core support for other sources, including local government.
- Local arts and cultural projects, with assistance from RABs generate \$8.08 for every \$1 of NSW MFA spent.
- With an average of 2.8 employees per region.

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## NSW Cultural Planning Guidelines – 4 Parts;

- ◆ Policy principles and main features of a cultural plan.
- ◆ Background to local cultural planning and the benefits.
- ◆ Guidelines.
- ◆ Practical advice; step by step guide.

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## **Three dimensions of culture:**

- ◆ Our sense of place, our values and our identity;
- ◆ The material products of creative processes; and
- ◆ Our engagement with and participation in creative processes.

i.e. place, product and process.

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## Rationale:

- ◆ Local government is best placed to lead local cultural planning;
- ◆ Cultural planning builds councils' capacities to engage with communities;
- ◆ Cultural Planning promotes a higher status for culture at the local level and is already enshrined in the Local Government Act of 1993.

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## Cultural opportunities through cultural planning:

- ◆ Free artistic expression;
- ◆ Engagement with their human cultural heritage;
- ◆ Engagement with new intellectual and artistic production; and
- ◆ Engagement in their own forms of intellectual and artistic production.

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## Preparing a Cultural Plan promotes;

- ◆ Knowledge and understanding of local cultures.
- ◆ A shared vision.
- ◆ Integration and connectivity of the functions of local government.
- ◆ A means of demonstrating local government planning, programming and management processes.

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LGCSAA National Conference "Just  
Communités"