

## UPDATE ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES TO NHW



As we are all aware there has been a great deal of discussion about the need for constitutional reform for a while. The committee charged with studying the best course of action addressed the June 2018 State Forum. The following is a summary of their findings and gives us an indication of the direction we will likely be heading in the near future.

### **FEDERATION MODEL**

A federation model was decided upon as it enabled individual groups to retain their independence while continuing to be responsible for their own compliance with

guidance from State Office. Under a federation model, each LGA becomes an affiliate of NHWV. Each LGA may be represented by a voting NHWV member at Special General Meetings and the Annual General Meeting.

### **INCORPORATION**

LGAs should incorporate according to a set of rules and detailed instructions from NHWV on the matter. This will include pro forma agenda, accounts, annual returns etc. for guidance. Each LGA may open a bank account and apply for grants in its name.

Each LGA will obtain an ABN to apply to Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission (ACNC) for charity status. The ABN may also simplify the opening of bank accounts and the submission of grant applications and BAS annually. Where its turnover is less than \$150,000, an LGA can decide to apply for GST exemption. NHWV will facilitate this process with pro forma and other instructions.

### **AFFILIATION**

Affiliation with NHWV will entitle LGAs to use the four faces logo and provide liability insurance cover, including personal accident insurance, access to bulk purchases, and ongoing assistance. While LGAs will operate independently, they will be required to subscribe to a Charter setting out their rights and obligations.

### **TIMELINE**

Drafts of the revised rules of NHWV and the proposed Charter will be distributed for comment soon. The final version of both will be distributed later. A Special State Forum to vote on the final version will take place in later in the year. A State Forum Delegate from each LGA will then vote on the proposed changes.