
CURRICULUM VITAE

KERRY WILLIS

Full Name: Marilyn Kerry Willis
Date of Birth: 9.8.43
Address: 15 Regnan Road, Kallista, Victoria
Postal Address: Po Box 523, Monbulk, Victoria, 3793
Phone : (03) 9752 1302
Email: mkwill@westnet.com.au

Employment Record

Current:

Sessional Mediator with the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria (a Victorian Department of Justice program)

Using a co-mediation model, mediators conduct mediations, to assist parties resolve disputes, generally of a neighbourhood and community nature. Mediators also conduct planning facilitations for a number of municipal councils.

Coach

Act as coach for the the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria

Consultant for Department of Transport

Advisory role for Stakeholder Consultation for Southland Public Transport Improvement Project.

April 2006 - April 2008: Chair, VicRoads Plenty Road Community Consultative Group

Chairing monthly meetings of this group.

March – December 2007

Development of Stakeholder Consultation Strategy for Southland Public Transport Improvement Project for Department of Infrastructure.

March 2007: Co-Facilitator CSCV Mediation Training Course

Co-facilitator/presenter of 6 day Mediation Training course in Alexandra on behalf of the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria, March 2007.

2005: Bush Heritage Business Planning Retreat

Co-facilitation of the 2 day 2005 business planning retreat for the Australian Bush Heritage Fund.

July 1997–June 2002: Manager, Environmental Services, VicRoads

In this position I was the manager responsible for the development and promulgation of effective strategies, policies and standards for environmental management (including Native Title, public consultation for road planning, noise and air quality, project planning and flora and fauna management) for VicRoads. I established the position of Native Title Officer in the Environmental Services Unit, and began the development of VicRoads Native Title Guidelines.

I retired from full-time employment in June 2002.

January 1990-1997: Senior Environmental Officer (Sociologist), Environment & Community Services Section, VicRoads

Key responsibilities in this position included:

- Managing the development and publication of VicRoads *Strategies and Guidelines for Community Participation, May 1997*.
- Playing a key role in the development of AUSTRROADS Principles for Strategic Transport Planning. This involved planning and facilitating a series of workshops with Road Authorities, key agencies and interest groups throughout Australia and New Zealand and subsequently working as facilitator with a multidisciplinary team of experts to develop the final report.
- The development of Integrated Transport Strategies for the Traffic in Melbourne Study. From mid 1990 to 1992, I worked closely with the Manager of this study to design and manage a consultation process for the development of integrated transport strategies that led to the Linking Melbourne strategy. I chaired a series of regional workshops throughout the metropolitan area to gain community input to the study.
- Managing Community Consultation for VicRoads. I played a key role in designing and managing community consultation and participation on major planning studies, working closely with planning teams to provide authoritative advice, guidance, and input to major planning studies, many of which are highly sensitive in terms of their environmental and social impacts.
- Contributing to the development of environmental and social impact assessments for major planning investigations and preparing and presenting submissions to Panel Hearings on social impact assessments and community consultation.
- Acting as chair of a number of major planning studies carried out by VicRoads. I was required to chair an initial public meeting to establish a Consultative Group for each project and then chair a series of Consultative Group meetings as the project developed.
- Facilitating VicRoads and AUSTRROADS (the Australian association of Road Authorities) workshops including:
 - Environment Liaison Planning Workshop for AUSTRROADS 1997
 - Heavy Vehicle Road Use Management Strategy for AUSTRROADS 1995
 - Business Area Planning workshop for the VicRoads Road System Management Section 1993
 - A series of regional workshops throughout the metropolitan area for the Traffic in Melbourne Study 1991
 - Community Workshops for the Woodend Study 1991.
- Initiating opportunities within VicRoads and for colleagues in private industry and government departments to exchange skills and ideas and to share in gaining new competencies. I also took part in a number of external training seminars by invitation. Examples are provided below:
 - 1995 - I initiated a program of training and advice for staff and contractors working on sensitive construction projects where members of the public were likely to demonstrate against VicRoads activities on the works site
 - 1995 - I arranged and shared in the presentation of an Advanced Facilitation Skills course run by the Accord Group, designed for senior managers working on long term projects, for VicRoads officers and consultants from a number of firms that work with VicRoads
 - 1995 - On invitation from the Department of Transport, South Australia, I was one of two presenters at the Environment Institute of Australia's South Australian Division's Seminar on Environmental Management: Consulting the Community.
 - 1993 - I arranged, and presented sessions, at a course by the Accord Group on Multi Party Facilitation Skills for a range of government departments
 - 1993 - The Department of Planning and Development invited me to present a session on Community Involvement to a joint Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology/Department of Planning and Development Seminar
 - 1992 - At the invitation of the Water and Environmental Branches of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, I presented a session on Public Consultation
 - 1990 - I organised a course, in conjunction with CDR Associates Colorado, on Negotiation and Mediation in Public Disputes for officers from a number of government departments.

July 1988-January 1990: Environmental Officer (Sociologist), Environment & Community Services Section, Road Construction Authority (RCA), now VicRoads.

My responsibilities as Environmental Officer (Sociologist) included responsibility for planning and managing community consultations, conducting Environmental Reviews, and managing consultants for flora, fauna and

archaeological studies. In 1994 I was one of two facilitators to run a search conference to develop a vision for the Borough of Queenscliff.

1979- 1985: Consultant

Between 1979 and 1985 I undertook a number of consultancies that included:

- *Industrial Waste Strategy for the Environment Protection Authority of Victoria*, 1985 - managing, planning, publicising and conducting a statewide consultation to assist in the development of Victoria's Industrial Waste Strategy
- *State Conservation Strategy*, 1985 - managing, planning, publicising and conducting a statewide consultation for the Department of Conservation Forests and Lands, to assist in the development of Victoria's Conservation Strategy
- *Community Development Training*, 1982 - preparing a report and recommendations to provide guidance for training of community development workers in the Shire of Sherbrooke
- *Voluntary Youth Service Scheme*, 1979 - conducting a community consultation and preparing a report and recommendations for the Outer Eastern Family and Community Services Program on a proposed Federal program for voluntary youth community service.

1981 -1982: Member, Independent Panel on Proposed Planning Controls

Appointed by the Minister for Planning to serve on panels hearing planning control submissions.

1978 – 1988: Executive Officer, Roadsides Conservation Committee

The Roadsides Conservation Committee comprised representatives from all agencies and community bodies with interests in the management of roadsides (including VicRoads, the Country Fire Authority, the Victorian Farmers Federation, conservation groups, the Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands, and the RACV). My responsibilities included:

- Overall management of the Committee
- Developing policy, guidelines and educational programs for the management of the roadside environment
- Liaising and negotiating with community groups, government and statutory bodies
- Preparing budgets and programs
- Preparing educational and publicity material and displays
- Developing, promoting and running an annual statewide Roadside Environmental Awards Scheme, and
- Planning, organising and publicising workshops, field days and seminars.

1976- 1978: Coordinator, Volunteers Unlimited, Outer Eastern Region, Victoria

I established this agency for the outer eastern Melbourne areas with pilot funding from the Australian Assistance Scheme. The agency still operates today, as the Eastern Volunteer Resource Centre. As inaugural coordinator my responsibilities included:

- Establishing, planning, managing and coordinating a service to match community needs with community resources.
- Promoting and publicising the service.
- Training volunteers to work in the Volunteers Unlimited Office.
- Writing a regular column in local weekly newspapers.
- Securing funding for the service.

1968-1969: Tutor, Social Sciences, Canberra Hospital School of Nursing

Responsibilities included:

- Designing, developing and teaching the social sciences curriculum, and
- Member of a team developing training for community health care workers.

1964-1968: Secondary Teacher

- Teaching at Macarthur Girls' High School in NSW and Narrabundah High School in the ACT
-

Papers Presented

- *Transport Planning and Decision Making: Can it Deliver Long Term Objectives?* (Principal author, co-authors Geoff Anson and George Giannakodakis) presented at the Institute of Transportation Engineers Regional Conference and published in the Proceedings and by invitation in *Transport Engineering in Australia* volume 2, 1996
 - *Integrated Transport Planning: Where to from Here?* (Co-authors Geoff Anson and George Giannakodakis) presented at the ROADS 96 Conference in Christchurch New Zealand and published in the Proceedings, 1996
 - *Planning with Vision: The Development of Traffic Strategies for Melbourne* (Co-author Geoff Anson) published in *Transportation*, Volume 20, 1993
 - *Understanding and Influencing Government Decisions: Customer Service - Resolving Conflict through Mediation*, presented at the 48th Local Government Engineering Conference and published in the Proceedings, 1992
 - *Social and Environmental Issues in Urban Road Planning* (Co-authors A. Kemp, R. Matthews, P. West) presented at the Metropolis '90 Conference, 1990
 - *Partners in Planning, Principles to Involve the Community in Road Planning* (Co-author Jim Webber) presented at the 15th Australasian Transport Research Forum, and published in the Proceedings, 1990
 - *Public Involvement in the Planning Process*, presented at the Road Construction Authority Road Traffic Authority Seminar Series, 1989
 - *Environmental and Social Issues in the Roads Corporation* (Co-author Max Lay) presented at the Roads Corporation Senior Officers Conference, 1989
-

Interests and Related Activities

My interests throughout my career have focussed on contributing to social and environmental issues through interacting, networking and communicating with people at all levels to achieve a range of environmental and social goals. Some examples follow:

Councillor, Shire of Sherbrooke, Chairman Planning and Community Development Committee, Deputy Shire President (1977 – 1980). My experience and contribution to the local community as a Councillor has led to my presenting, by invitation, two Workshops to local groups interested in local government, one in 1990 and one in 1996.

Mediation Training Coach From time to time acting as a coach for trainee mediators at the Accord Group mediation training sessions and for the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria.

A video production: Selby House - For the Community (produced for my Graduate Diploma in Film and Television) helped the various Community Houses to promote their activities at Shire, state and interstate levels, and assisted them in applying for funding.

Environment. As a member of the Environment Institute of Victoria I was involved in:

- A seminar on *The Use of Mediation in the Resource Assessment Commission Enquiry Process*, which I organised for the Environment Institute of Australia, Victoria Division and the Mediation Association of Victoria in 1991, and
- A seminar on *Does Mediation Have a Place in Resolving Environmental Disputes?* presented to the Environment Institute of Victoria in 1990.

Other environmental activities have included:

- Membership of the Advisory Committee for RMIT's Socio-Environmental Assessment and Policy Course (1991 - 1994)
- Presentations as guest lecturer to the RMIT Socio-Environmental Assessment and Policy Course students, and
- Member, State Electricity Commission Tree Clearance Consultative Committee (1984 - 1990) during which time I promoted the development of special conditions for environmentally sensitive areas being included in the Tree Clearance Code of Practice

Community Activities. I served as:

- A Board Member, for the William Angliss Knox and Sherbrooke Community Hospital in 1987 - 1990, and
 - A council member for the Kallista Primary School Council in 1976 – 1977.
-

Qualifications and Professional Memberships

- Bachelor of Arts - Sydney University (1968)
- Trained Teachers Certificate - Sydney Teachers College (1963)
- Graduate Diploma in Film and Television (Video) - Swinburne Institute of Technology (1978)
- Gazetted Mediator, Department of Justice, Victoria, Neighbourhood Mediation Certificate (Outer Eastern College of TAFE) 1988
- Nationally Accredited Mediator to 15 February 2010

Member Mediation Association of Victoria (1989 - present)

Member LEADR (2007 – present)

Further Education and Training

- Open Space Participation Techniques, 2002
- Cranlana Programme, June 2001. This programme “offers specially invited leaders from all sections of society the opportunity to participate in a unique programme of seminars and forums directed at enhancing their understanding of the philosophical, ethical and social issues central to creating a better Australian society and to securing Australia’s place in the world.”
- Issues Management (Centre for Corporate Affairs) 1997
- Media Interviews (Stratcom media) 1993
- Counselling Skills for Community Workers (TAFE) 1992
- Conflict Management in Environmental Decision Making (Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies, Australian National University; I was invited to participate in the inaugural one week course in order to assist in the development of subsequent courses) 1991
- Intensive Mediation Course - Commercial Disputes (Australian Commercial Dispute Settlement Centre) 1990
- Negotiation Skills (Leo Hawkins and Associates) 1988
- Social Impact Assessment (Bryan, Goodrich and Taylor) 1988
- Specialist Mediation Training with the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria in: Third Party Motor Vehicle Accidents 1996; Court Referred Mediations (the Portals program) 1996; Environmental and Planning Disputes 1994

Courses sponsored by VicRoads:

- Advanced Management, Business Management and Business Area Planning
 - Professional and personal development courses including: Strategic Thinking, Change Management, New Age Thinking, Selection Interviewing, Effective Writing, Time Management, Counselling Skills, Persuasive Assertion
-