

## 2021 Annual Conference - Motions Template

Please use this template to prepare and submit your motion using the link below.  
Please use text only – no images or tables.

<b>Submitting Council (required)</b>	Gladstone Regional Council
<b>Supporting ROC (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Category (required)</b>	Governance
<b>Council resolution # (required)</b>	
<b>Date of council resolution (required)</b>	Please select the date of resolution here
<b>Title of motion (required)</b>	Promote candidate diversity to facilitate fairer political representation, where elected Councillors better represent the makeup of their community.
<b>Motion (required)</b>	The LGAQ call upon the State Government to promote candidate diversity in local government by facilitating specific information and training sessions for target audiences, including Aboriginal, culturally and linguistically diverse people, differently abled people and women.
<b>Background (required) 350 word limit</b>	<p>In March 2020, local governments in Queensland saw the highest number of women elected as local Councillors reaching a figure of 38%. When it came to Mayors, across the 77 local governments in the state, figures show, male Mayors account for 73% and female for 27 %.</p> <p>Furthermore, the 2018 Leading for Change report from the Australian Human Rights Commission showed that only 4% of federal MPs had non-European ancestry or indigenous background, compared to 24% of the Australian population. The underrepresentation of cultural and linguistic diversity in Australian politics is apparent across communities, and local government is no exception, in fact, it is worse.</p> <p>Diversity reflects the real world and Local Governments have a diverse set of clients, customers and stakeholders. The positive influence of diverse perspectives means that decision making is challenged from various angles. Robust discussions require deep insight, multiple angles</p>

	<p>and collective experience. That is why the best boards are the most diverse boards.</p> <p>However, a range of barriers prevent targeted groups from engaging in the process of political representation. Issues such as access to information and networks, education about the process of elections and perceptions about the role of politicians need to be addressed to encourage and enable diverse political representation.</p> <p>Community education and enabling programs can break down these barriers and lay the pathway to a fairer, more efficient and representative political system</p>
<p><b>What is the desired outcome sought? (required) 350 word limit</b></p>	<p><b>The diversity of our Elected Representatives reflects the diversity of our communities.</b></p>