

## **OVERVIEW AND GUIDELINES FOR 2012 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

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### **The Sampson Leadership Trust**

Friends and colleagues have established a Trust to honour the memory of Ken Sampson, who passed away suddenly in 2009. Ken made a remarkable contribution to northern Victoria in the fields of sports, community, agriculture and the environment.

Ken was instrumental in the development and implementation of the region's salinity and drainage programs through various Department of Agriculture and later Department of Primary Industries roles.

From 1994 until his death Ken was the Executive Officer of the Shepparton Irrigation Region Implementation Committee.

Ken was a dedicated team manager of the Mooroopna Football Netball Club Seniors and was named best club person in 2006. He was also a passionate supporter of the Labor Party, Mooroopna Matters, Fairley Leadership and the Friends of Gemmill's Swamp. He was a former District Governor and life member of Apex and a life member of the Echuca South Football Club.

Ken was a great mentor of young people. The Sampson Leadership Trust was established to recognise Ken's outstanding leadership across many organisations and community groups spanning more than 35 years.

### **Objectives of the Trust**

The objective of the Sampson Leadership Trust is to provide scholarships to individuals to enable them to undertake or further their study, research and learning in the areas of environment, agriculture, irrigation, community development or leadership within the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District.

### **Selection Criteria**

Applicants for scholarships from the Sampson Leadership Trust will be assessed against the following criteria. Applicants should:

1. Be eligible to receive a scholarship, by satisfying the following requirements.  
The proposed study, research or learning activity for which assistance is sought must be in one or more of the following areas:
  - Environment
  - Agriculture
  - Irrigation
  - Community development
  - Leadership

The applicant must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be under the age of 36 years at the date of the scholarship grant (i.e. at 30 November, 2012); and
  - Be either:
    - Living in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District (GMID); or
    - Undertaking study within the GMID; or
    - Undertaking a project of benefit to the GMID.
2. Demonstrate personal achievements which are relevant to the objectives of the trust.
  3. Show a strong interest in and experience in the proposed project or area of study.
  4. Be of good character and be able to demonstrate a commitment to contributing to the development of the GMID community.
  5. Be able to demonstrate good communications and interpersonal skills. This includes effective written communications skills suitable to enable recipients to prepare a written report on their project/study.
  6. Be proposing to undertake a worthwhile project of high value. The proposed research or study should:
    - a. be addressing an area of demonstrated need,
    - b. be highly likely to benefit the GMID community.
  7. Be able to show that the project or study they propose can reasonably be completed in a 12 month period. Proposals that will take longer than 12 months to complete may be considered if special circumstances warrant this.

### **Scholarships available**

In 2012, the Trust will offer two scholarships of up to a maximum of \$8,000 each, for study or research projects to be undertaken in 2013.

Scholarships can be awarded for formal study courses, study tours or research activities.

Formal studies such as undertaking post-graduate courses are consistent with the Trust objectives. Consideration may also be given to assisting with costs to complete the final year of an undergraduate course, but there would need to be a clear demonstration of the likely benefits relevant to the GMID of such a scholarship award.

Study tours to acquire knowledge on developments elsewhere that could be applied in the GMID would also be eligible for scholarships. Study tours can be within Australia or overseas.

Applicants do not need to hold post-secondary qualifications and applications are encouraged from individuals working in local community development activities.

*Note:* The GMID covers the irrigation areas within northern Victoria extending from Cobram in the east to Swan Hill in the west and bounded by the River Murray to the north and extending south to include the towns of Shepparton, Tatura, Rochester, Pyramid Hill and Boort.

### **Further Information/queries**

It is expected that these guidelines, in combination with the application form, should provide all the essential information candidates will need to lodge a properly completed scholarship application.

If you have any queries which are not covered, further information and assistance can be obtained by contacting one of the Trustees. Contact details are:

- Bruce Cumming 0419 540 552
- Mike Hall 0419 873 788
- Andrea Smith 0407 817 730
- Garry Smith 0427 335 480