

Entry type: Organisation

Entry ID: AWE0502

National Council of Women of Queensland

(1905 -)

Born 1 January, 1905

Occupation Lobby group, Voluntary organisation

Summary

The National Council of Women of Queensland is an umbrella organisation for a large and diverse number of affiliated Queensland women's groups. It functions as a political lobby group, attempting to influence local, state and federal government.

Its aims are:

- 'To unite associations and societies of women, or of men and women, into an organisation for mutual counsel and co-operation.
- To advance the interests of humanity, and to confer in questions relating to the welfare of the family, State and Commonwealth.
- To join with the National Councils of Women of other Australian States and Territories to form the National Council of Women of Australia which, in turn, is a member of the International Council of Women. (ICW)'

Details

The Council was founded in 1905 at a public meeting addressed by Mrs Henry Dobson of Tasmania. Twenty-one societies joined; two of which are still active members. Mrs J.T. Bell was the inaugural President. Very clearly from its inception the Council "was a Council, not an organisation, to provide a common platform for work which is of interest to all, but may be beyond the scope and powers of any one organisation."

Like all National Councils of Women, it operates though a standing committee system whereby specific issues are brought before the Council and, if there is general agreement that a question should be taken up, a subcommittee is established to investigate the matter. Some issues remained on the agenda for many years – peace and improved lifestyles for women and families, employment equality for women and particularly married women, women on juries, shopping hours, women police officers and so on. Other concerns disappeared as satisfactory outcomes resulted.

Organisations whose foundation owed much to the National Council of Women of Queensland include the Bush Nursing Association, the Family Planning Association, the Children's Film and Television Council, the first Women's College at the University of Queensland and Meals on Wheels.

Published resources

Book

The first fifty years in the history of the National Council of Women of Queensland, National Council of Women of Queensland, 1959

The National Council of Women of Queensland, National Council of Women of Queensland, [1948?]

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

National Archives of Australia, National Office, Canberra

[Address of welcome - Queensland Country Women's Association and National Council of Women in Queensland](#)

[Address of welcome - National Council of Women in Queensland](#)

[National Council of Women of Queensland to entertain Her Royal Highness](#)

[National Council of Women in - Queensland](#)

[Resolutions - National Council of Women of Queensland](#)

National Archives of Australia, Various Locations

[National Council of Women of Australia \[Queensland Branch\], Mrs G.L. Blyth. Brisbane.](#)

John Oxley Library, Manuscripts and Business Records Collection

[TR 2108 Bardon Women's Club](#)

[OM72-57 Women's Voluntary National Register, Queensland State Council Records 1939-1945](#)

[OM68-19 Association of Queensland Women's Forum Clubs Records 1943-1968](#)

[7266 National Council of Women of Queensland Minute Books 1905-2004](#)

[30523 National Council of Women, Queensland Branch Records 1924-2000](#)

[27604 Baird Collection 1927, 1948](#)

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