Confidential Item

CAMPBELLTOWN CITY COUNCIL

Confidential Item

For Council meeting to be held on

Tuesday 17 December 2019 at 7.00 pm

Refer Item 11.17

Confidential Item

11.17 Australia Day Awards 2020

Executive Services Officer, Caroline Moeller's Report

Purpose of Report

To consider nominations for the 2020 Campbelltown Citizen, Senior Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year.

Strategic Plan Link

Strategy 5.3.2 Provide opportunities to enhance civic pride by providing opportunities for people to connect and interact locally

Background

Each year Council selects Award recipients from nominations received from the Community. In previous years the nominations and the decision on the Award winners are kept confidential in order to enable the winners to be announced at Council's Australia Day event, however due to there only being one nomination in two categories and no nomination in the third category, it may not be necessary to keep the winner confidential.

Discussion

Citizen of the Year Awards 2020 were launched on 1 October 2019 on the Council Website and through the Events and Activities News. Members may recall a Memo dated 1 October 2019 advising that the 2020 Australia Day Awards were open with the nomination form attached.

Council sent over 500 letters on 27 September 2019 to schools, service clubs, sporting clubs, local organisations and businesses within the Council area, placed information in the local Messenger, the Council website, social media and had nomination forms available online for the first time as well as hard copies in the Council Office and Library. Previous winners, nominees and nominators were also contacted and encouraged to nominate individuals.

Over the ensuing two months Council promoted the Awards through its website, across various social media channels and accounts, in the eNewsletter, Council's Electronic Display, through the Section 41 Committees, CHSP Newsletter, Council Banners, fliers included in the Children's bags at Citizenship Ceremonies, frequent reminders from Mayor Whittaker at Council Meetings and in the North Eastern Weekly.

Attached to this report is a summary of the nominations which were received. Two of the nominations are for the same person and the third being an extract from the NAIDOC application as the winner is an automatic entry for the Young Citizen of the Year.

Social Implications

The Awards process enables Council and the Community to acknowledge the significant contribution to society that some residents and ratepayers make each year to the Community.

Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications in relation to this report.

Asset Management Implications

There are no asset management implications in relation to this report.

Governance / Risk Management

Should Council wish to ensure that the Award winners are kept confidential until being formally announced on Australia Day, Council should invoke the provisions of Section 90 (2) of the Local Government Act 1999. However, as there is only one nomination in two categories, it may not be considered necessary.

Community Engagement

Council wrote to schools, service clubs, sporting clubs, local organisations and businesses within the Council area, placed information in the local Messenger, the Council website, social media and had nomination forms available in the Council Office and Library.

Previous winners, nominees and nominators were also contacted and encouraged to nominate people.

Economic Development Implications

There are no economic development implications in relation to this report.

Financial Implications

This event is funded within the existing budget line.

Recommendation

That the:

1. Citizen of the Year be awarded to Ms Julie-Ann Bennett

2. Young Citizen of the Year be awarded to Ms Afton Penrith.

2020 Nominations
Category – Citizen of the Year

Ms Julie-Ann Bennett

Nominee Name	Ms Julie-Ann Bennett
Nominee Address	345 Gorge Road ATHELSTONE SA 5076
Date of Birth	25/02/1971
Australian Citizen	Yes
Why do I believe the person should be awarded the SCOTY?	Julie-Ann Bennett is the brainchild and coordinator behind the civic pride movement for the City of Campbelltown, LOVE Campbelltown. Her vision is for residents to connect, learn and work together. Julie-Ann has demonstrated a tireless commitment to getting others from all walks of life involved in LOVE Campbelltown. At October 2019 there were 2,172 members of which 65% were females, 25% males with ages spread from 18 to 64+. A recent poll on LOVE Campbelltown showed that the two greatest reasons people followed the page were 'community connection and wellbeing' and 'a two-way conversation about local issues'. Julie-Ann's inclusivity in the group has enabled new and old residents to learn more about the area, meet others, attend local events, and volunteer. In little over a year, LOVE Campbelltown has become an online community space which is integral to the people of the City of Campbelltown. Julie-Ann manages a team of voluntary administrators and has recently launched a new website for the group. Through LOVE Campbelltown, Julie-Ann has helped to promote our city, and in turn support the efforts of the various Campbelltown City service clubs, community groups, and council itself, and to connect residents with each other & local businesses.
How has this person contributed to the local Community?	Julie-Ann, a resident in Athelstone for over 20 years, embodies the LOVE Campbelltown ethos with a desire to encourage and build up others by creating an environment where people can connect and feel part of the community. Her positivity and energy enable her to develop relationships with many locals and to help connect

	residents to learn, celebrate and work with each other for the benefit of our city. Julie-Ann spends countless hours meeting people from the community, attending functions, workshops (such as the Campbelltown Historical Society), liaising with many business owners, residents and council staff and elected members. At some level, we believe that Julie-Ann herself realised there was only so much of Julie-Ann that could go around! Subsequently, the LOVE Campbelltown community keeps the conversations going and promotes physical interactions, economic growth and volunteering, even when Julie-Ann sleeps! LOVE Campbelltown also provides an avenue for mentorship. Currently, there are six mentors listed on the site. By only using local venues and businesses for celebrations and community events, LOVE Campbelltown has promoted businesses and increased income. Love Campbelltown helps 'celebrate' our community with physical celebrations at six and 12 months were well attended and provided business for local establishments.
Describe how their work has been focused on helping others or making the Community a better place?	• Lead organiser of new Community Pantry located at the front of the Campbelltown Uniting Church, Lower North East Rd. This important initiative promotes community involvement in 'giving what can' and 'taking what you need' to support those experiencing food insecurity. • Supporting clean-up initiatives around Campbelltown City (such as LOVE Campbelltown involvement at the Athelstone Kiwanis Clean Up at 5th Creek Bridge, and the National Tree Planting day at Lochiel Park golf course), and ongoing social media conversations regarding waste solution strategies and the importance of urban green space. • Co-hosting the recent non-government community consultation at The ARC, regarding the Residential (limited scope) Development Plan Amendment, to help residents improve their understanding and involvement in an important process to better manage urban infill development issues. • Offering free promotion of Campbelltown City businesses, service clubs, community groups and information about local events and services, (e.g. Padulesi Park beehive and community garden) via a social media platform to a large audience, or smaller monthly community meetings,

	encouraging conversation and 'action' amongst residents and influencing local policy decision-making for the benefit of our city. • Being a strong supporter of the CCC with its various initiatives and promoting a 'partnering with our Council' message.
Who has benefited the most from the nominee's contribution and/or services (ie community groups, individuals etc)?	Julie-Ann's community work has touched the lives of many people in Campbelltown. She has returned the concept of 'civic pride' back to community consciousness. Julie-Ann has had a significant impact on the whole community of Campbelltown City. Her ongoing efforts have supported many individual residents, service groups, community clubs, local schools and the council itself. Local businesses also have an opportunity to promote their offers in a dedicated thread, with business promotion limited to those within the Campbelltown City Council boundaries. LOVE Campbelltown has provided an opportunity for connection between individuals, and regularly discusses the real-world problems of loneliness, isolation and financial hardship. LOVE Campbelltown is more than a Facebook group. Individuals have both an online and a physical space to express themselves and communicate. There are many face-to-face opportunities to meet others, for example, community catch-ups through 10th at 10 coffee mornings which also introduce different venues and cater to those who are busy on particular days. Currently, evening social events are being investigated. The LOVE Campbelltown community has also been strengthened through the visual branding of the group not limited to the logo and iconic blue t-shirts.
Has the person overcome particular challenges, personal sacrifices or adversities to mark their achievement? If yes, how?	Julie-Ann balances her work commitments, volunteering duties, family and social life as she works tirelessly in her civic pride efforts. She spends a significant amount of her private time at various local events, creating numerous thought-provoking social media posts and moderating the LOVE Campbelltown Facebook group. Despite there being times when Julie-Ann doubted she would be able to sustain the site and bring people on board to help and grow the site, she has persevered. In her husband's words: "There has been an enormous cost to our family time", but nonetheless she has enjoyed the immense support and pride of her husband, parents and two adult children. Interestingly, Julie-Ann never used Facebook before starting LOVE Campbelltown so she has had a steep learning curve herself which she has taken in her stride in her progress towards a stronger community.

Does the nominee have any other significant community contributions/achievements (ie awards, certificates)?	Julie-Ann supports many local groups like Rotary, Lions, Inner Wheel and Kiwanis. She believes in reinvigorating and supporting current organisations and does not believe in reinventing the wheel, undermining or overlapping services. Julie-Ann is a member of the Campbelltown Historical society where she sits on the committee. She has been presented with a number of awards for speaking at various clubs. In addition to her efforts in Campbelltown, Julie-Ann volunteers at the Salvation Army, City DUO program which feeds and serves the homeless in Adelaide and also helps out at the Salvation Army breakfast program for children. She has done this for many years. She has been a Compassion sponsor and supports the work of the Christian Blind Mission and the Fred Hollows Foundation (for 25 years). In her professional life, Julie-Ann works night duties a Paediatric Nurse at the Women's and Children's Hospital and as an Intensive Care Nurse at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. In addition, she shoulders caring responsibilities for her ageing parents.
Photo included?	
1st Nominator	Mr David Desteno 10 Callana Avenue ROSTREVOR SA 5073
2nd Nominator	Ms Edna Bates 4A Tyrone Avenue CAMPBELLTOWN SA 5074

Ms Julie-Ann Bennett

Nominee Name	Ms Julie-Ann Bennett
Nominee Address	Not Provided
Date of Birth	Not Provided
Australian Citizen	Yes
Why do I believe the person should be awarded the SCOTY?	Julie-Ann does such a remarkable job at building and maintaining community spirit through The LOVE Campbelltown page. She is extremely passionate about our wonderful suburbs and provides so much information and raises good ideas and community discussion.
How has this person contributed to the local Community?	Julie-Ann really inspires people to be active in our local community, both in maintaining it by encouraging people to tidy our area and providing a portal for people to join in activities that improve both the appearance and spirit of our area. She works so hard to bring people in Campbelltown together socially as well as for good causes.
Describe how their work has been focused on helping others or making the Community a better place?	I really don't know what more I can say that I haven't above. Our community is just so much richer and better from all the dedication she puts in.
Who has benefited the most from the nominee's contribution and/or services (ie community groups, individuals etc)?	Probably everyone who has got out of their isolation that might have faced without Julie-Ann's positive energy and friendliness.
Has the person overcome particular challenges, personal sacrifices or adversities to mark their achievement? If yes, how?	I am not sure of what her situation is but I believe she works full time so that is pretty remarkable that she puts in so much of herself in her spare time to promoting our community in a huge variety of ways.
Does the nominee have any other significant community contributions/achievements (ie awards, certificates)?	I don't know.
Photo included?	No
1st Nominator	Ms Karyn Taylor 9/14 Ballater Avenue CAMPBELLTOWN SA 5074
2nd Nominator	Not Provided

2019 Nominations
Category – Young Citizen of the Year

Afton Penrith

Nominee Name	Afton Penrith
Nominee Address	3 Campbell Road PARADISE SA 5075
Date of Birth	5/9/2002
Australian Citizen	Yes
Why do I believe the person should be awarded the YCOTY?	While being a highly motivated high achiever at Charles Campbell College. Afton has also undertaken various leadership and business study courses in Sydney and Melbourne. Afton represents her football Club and Charles Campbell sporting teams with pride and leadership skills Afton is also a part of the Port Adelaide Football Clubs. Women's Aboriginal AFL Academy.
How has this person contributed to the local Community?	Afton is a visible role model to other young aboriginal children in and around Campbelltown City Council. Afton is a descendant of the Mamu people from Far North Queensland on her mother's side and Wirdjuri people of Central NSW on her father's side. This has driven Afton to strive to step in the footsteps of her father's first Aboriginal owned irrigated Agricultural Project in Australia. Afton has attended a number of professional developing programs to build her skills so as to be the next Managing Director of this Company.
Describe how their work has been focused on helping others or making the Community a better place?	Afton's passion for the sports field has led her to be a strong participant within the Hope Valley Football Club and the Norwood Football Club and also undertaking a certificate towards Recreational studies within the SAASTA program also playing football at Port Adelaide Football Club. This is often where Afton's team orientated skills, approach and behaviour have shone. Afton's desire to work within a group has seen her develop in role modelling, leadership and confidence to work well within a group environment but also working autonomously when required.
Who has benefited the most from the nominee's contribution and/or services (ie community groups, individuals etc)?	From all of Afton's participation and commitment to her sport and her learning including always engaging in positive interactions with teaching Staff and her peers, will build her into an amazing leader within her own community and her Aboriginal Community who will

	benefit the most. Afton is very personable, able to make difficult decisions, extremely outstanding in building and sustaining relationships with a large diverse group of people.
Has the person overcome particular challenges, personal sacrifices or adversities to mark their achievement? If yes, how?	Afton has had to endure the family moving around. She moved here from Queensland and settled into early high school, only to return to QLD mid year 10, before once again returning to Adelaide and beginning year 11.
Does the nominee have any other significant community contributions/achievements (ie awards, certificates)?	• Currently undertaking Certificate III in Recreational Studies • 2018 – Under 16s Girls Equal Best and Fairest Hope Valley Demons • 2018 – Under 16s Girls Premiers Hope Valley Demons • 2018 – Under 18s Girls Premiers Hope Valley Demons • 2018 – Norwood Football Club – Member – Girls Development Squad • 2019 – Under 18s Girls Hope Valley Demons Squad Member • 2019 – Under 18s Norwood Football Club – Member Development Squad • 2019 – Reserves Women's Norwood Football Club Squad Member • 2019 Under 18's Port Adelaide Indigenous Women's Development Squad Member
Photo included?	
1st Nominator	Mr Rob Yeend 10 Visma Court BANKSIA PARK SA 5091
2nd Nominator	Ms Wendy Noble Charles Campbell College Acting CEO