

ACA Victoria Executive Board Nomination 2025

Nominee: Jennifer Mary Kearney

Service Provider: Kekeco Childcare Pty. Ltd.

Bio:

Jennifer is a Managing Director of Kekeco Childcare Pty Ltd. which operates three regional early learning centres across Mitchell Shire. Since the opening of the first centre in Kilmore in 2007, Jennifer, has been an active member of ACA Victoria. Kekeco Childcare, the business she founded, joined ACA Victoria that same year.

With a corporate background in finance and marketing, Jennifer has brought her expertise to the ACA Victoria committee since 2011, where her contributions have been invaluable. Her leadership and strategic approach continue to enhance the growth and development of the organisation and the services she leads.

Describe your experience in the early childhood education and care sector.

Established an LDC in 2007 - operated that as Approved Provider Rep. Took over ABC Wallan and operated that from 2009- operated 4 OSHC services between the years of 2008-2019. Purchased the Leasehold of Ferguson St, Broadford in 2020. Have been on the ACA Executive since 2008.

Tell us what makes ACA Victoria's mission meaningful to you.

Representing smaller private operators in an industry where there is extensive expansion by larger private operators or publically listed companies- provides a way for all of us to be represented to both state and federal governments.

Describe any Board Leadership experience you have had to date.

I have been Chair of Templestowe Cemetery Trust

I have been a Trust member of Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust and Chair of the Finance Committee of GMCT(government appointed).

I established Tastes of Australia in 1988 and was on that board both as Executive Director and later Chair for about 15 years. I have been on ACA Vic Executive Board since 2008.

Outline any skills, connections, resources, or expertise you can provide to improve the services ACA Victoria offers to its members.

I have practical hands on experience both as an Approved Provider and as a company director over a number of years.

Confirm that you can commit to the time required for meetings and other duties as outlined in the Executive Board Position Description.

I confirm that I have the time to commit to the time required to be a worthwhile and valuable member of the group.

What are your thoughts on the key challenges and opportunities facing the Early Childhood Education and Care sector?

Continued government interventions -both state and federal impact on the stability of the sector.

Indicate how you might use your time on the ACA Victoria's Board to address these challenges and opportunities.

Historically I have had reasonably close working relationships with some of the federal and state politicians- not so much lately.

What are your ideas to enhance ACA Victoria's engagement with its members?

Working together to find out what the members want and devising means by which we are able to communicate solutions quickly.