ACA Victoria Executive Board Nomination 2026

Nominee: Sally Orr

Service Provider: Meraki Early Learning Centres

Bio:

Sally is the Approved Provider of Meraki Early Learning Centre and brings over 25 years of experience in early childhood education. She is a passionate leader who values early learning as the foundation for lifelong success and is committed to creating inclusive, nurturing environments for children and educators.

Advocating for collaborative workplaces where every voice is heard, Sally has a strong passion for coaching and mentoring others and lifelong learning. With a Bachelor of Business in Accounting and current legal studies, she offers strategic insight, practical knowledge, and a heart-led approach—qualities that support strong governance and sector-wide growth.

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

I have been in the sector for almost 30 years, starting as a Work Experience student and now as an Approved Provider. My passion is leadership practices, mentoring new leaders and providing high-quality care.

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

As someone who has dedicated almost two decades of trying to give members a voice, the ACA Victoria mission drives my daily work in the knowledge that the voice of members needs to be represented for a strong and vibrant ECEC sector.

Describe any Board Leadership experience you have had to date.

This was my first role on a board, but I have now been a member for 5 years.

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

My role on the board has evolved over the years and I am happy to step in wherever I am needed, at events, attending forums, learning new skills, helping services with queries, anything really. I am one assignment away from completing my law degree and hope my new advocacy skills will be a great additions to my finance and leadership qualifications I already hold.

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

Yes, I can confirm this. Next year will be a lighter year for me and I look forward to getting even more involved!

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

The challenges are around the ever-changing landscape of laws, regulations, expectations from VECRA and ensuring the team is across these. There are challenges with the quality of education providers which varies the level of skills and expertise in the service but provides an opportunity for growth. Occupancy and over supply is a big issue with no current measures for control on new development sites. Policy changes are always on the agenda as discussion and something that can have a big effect.

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

Advocate and use my voice to ensure we have a seat at as many tables as possible.

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

We would love to see our membership base grow, hear more voices and advocate for the big stuff and the small stuff.