

## EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM (ELP) GRADUATE TESTIMONIALS

"I thoroughly enjoyed every hour of it! I enjoyed the process as much as the result. And of course I got to know so many interesting people from other councils. Wow, what a bunch of personalities! Being a part of such an intellectual powerhouse is a privilege on its own. The culmination of it all, of course, was the presentation at the LGPro conference in February. Thank you for the excellent learning experience LGPro!"

*Yuriy Onyshchuk, Senior Research Analyst, City of Melbourne  
2006 Graduate*

"Since graduating from the Emerging Leaders Program I have gained a very different perspective on Local Government. I now have a 'bigger-picture' view of what we do as an organisation and an industry, rather than just viewing my job as the immediate area I work in. The Program enhanced my interest and skills in developing Councils as an inclusive level of government dedicated to developing truly positive changes in our communities"

*Simon Rose, Manager Aged & Disability Services, Greater Shepparton City Council  
2005 Graduate*

"I found the ELP to be one of the most challenging and enjoyable experiences of my life. It helped me to learn so much more about local government and its high level challenges and opportunities, and to really establish a love for the sector I work in. The Program provided fantastic opportunities to establish networks across the sector with colleagues from a variety of Councils and a range of professions, as well as the opportunity to hear from some terrific speakers and to challenge my assumptions and develop my leadership skills. It also provided the opportunity to see how local government works in a variety of contexts and to hear from some of the most experienced and thought provoking people in Victorian local government. I would recommend the Program to any local government professional who is interested in expanding their knowledge of the sector, or their own leadership skills and abilities."

*Kerryn Stewart-Uden, Organisation Development Coordinator, Bayside City Council  
2005 Graduate*

"Through the ELP, I discovered a lot about myself and my capabilities. When I commenced the ELP I was still very fresh in Local Government and certainly didn't have the level of experience as most others. The Program allowed me to broaden my understanding of issues facing Local Government and in particular allowed me to recognise my strengths and be courageous enough to take on higher responsibilities. However, the most valuable outcome of the Program would have to be the people I have met and the friendships formed"

*Yucel Adas, Manager Traffic & Transport, Moonee Valley City Council  
2004 Graduate*

"From the outset the ELP struck a cord with my personal development needs in enhancing the skills I needed to become a more rounded leader in Local Government. Not only was it a great honour to simply be nominated by my organisation but a real privilege to share the experiences of the program with my colleagues. The core of the program mirrors so many of the personal and professional challenges the leaders of tomorrow will face in Local Government. For myself it was a great opportunity to reaffirm my strengths and weaknesses as a leader and how these attributes affect my leadership style. The program also gave me great confidence in the skills I possess now and how they compliment a career in Local Government".

*Simon O'Callaghan, Economic Development Officer, Yarra Ranges Shire Council  
2004 Graduate*

**Feel free to contact these and other graduates to discuss their experience of the Program.**

**For more information including contact details, please visit:**

<http://www.lgpro.com/ELP/ELPGradPeers/>