

BUSINESS PROFILE - CAROL HANLON

Carol Hanlon's diverse small business experience has qualified her well for the role of as Founding Manager and Facilitator at the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (BEC), Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre of Western Australia Inc. (TCFWA) and the designede fashion incubator.

Having been on both sides of the small business fence, Ms Hanlon is aware of the pitfalls of going into business and offers a blend of solid business knowledge with support from the heart.

Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc (BEC) was established in 1994 and is part of a network of 110 Business Enterprise Centres across Australia who provides guidance and support to new and existing businesses. Belmont BEC is a non-profit community based organisation and in 2004 and 2008 Carol was announced the Best National BEC Manager in Australia a prestigious award voted from amongst her peers.

Ms Hanlon's small business background includes fashion design, clothing manufacturing, wholesale, retail and export for over twenty years on the east coast of Australia. In her previous life as a small business owner, Ms Hanlon was responsible for the design, production, direction and staging of her own fashion label - which received international acclaim. The fashion studio won the Geelong Business Excellence Award for Manufacturing - under 20 employees, in 1986.

Ms Hanlon held the position of District Governor 1985-1986 for an International Service Club on the east coast of Australia and in this role assisted with projects for the speech and hearing impaired and national projects that highlighted the community service work of young women across Australia. Carol has enthusiasm, passion and commitment for all projects and roles that she undertakes.

Substantial funds have been raised for charity through the Carol Hanlon theatrical fashion shows. Ms Hanlon has always been a strong community leader, serving on numerous Advisory Committees including restructuring of TAFE courses, tourism and regional economic development. Carol has received extensive community and business recognition for over 25 years and in 2006 Carol was a nominee of the Western Australian Citizen of the Year Awards – Industry and Commerce category and during 2007 WA Week was recognised as one of WA's 100 Champions by the City of Perth.

Community based projects have included the creation of the Belmont Clothes Library – established in 1996, the first of its kind in Western Australia. The Clothes Library operates the same way as a book lending library. Men & women's clothing & accessories are loaned to unemployed people to wear at job interviews. The concept was acknowledged internationally as being beneficial to the self esteem of unemployed people & numerous Libraries opened throughout Australia based on the Belmont model established by Carol.

Another community based project instigated by Ms Hanlon as a volunteer Manager is the Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre of Western Australia Inc. (TCFWA) – established in 1998, the first of its kind in Australia. TCF WA assists persons in the textile, clothing, footwear and leather industries in W.A. with a focus on fashion and in particular micro small business operators. Special projects include trade missions at Australian Fashion Week; Fashion Exposed, Sydney & Melbourne, Singapore Fashion Week & World Boutique Hong Kong Fashion Week.

During 2004-2006 Carol coordinated the TCF Australia uncovered project providing business skills to creative women in regional and isolated Australia. Carol is now working towards establishing an Indigenous Textile Clothing Fashion Industry (ITCF). Indigenous Modeling Training & Grooming projects with high school students are other projects instigated by Carol when funds become available.

TCFWA was successful in gaining support from the Australian Government Building Entrepreneurial Small Business program from 2006 to 2009 to extend its TCF & fashion small business support services nationally with business skill workshops and business mentoring to thousands of fashion designers across Australia with a focus on young, multicultural and indigenous designers and creative industry small businesses.

Designede Fashion Incubator was another volunteer community project developed by Carol, where new emerging fashion designers had opportunities to showcase their fashion designs to the public and gain experience and valuable market research. With over 70 designers on display, Designede Fashion Incubator is now expanding its reach with building emerging designers online shopping sites through the extensive designede fashion incubator web site and provision of ecommerce mentoring and communication links.

Multicultural Business Support Services is another project established by Ms Hanlon in 1998 where specialized support and workshops were developed covering topics including Business workshops for Muslim Women, Understanding Aboriginal Culture and during 2008 Carol developed the Multicultural Women's Sewing Project to assist CaLD women starting a fashion business in Perth.

In 2007 Carol designed and managed the community collection across Western Australia of 165 sewing machines and over 300 cartons of donated textiles and sewing items to equip 110 community centres in regional Philippines to help women start a small sewing business in Ormoc, Leyte Province, Philippines. In 2008, TCF Ormoc now represents 21 Community Livelihood Centres established with over 130 women and men that are developing their new business opportunities towards economic independence.

Other past projects have included specialised business workshops, numerous large scale Fashion Spectaculars at the annual Perth Royal Show during 1999-2002 and the staging of the designede – TCF Australia uncovered trade exhibition bringing international buyers and investors to Perth Western Australia in 2003.

Carol is a past Board Member, BEC Australia; National President of Australasian Institute of Enterprise Facilitators; President Belmont Business & Professional Women's Club (BPW); elected local Government Councillor; Graduate of the Australia Institute of Company Directors; Convenor 2007 National Small Business Development Conference and Convenor International Fashion Incubator Conference 2011.

Another business project includes WA Racing Industry Project assisting with business development and skills within the horse racing industry, an area that Carol has 20 years 'hands on' experience with racing stables in Victoria and the establishment of the TCF Global network of linking small independent fashion designers around the world with likeminded groups.

Carol Hanlon – Background, Awards & Recognition, Community Projects, Appointments, Memberships

Background 1973-1993

Fashion Designer/Small Business Owner, Geelong Victoria 1973 – 1993
Business Manager / Racing Stables, Geelong Victoria 1974 – 1993
President & Member Quota Club of South Barwon, Geelong Victoria 1983-1993
(focus on speech, hearing impaired community projects)
District Governor Quota International Inc., Victoria 1985 – 1986
Victorian Community of Community Service Clubs – Council Member, 1987
Geelong Small Business Award – Manufacturing Category under 20 employees – 1986
Major Fashion Show Events, Geelong, Melbourne, Sydney, 1978 – 1992
National Convenor, Quota International Australian Bicentennial Young Women's Community Service Award 1986-1988
TCF Awareness Week, Geelong Victoria – Project Manager, Coordinator - 1993
Numerous Community Awards, Certificates & Recognition - Quota, Zonta, Jaycees, Australian Bicentennial - 1978-1993
Relocated to Western Australia 1993

Local Community Projects & Activities, 1994 to current – established & coordinated by Carol Hanlon

Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc – assisting people to start a business or grow an existing business - 1994 to current
Belmont Small Business Awards – to provide recognition for small business excellence & achievement - 1994 to current
International Trade Display Centre – research establishment of trade display centre, Business Park, Perth Airport 1994-1995
Belmont Business Residential Survey – researching the establishment of a business enterprise residential zone - 1995
Belmont Clothes Library – a free lending library of garments for unemployed to attend job interviews - 1996 to current
Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre of WA Inc (TCFWA) – industry assoc. assisting TCFL industry - 1998 to current
Designedge Trade Exhibition – staging a trade exhibition and bringing in international buyers 2003
Designedge fashion Incubator – showcase of emerging designers to showcase their talent & designs - 2005 to current
City of Opportunity Perth Royal Show Fashion Parades – showcase emerging talents designers & models – 1999 to 2002
Belmont Business Sundowners– local business networking events 2000 - 2007
WA Youth Showcase – highlighting the skills and talents of young entrepreneurs at major public events - 2000 to 2002
Business Workshops for Youth – provide information & inspiration to students to consider self employment – 1998 to current
Designedge Innovation festival – workshops, events, displays, showing inventors, innovation & technology - 2005 to current
Australian Designer Showcase – assist designers to showcase their designs at national & international events 1998 to current
Indigenous Modelling Training & Grooming projects – develop skills and talents of local indigenous youth - 2000 to current
Small Business Centre Belmont – assisting people to start a business or develop an existing business – 2005 to current
Tsunami Sri Lanka Collection – coordination two containers of donated household items for Sri Lanka – 2005
Multicultural Business Support Services – providing specialised support, business workshops, mentoring - 1998 to current
Women in Business Mentoring – business mentoring services at Everywoman Expo 2006 to current
TCFWA Buying Missions – assisting small business to visit Hong Kong trade exhibitions 2004 to current
Indigenous Textile Fashion Industry projects – assisting to develop an indigenous textile fashion industry 2004 to current
Creative Women Regional & Isolated Australia project – delivering business workshops, mentoring, forums 2004 to 2006
Belmont Business Mentor Program – connecting local businesses and mentors 2005-2006
TCF Australia Business Skills project – delivering business workshops, mentoring, forums 2006 – 2007
Belmont Business Development Project – local small business skills analysis project 2006
Designedge Training & Mentoring project – assists fashion & jewellery designers re business and e-commerce 2007-2008
Multicultural Women's Sewing Project – assisting women to start a home based sewing business - 2007 to current
TCF Global – creating international networks for emerging fashion designers & village communities - 2007 to current
TCF Global Community Sewing Project, Ormoc Philippines – collection donated sewing equipment for community centres 2007 to current
WA Racing Industry Business Development Project – assisting local racing Industry business mentoring, workshops & forums – 2007-2008
Past National Board Member, BEC Australia Inc – representing 110 small business assistance centre's across Australia 2005-2009
Conference Convenor, National Small Business Development Conference, Perth, October 2007

Community Awards & Recognition 1994 to current - awarded to Carol Hanlon & community projects

Department of Commerce & Trade – Certificate of Recognition, 1994
Commonwealth Government, Federal Trade Minister, Bob McMullen, Certificate Export Achievement, 1995
Telstra Business Women's Award – Public Sector, Finalist, 1998
Community Services Industry Awards – Focus on Innovation, Belmont Clothes Library Finalist, 1998
City of Belmont Opportunity Award – Contribution to Small Business, Belmont BEC, 1999
Australian Micro Small Business Awards - Certificate of Recognition, 2000
National Community Link Volunteer Awards – Certificate of Commendation, 2001
Commonwealth Government, Small Business Minister, Joe Hockey – Certificate TCF Australia Uncovered Project, 2004
WA Small Business Centres, WA Small Business Minister, Bob Kucera, - Certificate 10 years of service to Small Business, 2004
Best National Business Enterprise Centre Manager Award – 2004
Commonwealth Government, Small Business Minister, Fran Bailey – Certificate TCF Australia Business Skills Project, 2006
WA Citizen of Year Awards – Commerce & Industry Category, Nominee, 2006
Commonwealth Government, Small Business Minister, Fran Bailey - Certificate Designedge Training & Mentoring Project, 2007
Belmont Business & Professional Women's Club – Most Inspirational Member Nomination, 2007
'100 Champions of WA' WA Week – City of Perth, 2007
The Australian Taxation Office Award for Best Business Enterprise Centre Manager (BEC) in Australia, 2008
City of Perth Convention Scholarship Award – to attend 2nd International Fashion Incubator Conference, Atlanta USA. Nov 2009

Current Appointments, Memberships

National President, Australasian Institute Enterprise Facilitators – promoting professional standards in business counseling
Graduate Australian Institute of Company Directors – promoting professional standards in governance, business and organizations
President, Belmont Business & Professional Women's Club – enhancing the status & support to women locally & internationally
Asia Pacific Business Facilitation Accreditation (APEC) – internationally accredited small business counsellor
WA Committee, Children First Foundation – assisting expansion of Moira Kelly' medical evacuation program into Western Australia
Councillor City of Belmont – elected member local government Councillor, October 2007
Conference Convenor – 3rd International Fashion Incubator Conference, 2011