

# Finding the best governance structure for Art Gallery of Ballarat

## > THE CONTEXT

The Art Gallery of Ballarat, the oldest regional gallery in Australia, and one of the largest, is respected State-wide and nationally, and is a source of pride for the people of Ballarat. The Gallery has two associated entities – the Ballarat Fine Art Public Gallery Association and The Trustee for Art Gallery Ballarat Foundation – the former a supporters' organisation and the latter a vehicle for securing philanthropic support

#### > THE BRIEF

Positive Solutions was engaged to assist the Art Gallery of Ballarat and the City of Ballarat with advice on the most effective future governance arrangements for the Gallery and its associated entities – the Foundation and the Association, particularly in relation to fundraising and philanthropic efforts.

### SEE ALSO:

- > Rockhampton Art Gallery Governance Review
- City of Sydney Recital Hall, Review of Future Management and Governance Models
- > Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre Governance Review
- > Governance Options for Southbank Arts Precinct, Melbourne
- > Arts Queensland Governance Reviews

## > OUR APPROACH

The review focused on the rationale of the current structure of entities; their strategic direction, reporting and accountability arrangements; the effectiveness of current operations; the composition and roles of the Gallery Board, Foundation Trust and Association Committee; and the role and activities of each entity in fundraising and philanthropy. Through benchmarking and discussion with key stakeholders we advised on future options and a recommended approach to roles and structure.

## > THE RESULTS

Positive Solutions presented a report to the Art Gallery of Ballarat providing an overview of governance models at other galleries; a brief summary of governance arrangements currently at Art Gallery of Ballarat; and options for future governance arrangements – with the objective of increasing alignment and harmonious working between the Gallery entities, reducing duplication of effort, and strengthening philanthropic support for the Gallery.

The report was followed by a workshop with the Governance Review Committee to confirm the future structure of the Gallery and its associated entities. The Gallery is now pursuing the preferred option which was agreed.

