

MEDIA RELEASE

Alexandrina Council to lease portion of Goolwa Aquatic Building to CLLMM Research Centre

13 December 2023

Alexandrina Council is pleased to announce that the top storey of the Goolwa Aquatic Building will be leased to the Goyder Institute for Water Research to use as office and community engagement space for the recently established Coorong, Lower Lakes, and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Research Centre.

The Goyder Institute for Water Research will receive \$8 million from the Australian Government over 4 years from 2022-26 to work with communities to investigate the impacts of climate change on the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) region. The CLLMM Research Centre will occupy the site for the duration of the funding.

“Alexandrina Council is delighted to be involved in this research program which seeks to develop critical knowledge to support the health of the nationally and internationally significant Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth region,” Chief Executive Officer Nigel Morris said.

“Business Alexandrina has already been supporting this key initiative through our Business Hub in Goolwa, providing a coworking space as a launch pad for the Centre and its four-year program.

“In November 2023, CLLMM used the Hub to engage with the community, showcasing its versatility beyond a workspace.

“A special event, 'Creating Shared Knowledge - Where Our Waters and Our People Meet,' invited local businesses to deepen connections and set the foundation for the CLLMM Research Centre's work.

“Our community is keenly interested in seeing the upper storey space in the Goolwa Aquatic Building occupied with a suitable tenant.

“We believe having a Research Centre focussed on the future health of the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth and strategically located here in Goolwa along the majestic River Murray is a game-changer for our region. This initiative is not just a research project; it's shining a spotlight on our community's resilience and commitment to addressing the impacts of climate change.

“We look forward to partnering with the CLLMM Research Centre as it works to develop relationships with First Nations, communities and industries to harness ideas to improve management of this ecologically important area.”

Goyder Institute Director Dr Alec Rolston said: “We are delighted to be working with Alexandrina Council for our new location to support our critical research into the needs of the CLLMM region. Our aim is to provide an evidence-base for future management decisions in the region and the broader Murray-Darling Basin.

“While our four locally-based staff members will be based at the Research Centre in Goolwa, our work will include reaching out to communities throughout the wider region.

“The space will be utilised as a hot-desking space for visiting researchers, but also home to an augmented reality experience which will showcase the values of the region in a new and exciting way, as well as providing community space for engagement activities. It will serve as a base for knowledge exchange and will showcase the research in our region.

We are very much looking forward to working with communities to inform management decision making in the region.”

The CLLMM Research Centre will be hosting a public launch in early February. In addition, the community is invited to have their say in future research priorities and engagement activities.

For further information and to complete the survey, visit www.clmmresearchcentre.org.

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About the Goyder Institute:

The Goyder Institute for Water Research is a collaborative research partnership between the South Australian Government through the Department for Environment and Water, CSIRO, Flinders University, the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia.

Further information on the Goyder Institute can be found at www.goyderinstitute.org