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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Date of Release: 9 September 2015

Approved by: Cr Bill West, Chair, Centroc, mayor of Cowra Shire Council

Centroc recognised for excellence in Risk Management



Pictured are the Centroc WHS/Risk Management Group at their recent meeting. front row: left to right: Frances Perry, Charmaine Bennett, Paul Devery, Amy Whalan, John Starr. back row, left to right: Jennie Robson, David King, Sally Hall, Gerard Dunn, Nick Tedeschi, David Young, Michael Ridge, Syed Ali, Harvey Nicholson and Carolyn Griffin.

At the recent Statewide Mutual Risk Management Conference in August, Centroc received a commendation award for Excellence in Risk Management for its Work Health & Safety Induction Program. The Statewide Mutual Risk Management Excellence Awards (RMEA) recognise NSW councils who implement superior risk management programs using the principles of identification, evaluation, control and measure.

The Centroc Work Health & Safety (WHS) Induction Program has been designed to enable contractors working within the Centroc region to undertake a WHS Induction once and be able to work at any participating Council without the need to re-do the induction.

“Many of our contractors work in multiple towns within the Central NSW region, so the induction card is a great way of saving time and money for both Council and the contractors, while still placing safety as our first priority.” said Charmaine Bennett, Chair of the Centroc WHS/Risk Management Group.



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The induction program addresses important requirements of the NSW Work Health & Safety Act 2011 and its associated regulation, and promotes a safe work environment and eliminates risks whilst at council worksites.

It is hoped that by the end of June 2016 all contractors working for member Councils will hold a Centroc Induction card.

All Centroc member councils have been involved in the development of the program, including Bathurst Regional Council, Blayney Shire Council, Boorowa Council, Cabonne Council, Central Tablelands County Council, Cowra Shire Council, Forbes Shire Council, Lachlan Shire Council, Lithgow City Council, Mid-Western Regional Council, Oberon Council, Orange City Council, Parkes Shire Council, Upper Lachlan Council, Weddin Shire Council, and Young Shire Council, as well as input from Wellington Council.

Centroc also acknowledges Hunter Council's initiative and the initial work involved in the development of the Local Government Work Health and Safety Handbook.

"Operational efficiency is a priority for Centroc members and it's very rewarding for our organisation to be recognised for this program." said Cr Bill West, Chair of Centroc.

For more information on the program can be found on the Centroc website <http://www.centroc.com.au/centroc-whs-induction-program/about-the-program/> or contact Centroc's Energy and Training Program Manager, Kate Barker on 0428 604 513 or kate.barker@centroc.com.au

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For media enquiry: Contact Jenny Bennett, Executive Officer, Central NSW Councils 0428 690 935