

International Coach Federation Australasia Inc Incorporated on 10 April 2000



Maria Newport ACC Nominated for President Elect

Maria Newport ACC has accepted a nomination for the position of President Elect. If elected, Maria will hold this position from the 2018 AGM as President Elect for 2018/2019, President for 2019/2020 and Immediate Past President for 2020/2021.

Nominated By: Tony Draper MCC
Seconded By: Melinda Horton ACC

Maria, Tony and Melinda are financial ICF members.

Maria offers the following information to support this nomination.

An overview of your coaching work explaining how it fits into your overall professional practice and the coaching niche within which you work.

I am the Managing Principal of Newport O'Connor, an organisational coaching and consulting firm based in Sydney, and I have almost 20 years professional coaching experience. I work leaders and high potentials in global organisations to increase self-awareness, self-management, confidence, personal brand and accelerate their professional development in line with organizational objectives. I also advise clients on talent strategy, workforce planning and management issues; facilitate leadership and career development workshops; and coach/mediate conflict and disputes in the workplace.

What is your professional background and experience outside Coaching? Describe your key responsibilities and achievements in each role? How will you apply this experience in the Board position you are seeking?

Prior to operating my own business, I worked for global HR and recruitment consultancies. At the last consulting firm, I was the Regional Coaching Lead (Australasia) and oversaw the Coaching Community of Practice in Australia. I also sold and delivered a range of talent management solutions as a Principal Consultant, managed client relationships as an Account Director and a team of sales professionals as Sales Lead (NSW). I hope to use my commercial business and leadership experience to provide input into the strategic direction of ICF Australasia for all members (e.g. small businesses through to large corporates). I was previously an insurance lawyer in the UK and Australia, so I have a good general understanding of risk and legal issues. I have corporate governance experience (e.g., on Boards/Management Committees such as Coeliac NSW & ACT, Playgroup NSW, Inc., Women Lawyers Association of NSW) and I am a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. I also have experience living and working abroad (UK & US) and work with clients in South-East Asia, which might be useful when liaising with other ICF chapters.

What is your vision for ICF Australasia, and how do you see your contribution to this in the position for which you are nominating?

My vision is that more coaches understand the significance of the ICF Australasia as a local chapter of ICF globally and are attracted to join the organisation domestically in line with our strategic pillars e.g. coaching excellence, member engagement and external stakeholder engagement. I believe my contribution will be working with the rest of the Board to ensure the ICF Australasia Chapter is able to serve and support its members as well as possible with the resources available. In exchange for them having the professional benefits of becoming accredited and developing themselves, there is an opportunity for them to give back to their professional community whilst doing so.

What is your prior involvement with the ICF Australasia coaching community at local level, to date?

I have been Board Member and Secretary of ICF Australasia for the past 2 years and attend local ICF NSW events, as I can, and am well networked in the local coaching community.

What do you see as your role as a team member of the ICF Australasia Board?

Contributing to the growth and awareness of the organisation through my network of members and external stakeholders and using my experience to date to ensure the continued success and viability of ICF Australasia.

What 'gift' (strengths/talents) will you bring to the team?

A positive and pragmatic mindset and a collaborative approach to problem solving.

What other comments would you like to provide to support your nomination for this position?

I'm looking forward to building on the great work that has been done to date by the Board and giving back to my professional community whilst developing myself further at the same time — which is what we all do when we coach!