

Media Release

The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC

Minister for Agriculture

Minister for Regional Development

Deputy Leader of the Government
in the Legislative Council

Victorian
Labor

**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Monday, 12 November 2018

DELIVERING FOR VICTORIA'S COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Only a re-elected Andrews Labor Government will deliver for the Country Women's Association (CWA), ensuring the organisation can continue its work in supporting women across rural Victoria.

Minister for Agriculture and Regional Development Jaala Pulford today announced that Labor will provide \$500,000 for the CWA to continue its work supporting women and communities through a network that stretches around the world.

Labor will ensure the CWA has the support they need with \$100,000 to stage the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) Triennial Conference in Melbourne in 2019 – highly regarded as the largest international conference from rural women.

The ACWW has a membership of nine million through around 400 Member Societies in over 70 countries. Working in partnership with its members worldwide, ACWW offers mutual support, friendship and practical assistance.

Labor will provide \$100,000 each year for four years to the CWA to allow the organisation to continue the important work it already does – which most recently included supporting drought-affected communities.

The Andrews Labor Government re-established the Rural Women's Network in 2017 after it was inexplicably cut by the former Liberal and National Government, and has injected \$1.7 million into the network to support Victoria's rural women with information, services and leadership opportunities.

The CWA is being consulted on family violence reforms and will be consulted on any mental health reforms that result from the Royal Commission announced by Labor last month.

The Labor Government has invested a record \$2.6 billion – more than any other state or territory – to help Victorian women live free from family violence.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture and Regional Development Jaala Pulford

"It is only Labor that is delivering for women across Victoria, and rural communities can be assured we will keep delivering what our Country Women's Association needs to grow and thrive."

"Rural women aren't just the backbone of farming communities, they are ideas generators. The passion and drive of our rural women to succeed as leaders is second to none."

Quote attributable to Minister for Women Natalie Hutchins

"No individual, organisation or government can prevent family violence alone – it is everybody's responsibility and that's why we're working with organisations like the County Women's Association to get this done."

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