



Nomination for Position on National Committee

(Nominations from new members and from all states and territories are encouraged)

I, Natalie Wade

.....
(full name)

of [redacted] (Not for publication)

.....
(address)

Phone/e-mail [redacted] (Not for publication)/

.....
(contact details)

nominate for the position of: Vice President

.....
(President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Ordinary Member)

If Ordinary Member, which subcommittee:

of the National Committee of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights Incorporated.

15 April 2019

.....
Signed by nominator (may be nominee)

.....
Date

Bio:

I was admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of South Australia in 2013. I have practiced as an in-house solicitor for the Department of Human Services since my admission. In 2015-16 I was seconded to the South Australian Child Protection Systems Royal Commission as a solicitor. During my time at the Royal Commission I undertook complex legal work, with a particular focus on the experience of children with disabilities in state care. I have an established background in disability rights law and human rights advocacy with publications in respected law journals on the participation of people with communication disabilities in South Australian and Federal Courts. In 2016, I was awarded South Australian Young Lawyer of the Year and Australian Young Lawyer of the Year for my work in disability rights law and contribution to the Child Protection Systems Royal Commission.

Reasons for nominating:

I have been a member of ALHR since 2013 and during that time I have held a number of leadership positions from South Australian Convenor, to Acting Vice President. One of my key contributions as a leader within ALHR was establishing the Disability Rights Subcommittee in 2015. I was the Chair of the Subcommittee until 2017, and have again returned to that role in 2019. Before establishing the Disability Rights Subcommittee, ALHR had no voice for the rights of people with disability. Since then, we have become a respected and known advocate for the international human rights of all Australians with disability. ALHR has been active in the media on disability rights issues, including being a strong advocate for the Royal Commission into violence, neglect, abuse and exploitation of people with disability. The announcement of that Royal Commission in April 2019 has seen ALHR further our advocacy to ensure that the Terms of Reference are consistent with international human rights law. ALHR's submissions and contributions to major inquiries has been key to informing the conversation on what are the international human rights of people with disability and how should they be promoted and protected. Through my leadership the Disability Rights Subcommittee has been a key part of ALHR's organisational voice and advocacy.

My years of holding senior leadership roles within ALHR ensure that I have a clear focus on the strategic and business goals of ALHR as an organisation. Not only do I have clear knowledge of human rights law, I also have outstanding experience in leading campaigns and driving strategic vision to ensure the organisation is sustainable and produces best results. In my view, these are core skills for the Vice President when responsible for contributing to the executive work of ALHR. As Vice President, I will bring an experienced understanding to ensuring our advocacy reaches the greatest audience and that our subject matter experts are nurtured in their roles to deliver the best outcomes for ALHR. As a founding Subcommittee Chair, I am aware of what is needed to motivate subject matter experts and how to get advocacy from subcommittees to drive ALHR's agenda. I am keen to contribute this unique understanding to grow ALHR's advocacy platform and inform our strategic agenda.

During my time as Disability Rights Subcommittee Chair and Acting Vice President I have:

- Managed membership growth and responded to membership queries
- Planned strategic advocacy to address contemporary issues

- Ran events to generate membership and provide key advocacy on issues
- Engaged with external stakeholders to support ALHR's mission and vision
- Sought to resolve critical IT issues in a time sensitive manner
- Conducted written and oral media work on disability rights topics, ensuring consistency with ALHR's messaging and tone
- Worked with the National Committee to develop a strategic agenda and move through our day-to-day work
- Assisted subcommittee chairs to induct into their new role and develop the engagement strategies of their membership

If elected to the position of ALHR Vice President I will be focus on:

- Continuing to develop a sustainable strategic plan for ALHR.
- Evaluating the existing structure of subcommittees to maximize advocacy work, ensure we attract leading lawyers in the field and create sustainable work environments for subcommittee chairs.
- Better engagement of other human rights organisations so that we can work together on issues to maximize input and advocacy.
- Ensuring efficient and timely approval processes for current human rights issues as they arise.
- Develop ways to generate funding outside of membership fees to ensure ALHR can continue to engage professional services such as media and accounting services.
- Explore options to overhaul the ALHR website and IT system to ensure it is contemporary and offers the best interface between the membership and organization.

I would welcome the opportunity to be appointed as Vice President of ALHR. I am passionate about the organization and positive about the impact we can have on the human rights conversation in Australia. There has never been a more important time to have legal commentary as part of that conversation, and ensuring the human rights of all people are front and centre of laws, public policy and media coverage is key. I believe my legal skills and experience as a human rights advocate will put ALHR in a strong position when developing organization strategies and advocacy campaigns.

I would be honoured for the ALHR membership and National Committee to elect me as Vice President to continue to grow ALHR as a strong human rights organization for the rights of all people in Australia.

If you have any queries about the roles and responsibilities of office bearers and committee members, contact the current ALHR executive on

secretary@alhr.org.au

Completed Nominations must be delivered to:

By post:

Secretary, ALHR
PO Box A147
Sydney South
NSW 1235

By e-mail
(as a pdf):

secretary@alhr.org.au