

The NCCA is **18 Christian Churches** that each bring a widely varied history of place, experience, and theology, but we share a common faith and confession in the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour. We also share a common future as we are convinced that the future of Christians in Australia lies together, not in separation.

The NCCA was established in 1994 with 7 objects and these inform the 4 strategic objectives below.
[see also Strategic Linkages page]

This **Plan On A Page** helps us clearly identify the linkages between our strategic objectives & priority focus areas, and lays out a high-level action agenda to achieve our strategic goals over the next three years.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	Encouraging relationships <i>Hebrews 10:24-25</i>	Connection and fellowship <i>Matthew 18:20</i>	Witnessing together <i>Acts 1:8</i>	Enabling and resourcing <i>2 Corinthians 9:8</i>
PRIORITY FOCUS AREAS	A COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT	B SUPPORT & PARTICIPATION	C ECUMENICAL ADVOCACY	D COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT
	<p>BUILDING STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS WITH MEMBERS, KEY PARTNERS & THE PUBLIC</p> <p>FOCUS AREAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Assisting our Churches to celebrate their ecumenical engagement and encourage their members to engage in ecumenical activities at local, regional and national and international levels B. Assisting to cultivate a 'civilisation of love' in a culture where media thrives on cultivating extreme & violent voices 	<p>COORDINATING MEMBER NETWORKS FOR MUTUAL SUPPORT & PARTICIPATION</p> <p>FOCUS AREAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Facilitating ecumenical celebration, dialogue & action at the local, regional, national and international levels B. Connecting networks of expertise & experience C. Applying theology & spirituality for the renewal of our Churches in Australia post-Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and supporting Members to respond D. Supporting interfaith relations & action 	<p>BEING A PROPHETIC VOICE IN SOCIETY AND TO ONE ANOTHER</p> <p>FOCUS AREAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Giving strength to the voice of our First Peoples B. Working with Members to enable the voice from the margins to be heard C. Facilitating discernment on shared issues of concern & public messages D. Clarity over shared issues for developing joint policy & advocacy 	<p>ENSURING A STRONG, SUSTAINABLE & RELEVANT ORGANISATION</p> <p>FOCUS AREAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Good governance under the new organisational structure B. Accountability and clear decision-making C. Organisational capacity D. Financial prudence
GOALS & OUTCOMES	<p>A more engaged, diverse & active membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wider ecumenical circle, engaging new people & communities • Increased, creative use of technology for outreach & engagement • Recognised source of vibrant, relevant & topical discussions on matters the Churches are facing • Active commitment to diversity & inclusion of all Member churches 	<p>More opportunities for Member Churches to engage & participate in the work of the NCCA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New and refreshed member and practitioner networks to share experience, resources & expertise • Greater formal engagement with State-based Ecumenical Councils • More diverse representation on the Council (including indigenous, youth, rural/remote, CALD) • Stronger partnerships with international ecumenical movements 	<p>A collective ecumenical voice contributing to policy & societal discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused indigenous ecumenical advocacy • A NCCA policy platform on shared issues • Greater influence on Government policy • Improved reputation of Churches in the wider community 	<p>Sustained member confidence in the value of NCCA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A balanced budget with assured & diverse income streams • A secretariat that is suitably resourced to deliver on strategy & action plans, & engaged staff who are supported & empowered to enable others • An integrated work program that is resourced & responsive to Members • A contemporary resourcing model that enables a mix of Member & non-Member contributions
ACTION PROGRAM	<p>Within 12 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focus efforts on dialogue through intentional visits by General Secretary, President & Board with members 2. Develop an intentional communication strategy to encourage engagement of members 3. Develop and implement an integrated program of gatherings, including Assemblies, roundtables and consultations for leaders as well as practitioners <p>Within 3 years</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Implement a program to support churches/groups to lead roundtables and become Commission/ Network members 	<p>Within 12 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convene twice-yearly meetings with State Councils 2. Conduct a strategic review of the Safe Church program to determine investment & value proposition for Members post-Royal Commission 3. Engage Faith & Unity Commission in a 3-year work plan that reflects its Terms of Reference & identifies key tasks such as developing a Christian and ecumenical theology for Churches responding to recommendations of the Royal Commission <p>Within 3 years</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Establish a triennial Assembly devoted to exploring Members' international ecumenical endeavours 5. Investigate the creation of an online hub for Members to connect & share biblical & devotional resources to support spiritual life 6. Develop support resources including resources for the resilience of spiritual practice of listening to the Holy Spirit in challenging times for our mission 7. Implement a leadership & participation pathway for under-represented groups 	<p>Within 12 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support First Peoples through affirmation of the Statement from the Heart 2. Arrange an annual visit for NCCA Member delegation to Parliament 3. Facilitate a shared issues dialogue to scope a NCCA policy position & highlight 2-3 themes for elaboration into policy statements 4. Establish/strengthen priority Taskforces to generate policy statements & propose program actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – First Peoples Taskforce – Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce <p>Within 3 years</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Expand the policy Taskforces to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Modern slavery – Family violence – Climate justice 	<p>Within 12 months</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruit a permanent General Secretary/ Executive Officer 2. Develop a plan of action for engaging First Peoples with the Board and life of NCCA 3. Review and implement workplans for core work areas with relevant resourcing and measurable outcomes <p>Within 3 years</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Investigate options to diversify NCCA income and resourcing sources

The Constitution of the NCCA defines the Objects and Purposes of the Council. These seven objects have been grouped into a connected set of four strategic objectives to guide the direction and development of NCCA. In turn, the Roadmap identifies four priority areas as the strategic focus and guided work program for the NCCA over the next 3 years.

