

The APEN Board is seeking a motivated Tasmanian Member to nominate as the Tasmanian Regional Coordinator.

What does an APEN Regional Coordinator do?

As a member of the Regional Activities Committee (RAC), our purpose is to

- Sustain a strong network across Australia and New Zealand by connecting members to each other and to the organisation through various mechanisms.
- Create opportunities for members to interact online and/or face-to-face through sharing and promoting extension knowledge and skills.
- Support APEN's strategy by ensuring the Board is kept informed of regional issues.

How does the RAC operate?

As a team, we

- meet online at least six times a year and, providing there are resources, attend one face-to-face meeting each year.
- organise one face to face or virtual (that maybe an *APEN Conversations*) event per year for members in our region. Organise/host one face to face or virtual event for members in your region/year. This can be an APEN Conversations virtual event.
- promote and participate in APEN events e.g. Conference, Webinars, ExtensionChat.
- provide one 600-word article/year on a subject of their choice to ExtensionNet.

APEN recognises that the efforts of RCs wax and wane according to what else is going on in their lives, both personally and professionally. Through these responsibilities, RCs are expected to contribute a minimum of 4 volunteer hours a month.

Why do Regional Coordinators, put up their hands to be a Regional Coordinator”?

“To dream, design and plan” a place in the APEN organisation where rural, regional and remote communities work together to build and strengthen partnerships, networks and social coalitions to ensure that government, industry, economic, education, health and related agencies are well informed about the diverse views and circumstances of extensionists when forming or revising policies.

The Regional Coordinator ‘reward’

- Recognition within the industry
- Networking with like-minded extension professionals
- Challenging ourselves as leaders, or keep our experience up as leaders
- Developing our team-skills to work toward a common goal
- Wanting to increase the capacity of extension professionals
- Believing extension will lead to practice change which helps rural communities etc.
- We want to increase the capacity of extension professionals
- We believe extension will lead to practice change which helps rural communities etc.
- Opportunity to give back to a community/network that helped develop my skills and career in extension

To quote a current Regional Coordinator *“It is great being able to connect with the other RCs across Australia & NZ, knowing who they really are and what they do, hearing each other’s perspectives, how they approach things and sharing the advice – everyone is spread out doing different things, but we come together as a team every couple of months which unites us in supporting APEN’s members.”*