



Geraldton Voluntary Tour Guides Association Inc.

PO Box 1378
GERALDTON WA 6531
ABN: 42 878 402 603

24th August 2023

Mr Ross McKim
Chief Executive Officer
City of Greater Geraldton
PO Box 101
Geraldton WA 6531

Dear Ross, Mayor Shane Van Styn and Councillors

Re: Proposed Edith Cowan Memorial Statue in Geraldton

The Geraldton Voluntary Tour Guides are interested in a proposal, as a community project, for a Memorial Statue of EDITH DIRCKSEY COWAN to be located in front of the Geraldton Court House at the Edith Cowan Park.

A statue of one of our female pioneers would be fitting to have her claimed as our own. She was the first woman to be elected to State Parliament who spent her early days in Geraldton. She has a significant past history in advocating for the freedom of women and for the welfare of children.

I have attached the proposal from Smith Sculptors who have prepared a statue to be installed at Anzac House in Perth opposite Government House and they are also preparing one to be installed in Geraldton connecting her amazing achievements which spread far and wide.

A letter of support has been received from Honorable Sue Ellery MLC (Minister for Women's Interests) who said that recognition of women and their significant contribution to Western Australia's history should be celebrated. It provides an important opportunity to continue to support the sharing of their stories and cement their position in our community as role models for gender equality.

I am writing to seek your support in this community project and for your authority to have the statue installed at the Edith Cowan Reserve in front of the Court House at Geraldton. The Tour Guides have pledged a sum of \$40,000 towards the project and we will need to apply for further grant monies in order to complete the project.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

Julie Clark
President
Geraldton Voluntary Tour Guides Assn Inc.