

# PATTI MANOLIS JOINS INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARY THINK TANK

Geelong Regional Library Corporation CEO Patti Manolis, has been selected as the only Australian participant to join the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's inaugural International Network of Emerging Library Innovators (INELI).

INELI aims to create an international pool of future library leaders to build and sustain public libraries throughout the world and to explore and address global library issues that have the potential to stimulate, expand or improve public library service. The network also aims to enhance the leadership skills of library professionals to enable them to redefine public libraries for the future in order to meet the unique in-country needs of their clients.

Ms Manolis' appointment to INELI is a three year commitment to learning and engagement with other library leaders globally. She has agreed to travel to other countries, complete academic assignments and volunteer her time to work with other library professionals as part of this commitment.

Ms Manolis said, "INELI will provide great personal and professional development opportunities as well as functioning as a public library issues think tank.

"The issues explored and the learning achieved will be of direct benefit to Geelong Regional Library Corporation's



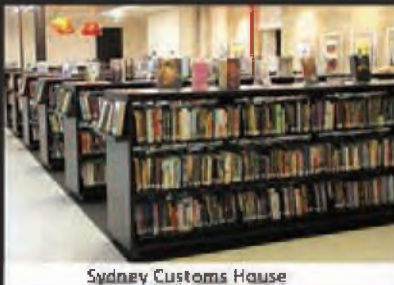
future planning and service delivery and I will also be looking for opportunities to share this knowledge with my Australian peers."

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is establishing this Network in recognition of what they characterise as "the turbulent economic times public library leaders around the

world are facing along with the crucial role public libraries play in educating communities and helping them respond to change". The Foundation says one way to effectively ensure library leaders can respond to change is to provide them with opportunities to interact with each other to explore new ideas, experiment with new services and to learn from one another. The Foundation has created INELI as a platform to enable this to happen.

Following a competitive global application process Ms Manolis will now join 19 others from around the world in INELI. Other countries represented in the program will include UK, Kenya, Netherlands, Chile, Botswana, Germany, Philippines, Kyrgyzstan, Egypt, China, South Africa and New Zealand.

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