

Heidi Victoria MP

Member for Bayswater District

Minister for the Arts

Minister for Women's Affairs

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Funding to help build new Men's Sheds

Men's Sheds have been given a financial kick-start with grants of up to \$60,000 now available to help with set up or refurbishment said Heidi Victoria, Member for Bayswater District.

The grants will enable 25 new sheds to pop up in local communities and continue the success of Ringwood Men's Shed and Villa Maria Base Camp Men's Shed which already operate in Bayswater District.

"Men's Sheds are great local facilities that provide men with a place to meet, share ideas, develop networks and work together on projects that benefit the wider community," said Ms Victoria.

Community Services minister Mary Wooldridge said the Victorian Coalition would provide \$1.5 million in this latest round of grants through its \$4 million *Strengthening Men's Sheds* initiative.

"Through the first two rounds of funding we have provided \$290,000 to strengthen the sustainability of Men's Sheds and \$700,000 for the refurbishment of existing Men's Sheds," Ms Wooldridge said.

"Now we are supporting the establishment of new sheds in areas where they are most needed."

Grant applications are now open and close on Friday September 6, 2013.

For more information, including details of information sessions, visit

www.dhs.vic.gov.au/for-business-and-community/community-involvement/men-in-the-community/strengthening-mens-sheds

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