

**Media Release
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Pacific Perspectives Brunch- Launch of the Young Pacific Women's Collective

A PWPBN initiative

Sydney, NSW- In a momentous celebration of unity and purpose, the Pacific Perspectives Brunch marked a remarkable milestone for the Pacific Women's Professional Business Network (PWPBN) and its new endeavor, the Young Pacific Women's Collective. The event, which took place on September 2nd in Sydney, NSW, gathered diverse young Pacific women, igniting a renewed wave of empowerment, and setting the stage for transformative change in NSW, Australia. Loau Donina Va'a, Chair of PWPBN, resonated with the collective strength, stating that true empowerment involves guiding others through open doors. The Young Pacific Women's Collective, an inspiring initiative, came to life through the dedicated efforts of young Pacific women leaders Bridget Cama, Kesaia Takau, and Rosaline Ah Chong, who are committed to fostering empowerment and inclusion. Reverend Faaimata Havea Hiliau, the Moderator of the NSW and ACT Synod, initiated the event with an inspiring prayer, acknowledging the collective impact of the young women present.



PWPBN Board Executives Maherau Arona, Jaithoon Venkateshwar, Rev Faaimata Havea Moderator NSW and ACT Synod, YPWC CORE Leads- Kesaia Takau, Bridget Cama, Rosaline Ah Chong, Loau Donina Va'a PWPBN Chair, Annete Posimani Board Executive, Seini Afeaki Senior Advisor, Young Pacific Women Collective Delegates

The event featured a pivotal panel discussion where PWPBN executives engaged in dialogue about inspiration, challenges, and opportunities. Collaboration and resource sharing emerged as event themes, reflecting PWPBN's essence—a united community of professional and businesswomen embodying Sharing, Empowering, and Inspiring. Notably, PWPBN's commitment to youth was evident in an independent youth collective securing two board seats. Loau highlighted the potential of uniting women under shared vision and passion. Since 2017, PWPBN stands on pillars: Leadership, Personal and Professional Development, and Advocacy and Networking. Active listening remains integral. PWPBN's focus on empowerment aligns with NSW Women's Strategy 2023–2026, envisioning equitable environments.

The day's discussions were driven by fresh ideas and insightful discourse with breakout sessions. The first focused on defining the Young Pacific Women's Collective through objectives, values, strengths, challenges, and opportunities. The second shaped key priorities aligned with the NSW Women's Strategy 2023–2026. Attendees valued community and empowerment, connecting with peers and sharing stories. Shared values—community, family, diversity, faith, resilience—nurtured an atmosphere where incorporating youth perspectives within established networks was vital. Addressing challenges like stereotypes offered mentorship and workshop opportunities. Proposed priorities spanned social media, mentorship, career expos, education, and workshops. The launch empowered young Pacific women, fostering connections and collaboration, promising positive contributions.

Supported by PWPBN, the Young Pacific Women's Collective stands poised to reshape the narrative for young Pacific women, leveraging their united strength to champion those overlooked and ushering in a more inclusive future. The Pacific Perspectives Brunch laid the foundation for an inspiring journey of empowerment and change.

The Pacific Women's Professional & Business Network (PWPBN) is a collective of kindred professional and businesswomen united to Share, Empower, and Inspire. Within our ranks, members hold a shared concern for the challenges faced by Pacific women in NSW, Australia, and across the global landscape. Women Empowering Women - Our endeavours are centered around nurturing women's leadership, heightening recognition of accessible resources and support, and nurturing fresh avenues for women to thrive in both political and economic spheres.

For Further Information

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