



15 June 2021

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

On behalf of Archbishop Costelloe SDB, I write to advise that two people who are closely associated with the Archdiocese of Perth have been recognised in the 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours. They are:

- Mr Danny Murphy AM for *significant service to urban development, and the community;* and
- Dr Betsy Buchanan OAM for *service to the community through social welfare organisations.*

Mr Danny Murphy AM

Between 1993 and 2006 Mr Murphy served as a Member of Catholic Archdiocese of Perth's Finance Committee and as Chair of its Property & Investment Sub-Committee.

Commencing in 2009, Mr Murphy re-joined the Archdiocesan Finance Committee and once more chaired this committee between March 2019 and September 2020. During this most recent period of his chairmanship of the Archdiocesan Finance Committee, Mr Murphy was instrumental in strategically shaping and delivering key aspects of the Archdiocesan Strategic Plan (2016-2021).

Mr Murphy's commitment, expertise, strong leadership and generosity of time have enabled the Archdiocese of Perth to implement a robust and future-focused series of strategic directions.

Mr Murphy has successfully enabled and facilitated insightful, objective and balanced discussions in all committee deliberations. Mr Murphy has consistently shown decisive leadership and faithful support of the Archdiocese of Perth and its successive Archbishops.

Dr Betsy Buchanan OAM

Dr Betsy Buchanan is a volunteer lawyer advocate at Daydawn Advocacy Centre.

Dr Buchanan's background as an advocate lawyer was featured in yesterday's *West Australian* (Monday 14, June 2021 at p.9 and p.63). The article "**Kindness repaid in advocacy**" described Dr Buchanan in the following way:

"When Betsy Buchanan needed protection from family violence as a child growing up in the Wheatbelt town of Gnowangerup, it was the local Noongar women who looked after her.

She has worked ever since to repay that kindness with more than 40 years of volunteering for the Indigenous community.

The tireless advocate for Noongar people has been awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for her service to the community through social welfare groups.



Mr Daniel Lynch
Executive Director, Office of the Archbishop

She is credited with setting up the first community legal centre in WA in 1976, was a former advocate with the Aboriginal Medical Service (now Derbarl Yerrigan) and has been a volunteer with the Daydawn Advocacy Centre for more than a decade. Dr Buchanan said she was “overjoyed” to receive the honour, which had come like “a bolt from the blue” because she had no idea she had been nominated.

While she was grateful to add the honour to previous awards — including being inducted into the WA women’s hall of fame — she said nothing could compare to her appointment last year as an honorary Noongar for her work as an adviser and mentor.

In all the years of her work on behalf of Aboriginal people, she said one case stands out — winning the veterans affairs pension for a Noongar widow whose Aboriginal husband had fought overseas.”

The Archbishop invites you to join within him in extending your congratulations to both Danny and Betsy on their recognition and to say thank you for their efforts in our community.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. E. Lynch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D' and 'L'.

Mr Daniel Lynch
Executive Director, Office of the Archbishop