

# WA Young Emerging Leaders Take Flight to Canberra

On 5 May 2026, two of Western Australia's next generation of emergency services leaders, Corey Wozencroft and Joshua Yates, travelled to Canberra at the invitation of the National SES Volunteers Association to represent WA at the National Emergency Services Memorial Service and participate in national Young Emerging Leaders (YEL) activities.

## Representing WA on the National Stage

Joining SESVA President Greg Cook and Secretary Allen Gale, Corey and Joshua are attending the National Emergency Services Memorial Service on Friday, 8 May.

The annual service honours emergency services personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty, providing a powerful opportunity for reflection, respect, and national unity.

Other highlights of the visit include tours of Parliament House (old and new), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) National Situation Room and the National War Memorial — an unforgettable experience recognising the importance of service and leadership across the nation.

## Opportunities Through the Young Emerging Leaders Program

Being selected to participate in the National SES Volunteers Associations' YEL program provides rare opportunities for Corey and Josh, including:

- Representing WA with pride as part of the Guard of Honour at the 2026 AFAC National Emergency Services Memorial.
- Connecting with Young Emerging Leaders from across Australia, building strong cross-state relationships.
- Helping shape the future of volunteering through national strategy and planning discussions.
- Stepping into hands-on national leadership in an active, working forum environment.
- Strengthening professional and personal connections through shared gatherings and Canberra exploration.
- Staying connected via a communications channel to share insights, updates, and continue collaboration beyond the trip.

## Investing in the People – Our Future

This Canberra experience reflects the National SESVA and the WA SESVA commitment to investing in people and empowering emerging leaders to contribute confidently at local, state, and national levels.

## Meet the Leaders

### Corey Wozencroft – Mandurah SES



Corey joined the SES with a strong desire to help others and make a positive difference. He thrives on the diversity of SES operations—from cyclones and fire ground assistance to storm damage response and community events—and values every opportunity to learn, adapt, and support his community.

Corey is also passionate about mentoring newer members and sharing skills across generations of volunteers.

### Joshua Yates – Margaret River SES



Joshua is the current WAFES Awards SES Young Person of the Year and brings extensive experience across training coordination, multi-agency exercises, regional capability development, and major operational deployments.

Known for his maturity and strategic outlook, Joshua consistently goes above and beyond to strengthen volunteer capability and service delivery.