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MOD.

"THUS IN
WONDER
I AM LOST"
David Unaipon

David Unaipon

FOOD
LORE

ITALIAN COFFEE
RAPPOLITANA RECETTA
PIRELLA GÖTTSCHE LOWE
923

Lofty goals

An SA cancer facility boasts world-class holistic design.



IN A LEAGUE OF HER OWN

Ivi Sims, AM.AIRAH, is CEO of the Building Environmental Wellness Group. She's also a self-described water loss specialist, certified mould professional, master water restorer, master fire and smoke restorer, master textile technician, and a council-certified indoor air quality assistant manager.

Responsibilities

Alongside normal business activities such as business development and strategic planning for growing my business, I'm also a consultant to my clients. I play a critical role in helping my clients to overcome difficulties that have impacted their indoor environment, from water damage caused by factors such as building defect, water ingress and HVAC contamination.

I also assist in developing proactive approaches to prevent moisture ingress in new builds or renovations. This can also be in homes that have been impacted by water and remediated.

Specialty

Well, my superpower is finding water ingress in a building and eliminating it!

I've worked on major loss mitigation for the past 12 years, with a focus on mouldy buildings and the health impact mould has if it is allowed to continue and turn into an indoor air quality issue.

I am the foremost specialist in wood floor drying in Australia. I find that hands-on working on wood floor drying keeps me in a Zen place – very therapeutic.

What are you passionate about?

I'm passionate about providing a healthy environment within our homes and workspaces that contributes to health and wellness.

It still amazes me that we allow ourselves to have such poor indoor air quality in Australia. There is a lot of misleading information on how we should manage our indoor environment in regards to moisture (condensation), how to manage the HVAC system in regard to maintenance, or how water can infiltrate into the building environment.

Then there is the issue of poorly built or maintained buildings, which can lead to water ingress. This can contribute to a poor indoor environment and subsequent health issues.

This is a hot-topic item for me, and I am pushing the envelope to get this heard by the necessary authorities.

What do you find challenging?

To find a work/life balance. I am very passionate with my work, which can overtake and jump into our living space. My aim this year is to try and resist this challenge.

Professional development

I attend conferences, professional development networking seminars, workshops and trade nights. Education plays an important role in my professional life. I find that when you meet like-minded peers, they can help you to develop knowledge by sharing their experience. I believe it is important that this be done on an international level as well so we don't get stuck too much in our own local bubble.

Inspiring words

"Impossible" – I find this word a challenge as well as inspiring. Things are only impossible if you don't try to find a solution. I find the word impossible is used too easily to justify a challenge going into the too-hard basket.

Favorite destination

Museums. I love history and it does not matter how many times you visit these institutions they are never boring and you learn something new every time.



Ivi Sims, M.AIRAH

Future plans

Continue to speak out loud! I will not hold back in speaking out about the importance of good indoor environmental matters and air quality and how this can impact one's health.

At the moment there are many international standards that are being used as reference on IAQ in Australia. There is no true single document that Australia uses.

In saying this, AIRAH has its own DA26 Indoor Air Quality, so updating this document is an excellent start. I'd like to have Australia-wide standards with regards to indoor air quality.

Later this year my business will also hold a hold a one-day conference working together with a few professionals that work in health, wellness and moisture impacts to a building. This conference is a proactive approach to making the public and professionals aware of indoor environmental quality matters. ■



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