

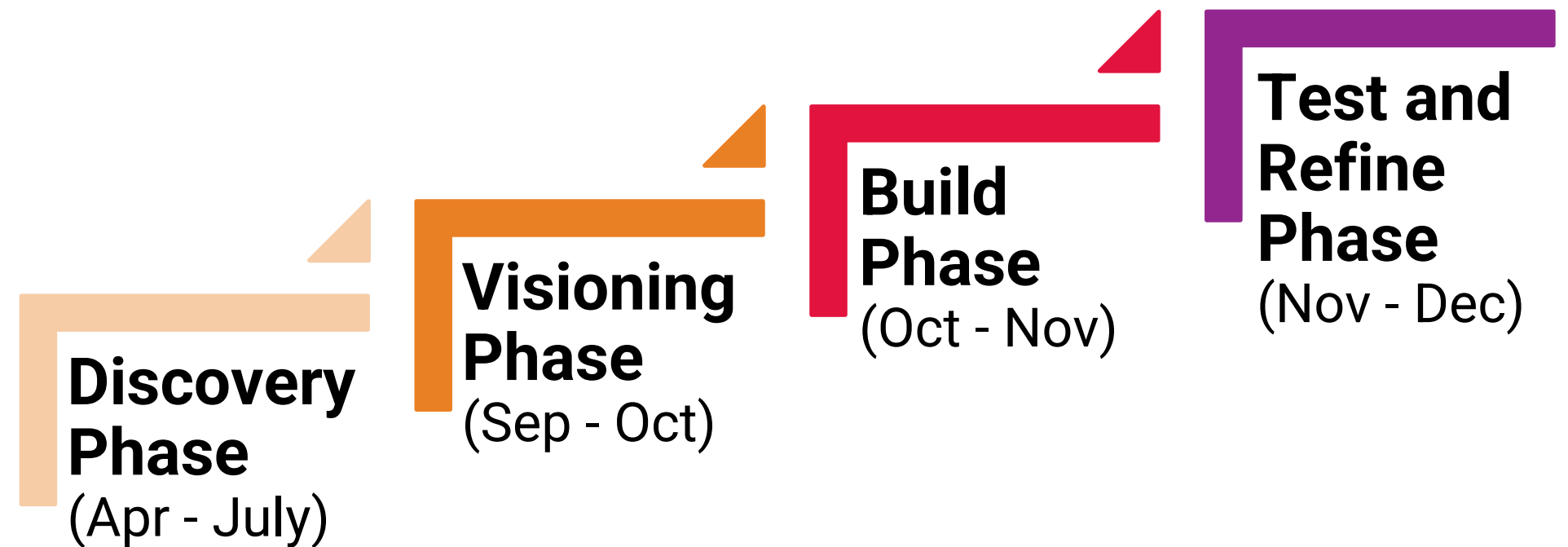
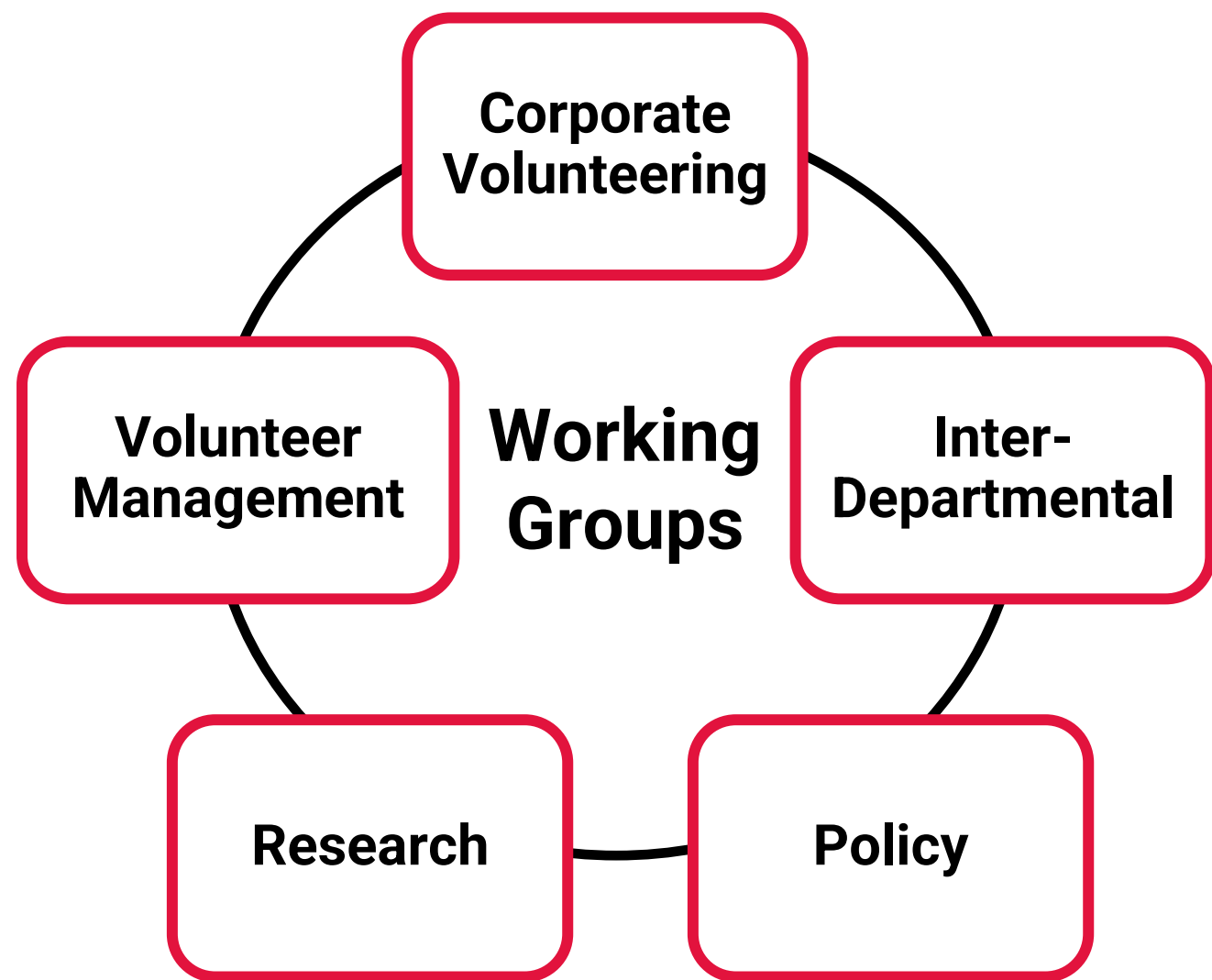
# National Strategy for Volunteering

**Making Volunteering the Heart of  
Australian Communities**



**National Strategy  
for Volunteering**

# Co-Design Process



**National Strategy Council**

**Core Design Team**

**Discovery  
Phase**

(Apr – July)

**Visioning  
Phase**

(Sep – Oct)

**Build  
Phase**

(Oct – Nov)

**Test and  
Refine  
Phase**

(Nov – Dec)

**Discovery  
Phase**

(Apr – July)

**Visioning  
Phase**

(Sep – Oct)

**Build  
Phase**

(Oct – Nov)

**Test and  
Refine  
Phase**

(Nov – Dec)

**DISCOVERY  
INSIGHTS**



*Towards a*  
**National Strategy  
for Volunteering**



# Discovery Phase

(Apr – July)

# Visioning Phase

(Sep – Oct)

# Build Phase

(Oct – Nov)



# Test and Refine Phase

(Nov – Dec)

**VOLUNTEERING**  
**IN AUSTRALIA 2022**

The Volunteer Perspective



*Nicholas Biddle, Charlotte Boyer, Matthew Gray, and Maria Jahromi*

**VOLUNTEERING**  
**IN AUSTRALIA 2022**

The Organisation Perspective

*Kirsten Holmes, Patrick D. Dunlop, Leonie Lockstone-Binney, Amanda Davies, Hawa Muhammad Farid, Callan Lavery*

**Time to be bold: An overview of the state of research on volunteering in Australia over the ten years since IYV+10**

*Dr Megan Paull*

November 2022

**Discovery Phase**

(Apr – July)

**Visioning Phase**

(Sep – Oct)

**Build Phase**

(Oct – Nov)

**Test and Refine Phase**

(Nov – Dec)



# WA Consultations

## Discovery Phase

(Apr – July)

## Visioning Phase

(Sep – Oct)

## Build Phase

(Oct – Nov)

## Test and Refine Phase

(Nov – Dec)

Volunteering is seen as a **gift to share.**

We see a world that **connects people**, skills, passions, capacities for a more **inclusive and regenerative** world.

Inclusive, **meaningful**, for everyone. Barriers reduced, integrated, sharing of resources. Readiness, **equity** in resourcing. **Community, love and acceptance.**

Community **working together** to create a culture of **giving back.**

Volunteering / Community Giving **Inclusive for all** - activities and abilities

Volunteering is **part of everyday life.** The gift of time is **inclusive of welcoming** everyone

A **diverse, harmonious** community where volunteering is **integrated, nurtured, accessible** and creating a healthy and flourishing society.

Volunteering is recognised and takes a **holistic approach**, making it **easily accessible** to all with gender and age equity

We would like to see volunteering in the future as a **valued, inclusive, recognised** pathway to a **better community.**

Volunteering is a **community expectation** that is rewarded in a variety of ways that are **relevant to personal circumstances**, whilst **providing opportunities** inclusive to all communities.

In 2033 volunteering will be a **lively space** in which volunteers are thriving. Activity will be **fulfilling** for volunteers and **potential will be recognised.**

**Start early** in primary school - informally. High school - school led and **into community.** Later **government** and enterprise - corporate volunteering.

**Discovery Phase**

(Apr – July)

**Visioning Phase**

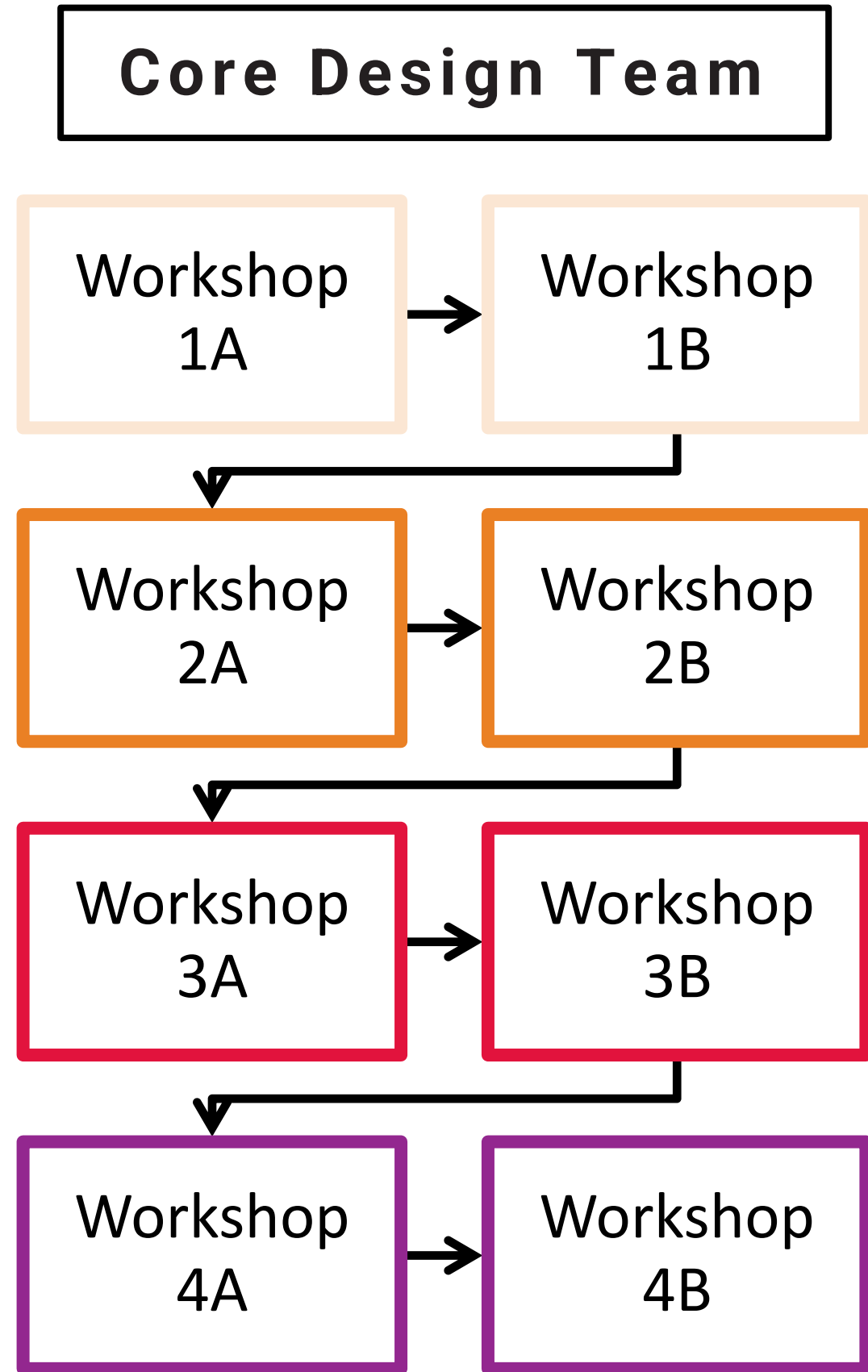
(Sep – Oct)

**Build Phase**

(Oct – Nov)

**Test and Refine Phase**

(Nov – Dec)





# Discovery Phase

(Apr – July)

# Visioning Phase

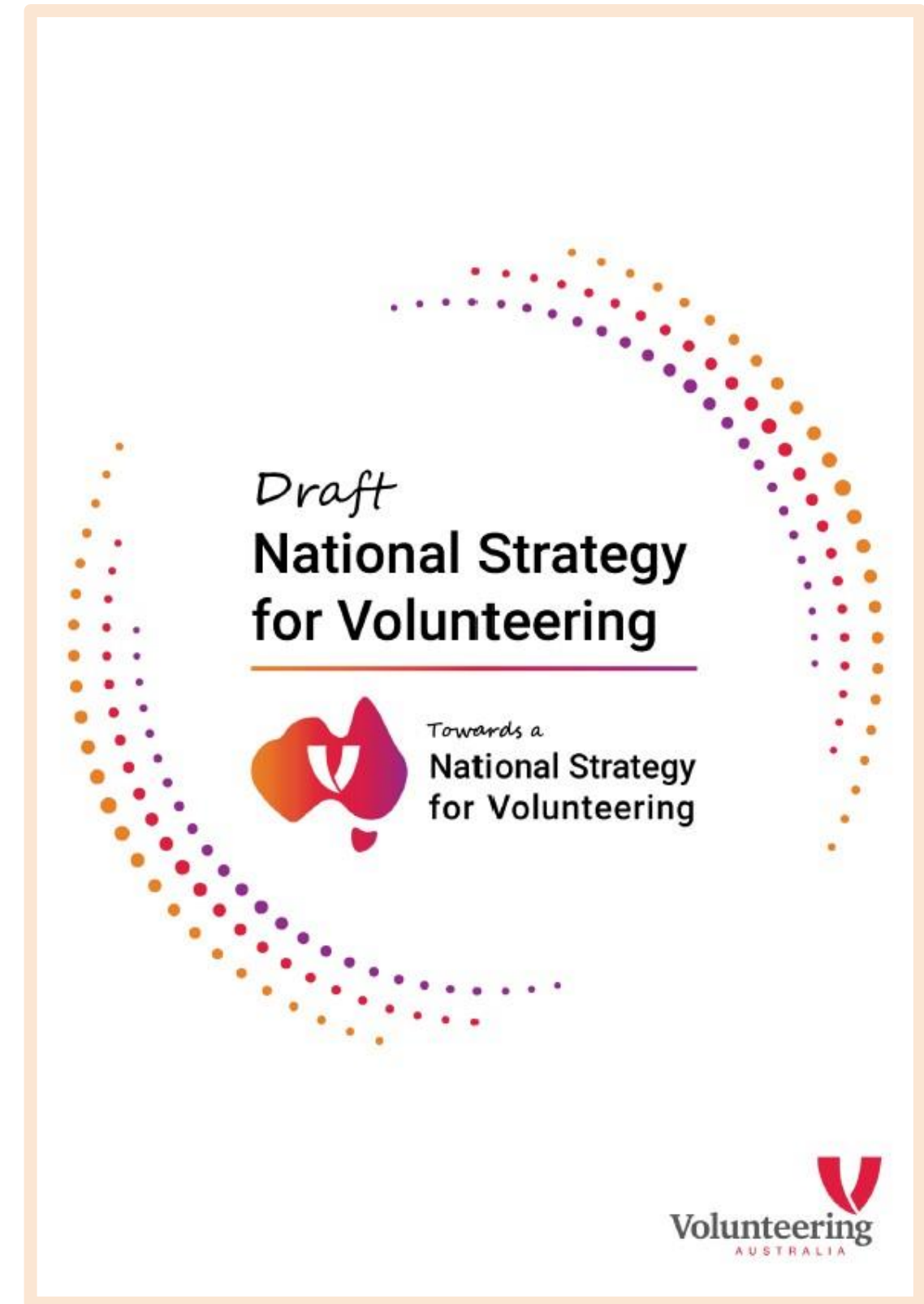
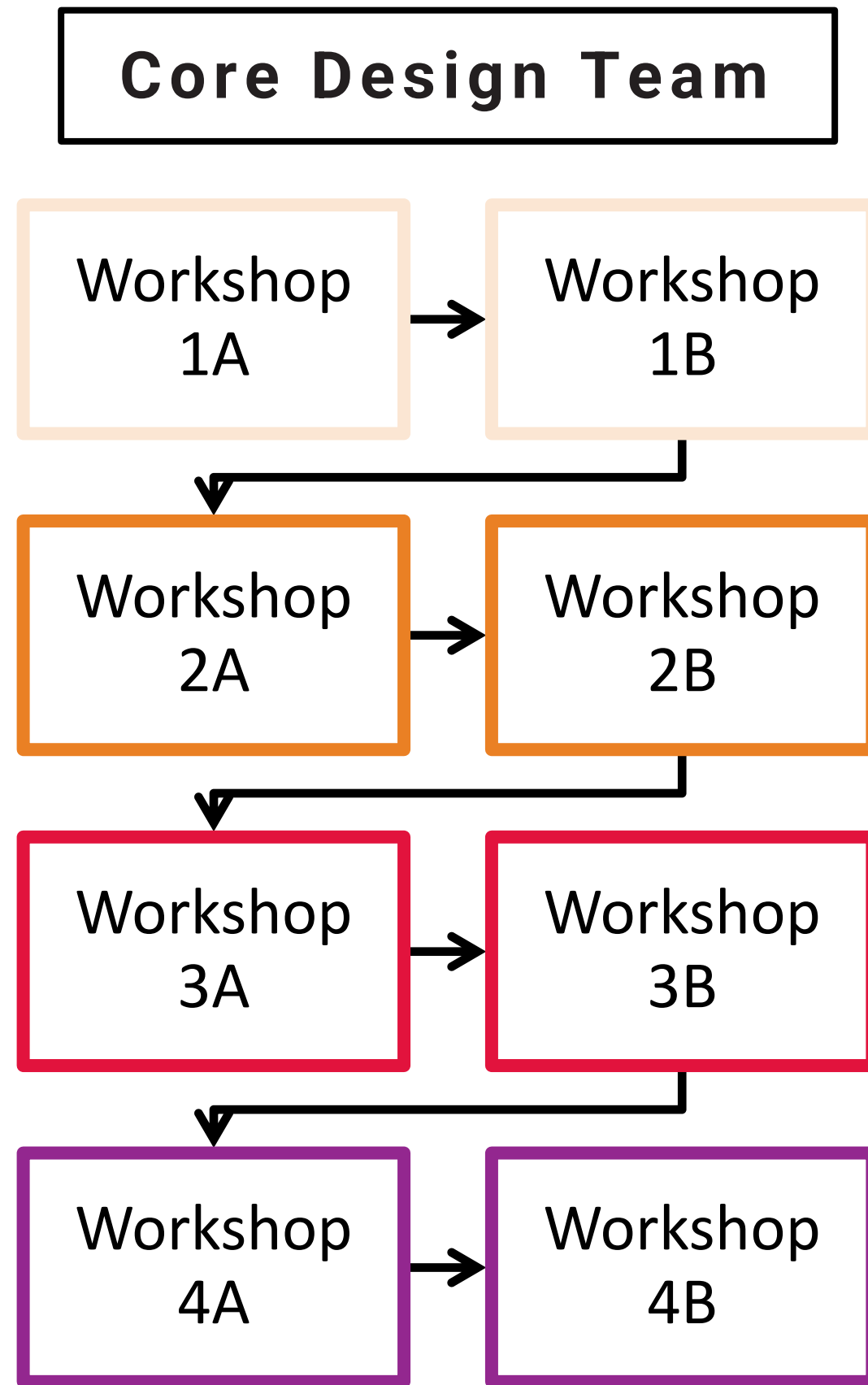
(Sep – Oct)

# Build Phase

(Oct – Nov)

# Test and Refine Phase

(Nov – Dec)



# Vision

## **Volunteering is the heart of Australian communities**

Where more people volunteer more often.

Where volunteers feel respected and know their contribution makes a difference.

Where volunteering is valued and properly considered in policy settings, service design, and strategic investment.

Where diversity in volunteering is recognised, celebrated, and supported.

Where people individually and collectively realise their potential for creating thriving communities.

# Focus Areas & Aims

## Individual Potential and the Volunteer Experience

Volunteering is safe, inclusive, accessible, meaningful, and not exploitative.

## Community and Social Impact

The diversity and impact of volunteering is articulated and celebrated.

## Conditions for Volunteering to Thrive

The right conditions are in place for volunteering to be effective and sustainable.

# Strategic Objectives

## Individual Potential and the Volunteer Experience

- 1.1** Focus on the Volunteer Experience
- 1.2** Make Volunteering Inclusive and Accessible
- 1.3** Ensure Volunteering is Not Exploitative

## Community and Social Impact

- 2.1** Diversify the Understanding of Volunteering
- 2.2** Reshape the Public Perception of Volunteering
- 2.3** Recognise the Inherent Value of Volunteering
- 2.4** Enable a Community-Led Approach

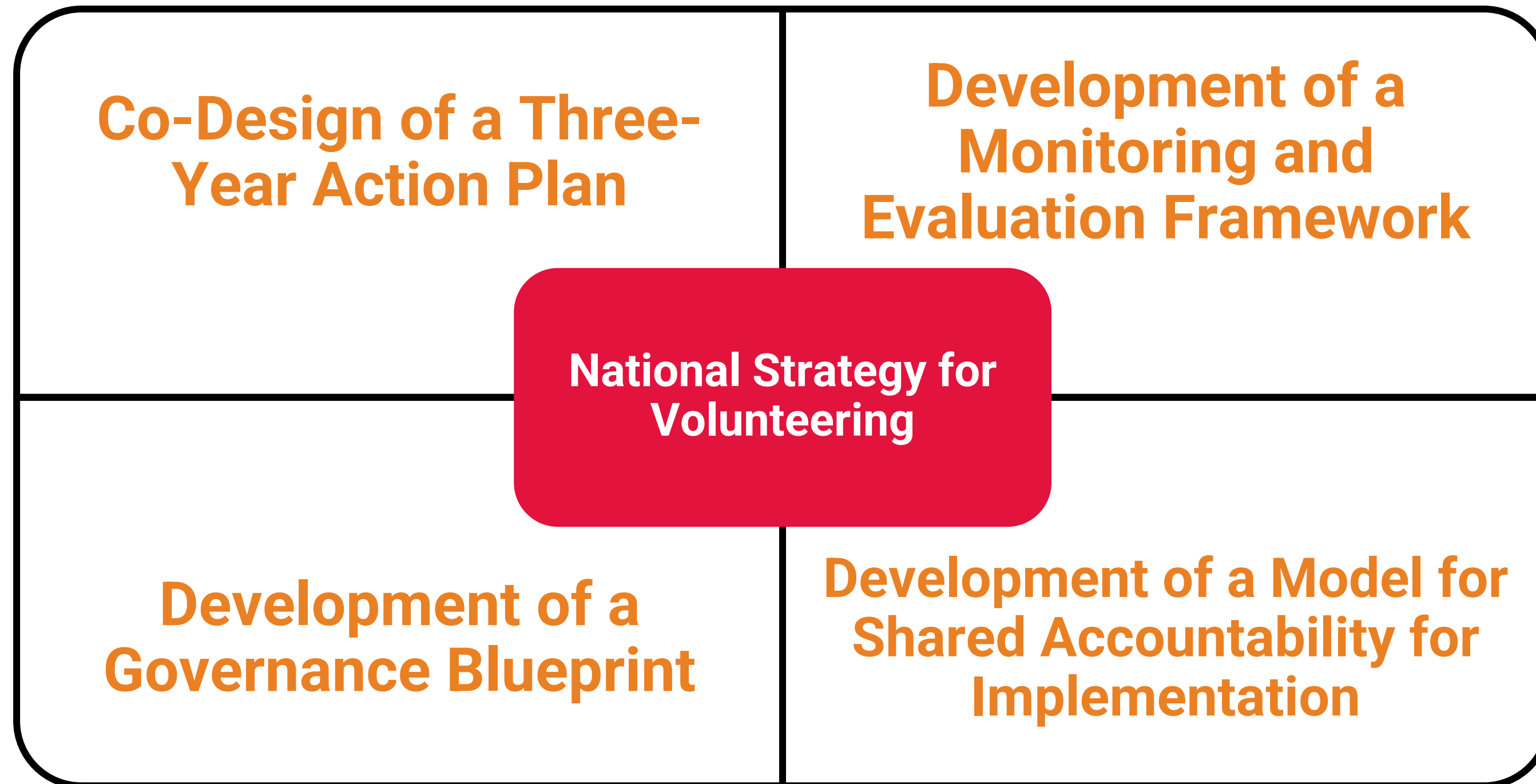
## Conditions for Volunteering to Thrive

- 3.1** Make Volunteering a Cross-Portfolio Issue in Government
- 3.2** Build Strong Leadership and Shared Accountability
- 3.3** Commit to Strategic Investment
- 3.4** Recognise the Importance of Volunteer Management

# Indicators of Success

1. The volunteer experience has been improved
2. Volunteering is comprehensively valued
3. There is an increase in the number of volunteers

# Establishment Phase



# National Strategy for Volunteering 2023–2033

## Establishment Phase

This is the **first year** of the ten-year National Strategy with a focus to:

- **Build support.**
- Embed the National Strategy as a **core resource** within the volunteering ecosystem.
- Help stakeholders **set strategic goals, develop new initiatives and make the case for investment.**



# National Strategy for Volunteering 2023–2033

## Key Drivers for Success

- Continued engagement
- Increased awareness
- Cross-jurisdictional collaboration
- Reduced duplication
- Increased efficiency
- Ongoing, sufficient strategic investment





# What Can You Do?

## Practical Actions

- **Audit** your own volunteering program/s using the Strategic Objectives.
- **Consult** with your volunteers about their experience and get their feedback on how it can be improved.
- Use the National Strategy as a **catalyst for conversations** with your Board/Committee and other organisational leaders.
- Reference the National Strategy for **funding proposals**.
- **Map your current activities** against the Strategic Objectives and share them.

# Case Study – Vinnies WA

*“The National Strategy gave us **permission to be bold**. It inspires us to find other ways of improving the volunteering experience.”*

*“The National Strategy has high level concepts that we share in our management meetings, but **it also has practical applications** at a lower level. It could easily be the **fundamentals of an operations plan**, which is what we did.”*



# The National Strategy In Action

We have heard from stakeholders across the volunteering ecosystem who are using the National Strategy to plan their future.

## Stakeholders

- **Large charities**  
St Vincent de Paul, Salvation Army, The Smith Family
- **Small to medium VIOs**  
Puffing Billy Railways, MND Victoria
- **Youth programs**  
Duke of Edinburgh, Scouts Australia
- **Volunteering sector**  
Peak bodies, volunteer resource centres
- **Other stakeholders**  
State and local government, universities, researchers

## Applications

- Develop internal volunteering strategies
- Update volunteering resources
- Advocate for managers of volunteers
- Strengthen grant applications
- Change volunteering culture
- Build local networks

# Next Steps

## First Three-Year Action Plan

We want to hear from you.

- Expressions of interest are open for the **Establishment Design Team**.
- Sign up to our mailing list to receive information about **opportunities to contribute** through events, surveys and consultations.
- Contact us to **share your thoughts**.



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# National Strategy for Volunteering

# Sarah Wilson

## Volunteering Australia



**2023**  
**volunteeringWA**  
**STATE CONFERENCE**  
14 & 15 November, Optus Stadium