

[Karina Heinz – Biography](#)

I am the principal and licensee-in-charge of Progressive Strata Services Pty Ltd.

I was born in Grafton and left in 1985, in my early twenties, to work with a church group for one year to help drug addicts detox and get their lives back on track. I began work in strata soon after. I have gained considerable experience working for very different size and structured strata companies over the 10 years, before founding PSS in 1999. This exposure, along with my country girl approach, absolute honesty, integrity and hard work have all contributed to the success of my company which is an award winning and flourishing boutique strata management business.

I am passionate about strata, and an active member of various industry associations. I am keen to share my wealth of experience and knowledge, as well as to give back to the industry that has provided me with a very fulfilling career.

Career highlights

I am currently on the Strata Managers Committee for SCA (NSW) and a previous member of the Professional Standards Committee. I am also on the Education Committee for SCA and one of 5 on the newly formed Steering Committee of Women in Strata (NSW), which provides a mentoring program and other support to young women in our industry.

Recently, I was a guest speaker on ABC radio discussing the changes to the strata schemes legislation and other strata issues. I have also participated on two panels of experts at SCA conferences two years running to answer questions from Owners from the floor of our industry conference.

I am held in high regard, not only by clients, but industry peers, including lawyers and NCAT, who regularly appoint me as a compulsory manager under S237 of the strata legislation. These are appointments, where the Owners and previous Strata Managers failed to resolve problems in accordance with legislative requirements, whether it was a legal issue or maintenance matter.

Passion for energy saving

I have a long held an interest in saving on the cost of electricity. In 2013 I was involved in the design of the Government initiative “Smart Blocks” - a website to assist Owners Corporations to implement ways to save money by sustainable living, whilst reducing their impact on the environment.

We have worked with various schemes under management to achieve their objectives by different means. I am currently working on an option which will allow strata plans to purchase green electricity, cheaper than the current mixed pricing.

Awards

It was immensely satisfying, when Strata Plan 80117 in Regent St, managed by Progressive Strata, won the Community Award for Excellence. I was also thrilled that my company was finalist in two categories, for the Whitbread Strata Community awards in recent times.

Progressive Strata Services achieved further commendation from our industry association by being named as a finalist - Strata Manager of the Year – Small Business.

This year, Progressive Strata Services has been announced as a finalist for the “Best and Brightest – Waverley Council Awards” – which is brought about by our clients voting for us in the “Real Estate” category.

It is extremely rewarding to receive recognition from both our industry colleagues and clientele alike.