

Regions Rising 2023 National Summit Program

Conference Theme: Shifting Our Gaze

Date: Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 September 2023

Time: 7.30am – 5pm

Venue: Hotel Realm, Canberra

Day 1: Conference

Time	Duration	Item
7.00 am	30 mins	Registration opens
		Opening remarks and Welcome to Country
7.30 am	10 mins	MC Welcome and Housekeeping
7.45 am	10 mins	Acknowledgement to Country – Nin Jannette Phillips
7.55 am	5 mins	Introduce Minister – Christian Zahra AM – Chair, RAI
8.00 am	15 mins	The Hon. Catherine King MP – Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
8.15 am	10 mins	Q&A
8.25 am	20 mins	Liz Ritchie – CEO, RAI
	45 mins	Panel 1 – Report 1 - Regionalisation Ambition 2023 A year on from the RAI issuing the challenge to ‘rebalance the nation’, cross sectoral leaders unpack where progress has been made and where further attention is needed. <i>Facilitator: Liz Ritchie, CEO - RAI</i>
8.45 am		Dr Michael Fotheringham, Managing Director - Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute
		Luke Achterstraat, CEO - the Council of Small Business Organisations Australia (COSBOA)
		Prof. Peter Dawkins AO, Chair - Jobs and Skills Australia
		Cr Kylie King, Chair, Regional Capitals Australia
9.30 am	30 mins	Morning tea
	25 mins	Keynote Address

Time	Duration	Item
10.00 am	15 mins	Gavin Williams – Chief Development Officer, Regional and Remote - NBN Co
10.15 am	10 mins	Q&A
	45 mins	Panel 2 – From Little Things Big Things Grow (sponsored by Bendigo Bank) Trailblazers, who are tackling their communities’ biggest challenges with locally led, place-based solutions that work! <i>Facilitator: Courtney Sloane, Government Relations and Public Affairs Lead, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank</i>
10.25 am		Lisa Button, CEO - Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia
		Kate Sowden, Executive Director -Work & Stay
		Dr Cath Cosgrave, Creator - Attract, Connect, Stay
		Sam Almaliki, Founder - Regional Angel Investor Network
	30 mins	Regional Economic Overview Address
11.10 am	20 mins	Keynote Address – Michael Malakellis, Principal Director, KPMG
11.30 am	10 mins	Q&A
11.40 am	60 mins	Lunch
	20 mins	The Voice
12.40 pm	15 mins	Keynote Address - Prof. Megan Davis, Co-chair, Uluru Dialogue
12.55 pm	10 mins	Q&A
	50 mins	Panel 3 – A Workforce in Transition (sponsored by Essential Energy) What will be the jobs and skills needed for the regions of the future and how well equipped are we to nurture these skills? <i>Facilitator: John Cleland, CEO - Essential Energy</i>
1.05 pm		Tony Cook PSM, Secretary of Department of Education
		Rebecca Pickering, interim CEO - Inland Rail
		Kate Pounder, CEO - Tech Council of Australia
		Joe Collins, Birchip Cropping Group
	60 mins	Panel 4 – Close to Home A panel of experts share their diverse insights on the pressures of regional Australia’s housing and what policy solutions exist to ease this pressure. <i>Opening Address and Facilitator: Dr Kim Houghton, Chief Economist, RAI</i>

1.55pm		Rowena Johnston, Chief Credit Officer - National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation (NHFIC)
		Greg Hoffman PSM, Executive Officer - North West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils
		Andrew Hall, CEO - Insurance Council of Australia
		Kasy Chambers, Managing Director - Anglicare
2.55 pm	30 mins	Afternoon Tea
3.25 pm	50 mins	Panel 5 – Legacy - Infrastructure and Community Development (sponsored by Transgrid) A panel of experienced leaders discuss how, when done well, today's decisions can leave a positive legacy for the next generations of regional Australians. <i>Facilitator: Craig Stallan, Executive General Manager - Transgrid</i>
		The Hon. Joel Fitzgibbon, former Federal Member for Hunter, acting CEO - Australian Forest Products Association
		The Hon. Bruce Billson, Ombudsman - Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise
		Dr Saranne Cooke, Chair, Royal Flying Doctor Service; Deputy Chancellor Charles Sturt University
		Di Somerville, Chair - Regional Development Australia Riverina
	40 mins	In Conversation with
4.15 pm	20 mins	Fireside chat Senator The Hon. Bridget McKenzie, Shadow Regional Development Minister
4.35 pm	20 mins	AgriFutures winner with Amanda Barwick
4.40 pm		Close

SUMMIT DINNER FUNCTION

Hotel Realm, Canberra

Time	Duration	Item
6.30 pm		Function begins
6.30 pm	Ongoing	Drink service – Foyer
7.00 pm		Guests seated
7.15 pm	5 mins	Welcome – MC
7.20 pm	10 mins	Welcome to Country
7.30 pm	45 mins	Dinner service
8.15 pm	5 mins	RAI Welcome – Christian Zahra AM, Chair, RAI
8.20 pm	15 mins	Ministerial address – The Hon. Kristy McBain MP
8.35 pm	20 mins	Keynote Address – Ms. Tanuja Sanders, Founder, the Sathya Olive Company and Project Manager in energy and mining sectors
9.00 pm		Dessert service
10.00 pm		Event concludes

Day 2: CONFERENCE

Time	Duration	Item
8.00 am	25 mins	Registration opens
	30 mins	Opening remarks
8.25 am	5 mins	MC Welcome and housekeeping
8.30 am	15 mins	Keynote Address – Dr Kim Houghton, Chief Economist, RAI
8.45 am	10 mins	Q&A
8.55 am	5 mins	Introduce Opposition Leader Mark Allison, CEO, Elders Limited
9.00 am	10 mins	Opposition Address The Hon. Peter Dutton MP, Leader of the Opposition
9.10 am	15 mins	Q&A
	30 mins	Keynote
9.25 am	20 mins	Keynote Address - Mark Allison, CEO - Elders Limited
9.45 am	10 mins	Q&A
	50 mins	Panel 6 – The Health of the Regions As regional Australia’s population grows so does the need for a bolstered health workforce. Hear from leaders and those on the frontline on how to solve the problems of today and plan for the demands of tomorrow.
9.55 am		Prof Steve Robson, President - Australia Medical Association
		Sonia Henry, GP and Author
		Megan Callinan, CEO - Marathon Health
		Suzanne Tegen, CEO - National Regional Health Alliance
		Tayla Roberts, University Accord Working Group
10.45 am	25 mins	Morning tea
	50 mins	Panel 7 – Leading by Example A group of experienced directors, share how the interests of regional Australia can be advanced by the decisions taken around the boardroom table.
11.10 am		Barry Irvin, Chair - Bega Cheese
		Jacqueline Hey, Chair - Bendigo and Adelaide Bank

Time	Duration	Item
		Wendy McCarthy AO, Director and Activist
		Ming Long AM, Chair - Diversity Council of Australia
		Adam Davids, Director, CareerTrackers & Social Ventures Australia
	45 mins	Panel 8 – Our regions and the machinery of government Leading bureaucrats discuss the role of place-based policy and investment in of state and federal government departments.
12 noon		Rebecca Fox, Secretary - Department of Regional NSW
		Alison Lloyd-Wright, Deputy Chief Executive - Department of Premier and Cabinet SA
		Paul Isaachsen, Deputy Director General - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development WA
		David Mackay, Deputy Secretary - Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
	40 mins	Keynote Address
12.45 pm	30 mins	Prof David Audretsch – Editor in Chief - Small Business Economics: An Entrepreneurship Journal
1.15 pm	10 mins	Q&A
1.25 pm	50 mins	Lunch
	45 mins	Panel 9 – Cultivating regional innovation A panel of entrepreneurs and innovators provide their insights into regional Australia’s innovation and technology ecosystem. <i>Facilitator: Sam Dimarco – General Manager Regional and Remote, nbn</i>
2.15 pm		Ben Barlow, Managing Director - New Edge Microbials
		John Barraclough, Founder and Executive Chairman - UAG Bio Nutrients
		Nick Sheehan, Founder and CEO - efex
		Julia Spicer, Queensland’s Chief Entrepreneur
		Suzanne Campbell, Founder - Vennu
	50 mins	Panel – Move to More 1 in 5 capital city Australians are contemplating a move to the regions. We hear from five movers about their ‘move to more’ experience. <i>Facilitator: Laureta Wallace</i>
3.00 pm		Kieren Dell, CEO - Majestic Cinemas
		Tanuja Sanders, Founder - the Sathya Olive Company and Project Manager in energy and mining sectors

Time	Duration	Item
		Mez Keith, Wilga Station, Bathurst
		Jim A Barker, Twelve Points Photography
		Dr Linda Lorenza, CQ University
3.50 pm	15 mins	Afternoon Tea
	30 mins	Podcast Recording
4.05 pm		Bec Bignell with Edwina Bartholomew and Neil Varcoe
	10 mins	Closing remarks
4.35 pm		Christian Zahra AM – Chair, RAI
4.45 pm		Day 2 Close