



DEVELOPING
**NORTHERN
AUSTRALIA**
CONFERENCE

TUESDAY 22 – THURSDAY 24 JULY 2025
CAIRNS, QLD

**SECURING AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE BY
DRIVING NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT**

northaust.org.au • [#DNAC25](https://twitter.com/DNAC25)

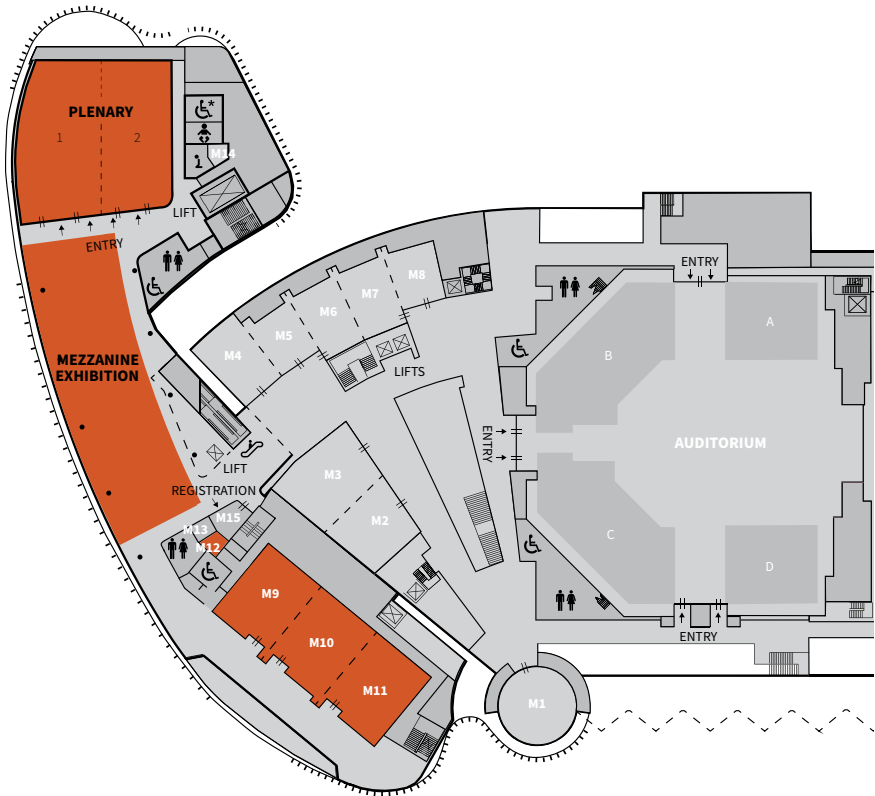


**BUSINESS
EVENTS**

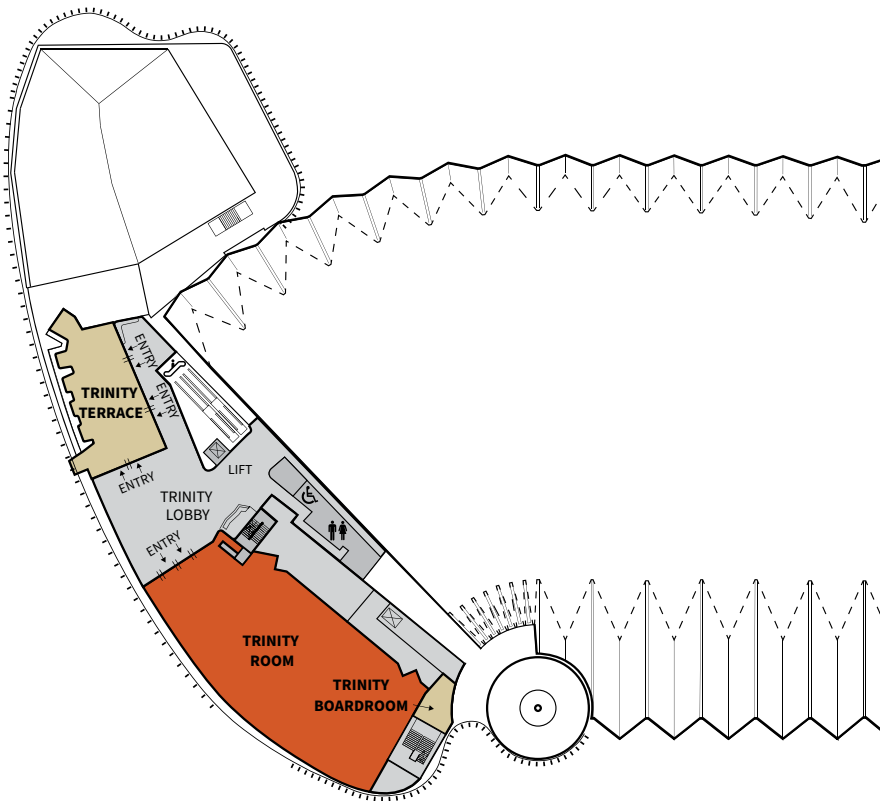
We acknowledge and thank the people and Traditional Owners of the on Gimuy Walubarra Yidinji and Yirrganydji Country on which we hold this conference.

FLOOR PLAN

MEZZANINE LEVEL



TRINITY LEVEL



Plenary Sessions: Trinity Room
Concurrent Sessions: Room 1 – Plenary 1
Room 2 – Plenary 2
Room 3 – Meeting 9
Room 4 – Meeting 10-11

Catering: Mezzanine Level
Exhibition: Mezzanine Level
Poster Presentations: Mezzanine Level
Speaker's Prep: Meeting 12

WELCOME



Welcome back to Cairns for the 2025 Developing Northern Australia Conference (DNAC)! Its so good to bring the conference back to my home town for my 11th and last gig as Chair of this amazing conference. Having DNAC in Cairns enables our dynamic Tropical North Queensland region to showcase itself as a key gateway to the north.

For the conference, development is all about securing something better for the people and regions of the north; a process that delivers economic, social and environmental benefit and ensures that the north has a prosperous and dynamic future.

Every year, DNAC gives northern Australians, our partners from the south and the wider tropical world a chance to share their vision for the future of the north of our nation. It also gives a very wide audience the chance to hear how implementation of the Action Plan on Developing Northern Australia is progressing. It gives us all a stronger voice in getting the best results possible from this key bipartisan and bilateral policy.

This year, big issues and opportunities ahead of us continue to highlight the importance of supporting Indigenous led development, increasing our sovereign self-reliance, growing the scope of small to medium business, the development of enabling infrastructure and securing a nature positive future. Liveability, workforce, health and social cohesion remain very important to encouraging people to stay in and to come north. Defence, biosecurity and real relations with the Indo-Pacific remain key topics. We also want to make progress towards the collaborative development of a Northern Australian Workforce strategy and improved educational pathways.

Particular thanks must go this year to our amazing sponsors, but particularly the Office of Northern Australia (ONA) and the Queensland Government through the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development. I also want to thank our Program and Local Steering Committees. Our Committees are made up of people from across the north. AST Conference and Event Management remain our key delivery partners and deserve every thanks for keeping this event alive through 11 very exciting years, punctuated severely by COVID and other challenges!

Looking forward to catching up with you during the conference.

Regards,

Professor Allan Dale

Conference Chair

*Professor of Tropical Regional Development, James Cook University (JCU)
Chief Scientist, Collaborative Research Centre for Developing Northern
Australia (CRCNA)*

COMPETITION

GET SOCIAL WITH US!

Use **#DNAC25** in your social media posts to showcase your favourite moments of the conference and you'll enter the draw to win:

In-person registration to the 2026 Developing Northern Australia Conference



FOLLOW US
Developing Northern
Australia Conference



<https://www.facebook.com/DevelopNorthAus>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/developing-northern-australia-conference/>



<https://x.com/DevelopNorthAus>



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts



Our North, Our Future

The Office of Northern Australia (ONA) oversees the Australian Government's northern Australia policy agenda to achieve sustainable and resilient northern economic and social development.

The ONA:

- oversees the implementation of the Northern Australia Action Plan 2024–29
- works across the Australian Government to provide policy advice on enablers for sustainable economic and social development in the north
- works with the Queensland, Western Australia and Northern Territory governments on progressing the northern agenda, including through the Northern Australia Ministerial Forum
- supports First Nations economic participation, including through the Northern Australia Indigenous Reference Group
- works collaboratively with community, research and industry groups to support development in northern Australia, including building a robust evidence base.

Talk to us about:

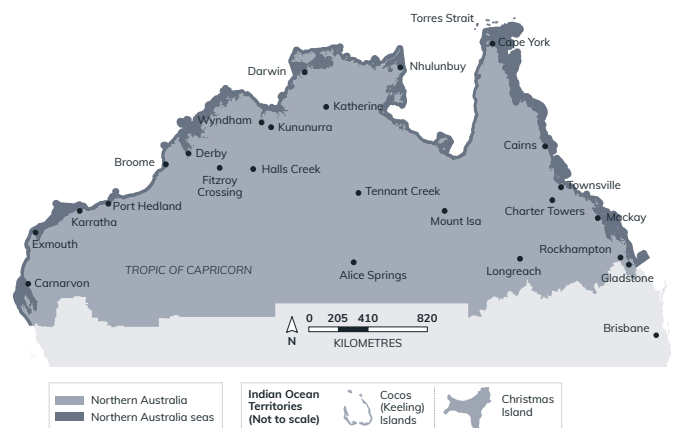
- your priorities in developing northern Australia
- the Australian Government's focus in delivering the Northern Australia Action Plan 2024–29
- working with the Northern Australia Indigenous Reference Group
- signing up for the ONA e-newsletter and LinkedIn.

Scan the QR code

To find out more about the
Office of Northern Australia or
to subscribe to our e-newsletter
or LinkedIn.



Email us: NorthernAustralia@infrastructure.gov.au



Whitsundays, QLD

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of all **committee members, NAILSMA, the Indigenous Reference Group** and **session chairs** for their time and expertise with the conference program.

Program Committee



(Chair) Professor Allan Dale
Professor of Tropical Regional Development, James Cook University (JCU) – Chief Scientist, Collaborative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA)



John Acres
Manager Ord, Industry and Economic Development, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development



Prof. Hurriyet Babacan
Professorial Fellow, The Cairns Institute, James Cook University; Chair Regional Development Australia, Tropical North



Andrew Baylis
A/Senior Executive Director, Industry Development & Corporate, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, NT Government



Nerida Beard
Executive Director, Office of Water Security, NT Government



Belinda Carlson
Creative Content, Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA)



John Coyne
Head of Northern Australia Strategic Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute



Anthony Curro
Chief Executive Strategy and Engagement, Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA)



Matt Derlagen
Associate Director, Stakeholder Relations, NAIF



Tara Diversi
CEO, Launch Y(E)P



Fiona Dix
Program Leader Advocacy, Cairns Regional Council



Casey Greentree
Assistant Secretary, Office of Northern Australia



Terry Hill AM
Chair, Pilbara Development Commission Board



Barry Hunter
CEO of NAILSMA & Chair of Terrain NRM



Tahna Jackson
Environmental Project Officer. Northern Territory Farmers Association (Based in QLD)



Sonja Johnson
Chief Executive Officer, Regional Development Australia Tropical North



Jason Kidd
Deputy Director-General, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development, Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development



Mark Olsen
Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ)



Brook Orr
Director Northern Australia Universities Alliance (NAUA)



Kylie Porter
Chief Executive Officer, Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3)



Jacinta Reddan
Chief Executive Officer, Advance Cairns



Amy Savage
Manager - Economic Development, Department of State Development and Infrastructure



Sarah Whelan
Chief Executive Officer, Karratha & Districts Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KDCCI)

GENERAL INFORMATION

The following information is provided to make your attendance at the **2025 Developing Northern Australia Conference** as pleasant as possible. If you require assistance, please visit the conference team at the registration desk.

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION DESK

The registration desk will be located on the **Mezzanine Level** of the **Cairns Convention Centre**. Our team will be available during the following times:

Tuesday 22 July 2025	12:00pm – 5:30pm
Wednesday 23 July 2025	8:00am – 4:30pm
Thursday 24 July 2025	8:00am – 2:30pm

NAME BADGE

Please collect your name badge from the registration desk and wear it each day as it is your official pass to all sessions, exhibition, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and the Tuesday evening networking function. **Name badges must be worn at all times.**

DRESS CODE

The dress code is smart casual for all events.

WI-FI

Complimentary Wi-Fi internet is available in all event areas.

Network: CCC Convention

Password: Cairns2025

MOBILE PHONES

Please ensure all mobile phones are switched to silent while in conference sessions.

CONFERENCE CATERING

All catering will be served on the Mezzanine Level with the Exhibitors and Poster Presentations.

WELCOME FUNCTION

The Welcome Networking Function will be held on **Tuesday 22 July 2025** from **5:30pm – 7:00pm** at **Hemingways Brewery**. Welcome drink and grazing boards with local produce will be served. This event is included with your registration.

Guest tickets can be purchased for \$88.00 from the registration desk.

CONFERENCE DINNER, SPONSORED BY NAUA

NORTHERN
AUSTRALIA
UNIVERSITIES
ALLIANCE



Join us for our conference dinner to be held at the **Tanks Art Centre, 46 Collins Avenue, Edge Hill** on **Wednesday 23 July from 5:45pm – 9:30pm**. This is a ticketed event and includes delicious canapés and drinks to start, followed by a three-course dinner, drinks and entertainment.

Tickets can be purchased for \$249.00 incl. GST from the registration desk.

Transportation: Jump onboard the electric coach and glide your way to the Conference Dinner. Coaches will depart from the Pullman Cairns International and Crystalbrook Flynn hotels and return to these hotels at the end of the night.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation accounts must be settled with the hotel on checkout. The Committee and/or Conference Secretariat are not responsible in any way for outstanding accommodation accounts.

KEY CONTACTS

Conference Manager

Lisa Grant

T: 0435 314 052

E: conference@northaust.org.au

Business Partnerships Manager

Kevin Wheatley

T: 0456 191 811

E: partnerships@northaust.org.au

Program & Research Manager

Mel Stewart

T: 07 5502 2068

E: program@northaust.org.au

Want to Make the Most of Your Conference Experience?

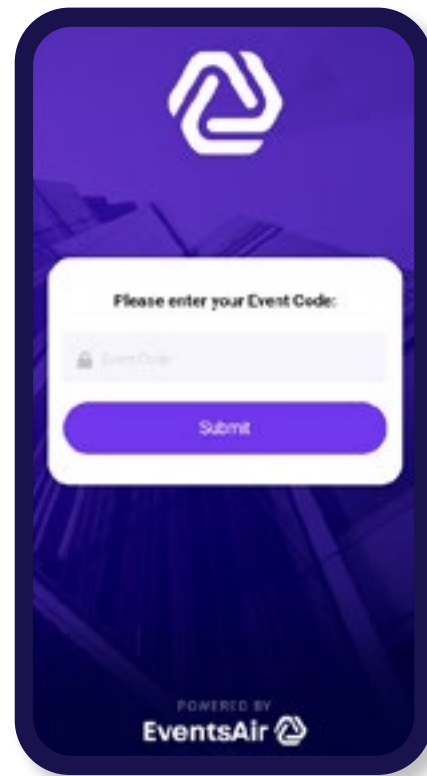
Download the conference app!

Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1 Visit the App store on your Apple or Android device



- 2 Search 'The Event App by EventsAir' and download
- 3 Open and enter event code **DNAC25**
- 4 Your name badge has your login and pin!



App Features

Stay up to date and connected during the 2025 Developing Northern Australia Conference.

PROGRAM

Create your own personal schedule and view the latest program details.

PRESENTERS

Read presenter biographies and presentation overviews.

NETWORK

Connect with fellow delegates and network via in-app messaging.

CONNECT

View who has joined us as an exhibitor and sponsor.

GAMIFICATION

Compete for prizes – it's fun and easy.

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



LEATA ALAIMOANA
*Queensland Senior Trade and
Investment Commissioner
Pacific, Trade and Investment
Queensland*

TIQ is the Queensland Government's dedicated global business agency, with representation in 16 countries.

Leata was appointed as the inaugural Queensland Trade Commissioner for the Pacific in March 2023. Leata and her team are driving two-way trade and investment between Queensland and the Pacific; supporting mutually beneficial economic outcomes across priority areas including infrastructure, food, renewable energy, aviation, marine, health and digital.

Leata began her career within the Investment Attraction Unit the Queensland Government in 2002. Leata has held a variety of leadership roles in the Queensland and Federal Governments, Government of Samoa, Sunshine Coast City Council, and Aviation Australia.

**Keynote Presentation: Strengthening
Queensland's Position in the Pacific**

Wednesday 23 July • 9:20am – 9:30am



**PROFESSOR SCOTT
BOWMAN AO**
*Vice-Chancellor and
President, Charles
Darwin University and
Chair - Northern Australia
Universities Alliance*

Professor Scott Bowman is Charles Darwin University's (CDU) eighth Vice-Chancellor and President.

Since joining CDU in 2021, Professor Bowman has delivered a new strategic plan outlining ambitions for CDU to become Australia's most connected university.

Professor Bowman has put renewed focus on CDU's regional campuses, appointing senior

leaders in Alice Springs, Nhulunbuy, Katherine, and Sydney. He has led a restructuring of the University and the establishment of CDU TAFE, a dedicated area for skills and training designed to meet future workplace needs.

Professor Bowman began his professional life as a radiographer, working in several London hospitals before starting his teaching and lecturing career. He left the UK for Australia to take the position of Head of the School of Clinical Sciences at Charles Sturt University and holds a Master of Politics and Government, a Ph.D. in Clinical Decision Making, and a Master of Business Administration.

Professor Bowman joined CDU as a distinguished university leader, having served as Vice-Chancellor and President of CQUniversity (CQU). For over a decade, his vision and leadership helped transform CQU into one of Australia's largest and most engaged regional universities.

Professor Bowman also served at Western Sydney University as a Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor. Other previous university leadership positions include Deputy Vice-Chancellor (University Services) and Registrar at James Cook University; Foundation Head of the School of Clinical Sciences at Charles Sturt University; and Foundation Dean of the Faculty of Health Science and Community at the University College of St Martin (Lancaster University) Lancaster, UK.

In 2019, he was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for his significant contributions to higher education, training, and regional Australia.

**Keynote Presentation: Towards a Northern
Australian Population and Workforce Strategy**

Wednesday 23 July • 9:40am – 9:45am

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



DEBRA BURDEN
*Chair, RDA Townsville and
North-West Queensland*

Debra Burden is the Chief Executive Officer of not-for-profit selectability, a Director of the Townsville Hospital and

Health Service, Chair of Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland and a member of the Ageing Australia Qld Membership Council.

Debra has previously held CEO positions with Queensland Country Bank and Health Fund and ASX listed dental services company 1300SMILES.

Debra's business management expertise has been recognised with her being awarded the QLD Business Review Women in Business Award Winner (Business & Prof Services) and the Queensland Telstra Business Women's Award Winner (Corporate Sector).

Debra, a Fellow of both the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Institute of Leadership and Management, has extensive board level experience having successfully completed the AICD course twice and held Board positions in numerous companies as Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer, Chair of Audit & Risk Committee and Company Secretary, including currently previously holding the position Director of Tooth Booth, Deputy Chair of North and West Remote Health and Director North Queensland PHN.

Northern RDA Alliance Presentation

Tuesday 22 July • 1:10pm – 1:20pm



WAYDE CHIESA
*CEO, RDA Townsville &
Northwest*

Wayde Chiesa, CEO of Regional Development Australia (RDA) Townsville and North West Queensland, is a proud North

Queenslander with over 25 years of experience in business and finance.

Since joining RDA in August 2021, Wayde has leveraged his local knowledge, connections, and expertise to lead initiatives across 14 Local Government Areas, from Palm Island to Mount Isa and the Gulf of Carpentaria. A Chartered Accountant, he has held senior roles with BHP, Incitec Pivot, Townsville City Council, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Townsville Enterprise.

Passionate about maximising regional opportunities, Wayde is dedicated to strengthening communities through collaboration with government, business, and industry. His private and public sector experience makes him an invaluable leader in driving sustainable development and growth for the North.

Keynote Panel: Towards a Northern Australian Population and Workforce Strategy

Wednesday 23 July • 10:05am – 10:15am

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



BRAM COLLINS
Chairman, Savannah Way Ltd

Bram Collins started in the tourism industry in 1990 when his family developed Undara Experience, becoming a Savannah Guide and

conducting tours of the Undara Lava Tubes.

Bram has extensive experience in the tourism industry from Operational Management and Events to Sales and Marketing.

Bram served for ten years on the board of Savannah Guides, three years as secretary and three years as President. Bram spent ten years as Outback Director on the board of Tourism Tropical North Queensland and nine years as Outback Director and Deputy Chairman of Tropical Tablelands Tourism. Bram was elected Chairman of Savannah Way in 2019.

Keynote Panel: The Key to Unlocking Critical Infrastructure and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia

Tuesday 22 July • 5:00pm – 5:15pm



BETH COOKSON
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry

Beth Cookson was appointed as the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer and Delegate to the World Organisation for

Animal Health in December 2023. Beth graduated from the University of Queensland in 2004 and has more than 15 years' experience in biosecurity policy and operations at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; as well as a stint leading frontline community engagement and recovery support functions at the National Recovery and Resilience Agency (now part of the National Emergency Management Agency).

Her veterinary career includes work spanning across the design and delivery of animal health surveillance programs in northern Australia, biosecurity capacity building programs in near neighbouring countries, biosecurity import risk analysis and international trade negotiation.

Beth became a member of the Epidemiology chapter of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS) in 2013, and was awarded an Executive Master of Public Administration degree through the Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG) in 2022.

Beth is based in Cairns and maintains a focus on northern Australia, including working with industry and strengthening partnerships with our near neighbours as an important part of her role as ACVO.

Keynote Panel: Defence, Biosecurity and Regional Cooperation

Thursday 24 July • 8:55am – 9:05am



MIKE COPAGE
Head, Climate and Security Policy Centre

Michael is the Head of ASPI's Climate and Security Policy Centre. He previously led the centre's projects from

2022-2024, focused on assessing the security implications of Indo-Pacific climate change impacts for Australia.

Prior to this role, Michael worked with the Government of Canada from 2012-2022 in various environment and climate policy roles. This included supporting the development of Canada's national climate mitigation plans in 2016 and 2020, assisting with the development of national climate adaptation policy, and delivering climate services by helping decision-makers understand and use climate data.

Keynote Panel: Defence, Biosecurity and Regional Cooperation

Thursday 24 July • 8:35am – 8:45am

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



HON. STEPHEN DAWSON
MLC
*Minister for Regional
Development, Western
Australia*

Stephen was born in Dublin and migrated to Australia in 1989 with his family.

He has been a Chief of Staff to a number of Government Ministers in Western Australia and Victoria and worked with the Trade Union movement.

Prior to being elected to represent Western Australia's Mining & Pastoral Region in 2013 he was the WA State Manager for Essential Media Communications.

In 2017, Stephen was elected as the Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council and was appointed as the Minister for Environment and Disability Services.

Stephen has also served as the Minister for Electoral Affairs, Minister for Mental Health, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Volunteering before being appointed as Minister for Emergency Services; Innovation and the Digital Economy; Science; Medical Research and Minister Assisting the Minister for State and Industry Development, Jobs and Trade in 2021.

Following the 2025 election, Stephen has been appointed as the Minister for Regional Development; Ports; Science and Innovation and the Digital Economy, Medical Research and Minister for the Kimberley. He will also take on the role as Leader of the Legislative Council.

Ministerial Keynote

Tuesday 22 July • 2:35pm – 2:45pm



TARA DIVERSI
Director, Launch Y(E)P

Tara Diversi is the CEO of Launch Y(E)P and Director of the Tropical Innovation Festival. She holds formal qualifications in business, psychology, behavioural economics and health. Tara has been an Entrepreneurship Facilitator for almost a decade after exiting her business in 2012 and going onto support other businesses thrive and communities build successful innovation strategies and ecosystems. She is published in the unique intersection of her qualifications and her understanding of human physiology provides a unique understanding of symbiosis within an ecosystem and how this relates to building innovation and business support ecosystems.

Keynote Panel: Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places

Thursday 24 July • 1:05pm – 1:10pm



CRAIG DOYLE
*CEO, Northern Australia
Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)*

Craig Doyle joined the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility as CEO in June 2022. He has extensive executive, operational, and project funding experience across multiple industries in northern Australia.

Craig served as CEO of Gladstone Ports Corporation between 2013 and 2016 and as Executive General Manager of Australia's largest sugar producer, Wilmar. He was also the Global Technical Head for Wilmar's international sugar operations.

A former CEO of Mackay Regional Council for nearly five years, Craig understands the needs of regional communities and key infrastructure requirements.

Craig is based in NAIF's head office located in Cairns.

Keynote: NAIF's Future Direction: Unlocking Northern Australia's Potential

Tuesday 22 July • 2:00pm – 2:10pm

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



GIBSON FARMER

Chairman, Port Melville Pty Ltd

Gibson Farmer Illortaminni is a Senior Tiwi Aboriginal man, dedicated to forestry on the Tiwi Islands, providing income and jobs for Tiwi people. Gibson

is the Chairman of Port Melville Pty Ltd, a 100% Tiwi owned company linked to all 8 clan groups. Gibson played a key role developing Port Melville, equipping it for woodchip exports. Gibson is Deputy Chair of Tiwi Plantations Corporation. He was born in Milikapiti on Melville Island, educated in Darwin and Mackay (QLD), and began working in forestry at the age of 17. Previously Gibson served as Chair of the Tiwi Land Council for 11 years.

Keynote Panel: Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future

Tuesday 22 July • 3:40pm – 3:50pm



DENNIS FAY

Founder, Salty Monkeys

Dennis Fay, a proud Torres Strait Islander man, is the founder of Salty Monkeys, a First Nations-owned adventure apparel brand grounded in

ocean conservation and cultural storytelling. Born and raised in Zenadth Kes, the ocean shaped his identity and purpose. What began as documenting spearfishing adventures has evolved into an impactful organisation. Dennis champions ethical practices by collaborating with Indigenous artists and supporting communities through workshops and mentoring. He also leads the Marine Debris Taskforce, removing tonnes of waste from Torres Strait beaches and training locals in drone technology. An aviation firefighter and entrepreneur, Dennis fuses culture, sustainability, and innovation to empower change.

A Torres Strait Story

Wednesday 23 July • 8:30am – 8:40am



CLARE GARDINER-BARNES

Commissioner, Infrastructure Australia

Clare Gardiner-Barnes is a Commissioner of Infrastructure Australia (IA), the Australian Government's

independent infrastructure adviser. IA advises on the project investments and policy reforms needed to deliver better infrastructure for all Australians. She previously served on the agency's Board. Ms Gardiner-Barnes runs an executive coaching and consulting business, CGB Consulting. Prior to that she worked as Head of Strategy, Planning, and Innovation at Infrastructure NSW and as Deputy Secretary, Freight, Strategy and Planning at Transport for NSW. She has also held senior government roles in Queensland and the Northern Territory, including as the CEO of the Department of Transport and the Department of Children and Families in the NT.

Keynote Panel: The Key to Unlocking Critical Infrastructure and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia

Tuesday 22 July • 4:45pm – 5:00pm

An aerial photograph of a coastal road in Northern Queensland. The road is a two-lane asphalt road with yellow center and edge lines, running parallel to a sandy beach and the ocean. To the left of the road is a steep, lush green hillside with dense tropical vegetation, including palm trees and yellow-flowered shrubs. To the right of the road is a sandy beach with white waves crashing onto the shore. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. A white car is visible on the road, driving away from the viewer.

Delivering for Northern Queensland

Ensuring regional and rural communities have the opportunity to:

- » influence decision making and shape policy and program development
- » improve access to government services
- » strengthen the community's economic, social, and environmental outcomes.

www.nrmrrd.qld.gov.au/regional-development

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

 Trinity Room



**PROFESSOR BARNEY
GLOVER, AO**
*Commissioner, Jobs and
Skills Australia*

Professor Barney Glover AO began his five-year term as Commissioner of Jobs and

Skills Australia in 2024.

Professor Glover is a distinguished academic leader, an accomplished mathematician and mathematics educator with significant experience in developing strong relationships with the vocational education sector. He is well respected for his engagement with First Nations Australians and disadvantaged communities.

He was Vice-Chancellor and President of Western Sydney University for ten years, from 2014-24, and in 2019 was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to tertiary education, professional associations and cultural organisations. In 2015, Professor Glover was awarded the title of Emeritus Professor for his outstanding leadership whilst Vice-Chancellor of Charles Darwin University from 2009 to 2013. Professor Glover was awarded the title of Emeritus Professor and an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from Western Sydney University in 2024 in recognition of his decade of leadership.

Professor Glover has served on the boards of a diverse range of corporate organisations and several state and national centres covering areas such as health and medical research, energy, mineral exploration, and telecommunications.

Keynote Presentation: Perspectives on Regional Development from Jobs and Skills Australia

Wednesday 23 July • 9:45am – 9:55am



**HIS EXCELLENCY, MINISTER
AIRLANGGA HARTARTO**
*Coordinating Minister for
Economic Affairs of Indonesia*

Airlangga was born on October 1, 1962, and grew up in a family close to Indonesian politics,

Airlangga assumed the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs role in 2019 under President Joko Widodo and continues until the leadership of President Prabowo Subianto. Previously, he led the Ministry of Industry from 2016 to 2019.

Airlangga graduated from University of Gadjah Mada in 1987 with Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering. In 1996, Airlangga obtain Master of Management Technology from The University of Melbourne and later on also graduated from Monash University Melbourne with Master of Business Administration in 1997. With a very comprehensive background of experience as a businessman, legislator, and minister, The Korea Development Institute (KDI) School of Public Policy awarded Doctor Honoris Causa in the field of Development Policy to Airlangga in 2019.

As a Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, Airlangga led the Committee for Handling COVID-19 and National Economic Recovery (KPCPEN) to navigate Indonesia out of the COVID-19 outbreak by implementing various strategic steps, integrating the aspects of health management with the national economic recovery.

During Indonesia's G20 Presidency in 2022, Airlangga led the G20 Sherpa Track. In 2023, Airlangga was also at the forefront, leading the ASEAN process under Indonesia's chairmanship, which focused on three main aspects: building regional growth, promoting the digital economy, and supporting sustainable development.

Airlangga continues to lead Indonesia's active participation in various international forums to strengthen Indonesia's position in the global economy and realise inclusive and sustainable national economic growth.

Keynote Panel: Regional Cooperation Between Northern Australia and Indo-Pacific

Wednesday 23 July • 8:40am – 9:00am

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

 Trinity Room



DR ANNA HAYES
*Senior Lecturer Politics and
International Relations, James
Cook University*

Dr Anna Hayes is a senior lecturer in Politics and International Relations

at James Cook University and an Honorary Research Fellow at the East Asia Security Centre, a collaborative research enterprise between Bond University, China Foreign Affairs University and the University of New Haven. Anna specialises in traditional and non-traditional threats to security, focusing on the People's Republic of China, as well as the implications of increasing Sino-U.S. strategic competition for the Indo-Pacific region. She recently co-edited 'The Chinese in Papua New Guinea: Past, Present and Future,' ANU Press (2024), with Professor Rosita Henry and Dr Michael Wood.

Keynote Panel: Defence, Biosecurity and Regional Cooperation

Thursday 24 July • 8:45am – 8:55am



MICHAEL HOGAN
*Executive Convenor, Thriving
Qld Kids Partnership (ARACY)*

Michael is the Executive Convenor of the Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership, a joint initiative of ARACY and

Queensland leaders and organisations.

Michael Hogan has over 40 years' experience in public purpose work in the government and non-government sectors. That includes over 6 years as a Director-General of two Qld Government agencies. Michael is an Industry Fellow at the Queensland Brain Institute at UQ, and an Adjunct Professor at the Centre for Justice at QUT. Michael is also on the Board of Directors of the Torres Indigenous Health Corporation, the Board of Directors of Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service, and is Vice-President of the Council of the Queensland Library Foundation.

Keynote Panel: Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places

Thursday 24 July • 1:20pm – 1:35pm



DR. KAO KIM HOURN
*Secretary-General of the
Association of Southeast
Asian Nations (ASEAN) (pre-
recorded)*

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn previously served as a two-term Minister

Delegate attached to the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia since September 2013.

Dr. Kao survived the Khmer Rouge genocide and moved to the United States at the age of 15. He returned to Cambodia in January 1993 to run a think-tank dedicated to ASEAN and international affairs and later joined the Royal Government of Cambodia where he had served, from August 2001 to August 2013, in a variety of capacities including a post as Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

Keynote Panel: Regional Cooperation Between Northern Australia and Indo-Pacific

Wednesday 23 July • 9:10am – 9:20am

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

 Trinity Room



BARRY HUNTER
*CEO of NAILSMA & Chair of
Terrain NRM*

Barry J Hunter is a descendant from the Djabugay speaking people of Cairns hinterland. He grew up besides the Barron

River in the rainforest near Kuranda. Barry's experience includes employment in Government conservation agencies, mining and exploration industry, community and not-for-profit NGO's. With over 30 years' experience in Aboriginal affairs particularly in areas of land, natural and cultural resource management, he is dedicated to building community capacity and planning that delivers sustainable social, cultural and economic outcomes in our communities. He is currently, Chief Executive Officer of the North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA).

Keynote Panel: Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future

Tuesday 22 July • 3:25pm – 3:30pm

Keynote Panel: Decarbonised Investment and Nature Positive Development in Northern Australia

Thursday 24 July • 9:40am – 9:50am



RACHEL JOLLY PSM
*Assistant Secretary, Pacific
Labour Mobility Branch, DFAT*

Rachel is Assistant Secretary, Pacific Labour Mobility Branch, in the Office of the Pacific in the Department of Foreign

Affairs and Trade. The Pacific Labour Mobility Branch leads Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme strategic policy, engagement with participating countries and design of new commitments (including skills development pilots). In her 15 years with DFAT (and previously AusAID) Rachel has worked across the Department's foreign and development policy areas. Rachel has previously served overseas as Economic Development Counsellor in Dili and in Vientiane.

Keynote Session: Regional Cooperation Between Northern Australia and Indo-Pacific

Wednesday 23 July • 9:00am – 9:10am



**THE HON. MADELEINE KING
MP**
*Minister for Resources |
Minister for Northern Australia
| Member for Brand (Pre-
Record Presentation)*

The Hon. Madeleine King was first sworn in as Federal Minister for Resources and Minister for Northern Australia on 1 June 2022 and was reappointed to the role after the re-election of the Albanese Labor Government in May 2025. Minister King was first elected to Parliament in 2016, representing the seat of Brand on the outskirts of Perth, where she was born and grew up. The seat encompasses the Cities of Rockingham and Kwinana and contains some of Perth's heavy industries, including the HMAS Stirling naval base on Garden Island and the Kwinana Industrial Area. King's father worked at the BP oil refinery in Kwinana and her mother and grandmother ran a drapery store in Rockingham. Minister King was promoted to the shadow ministry in 2018 and has served as Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs and Small Business,

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room

Shadow Minister for Trade and Shadow Minister for Resources. Before entering parliament Minister King held senior executive roles at The University of Western Australia and served as the inaugural Chief Operating Officer at the Perth USAsia Centre.

As a Shadow Minister, a former political adviser and through Parliamentary committee work, she was a regular visitor to Northern Australia and has been deeply engaged in issues surrounding development in the north. Minister King has a strong interest in ensuring the benefits of economic development are shared fairly and create opportunities for all segments of Australian society. Minister King has a law degree from the University of Western Australia in Perth. She is also a keen hockey enthusiast, and was a member of the WA Women's Masters Hockey Team from 2012 to 2015.

Ministerial Keynote

Tuesday 22 July • 1:40pm – 1:50pm



JULIE-ANN LAMBOURNE *Co-Chairperson, Queensland Indigenous Business Network*

Julie-ann Lambourne is a proud Torres Strait Islander woman (Wagadagam from Mabuiag and Samsep from Erub) and a

nationally respected leader in Indigenous business, economic development, and systems change. With over 30 years' cross-sector experience, she brings deep cultural authority and strategic insight to regional transformation. Julie-ann is Co-Chair of the Queensland Indigenous Business Network and was the Inaugural Chairperson of the Brisbane 2032 First Nations Program Advisory Group. As Managing Director of Strait Insight Consulting, she leads major national engagements, including serving as National First Nations Engagement Advisor to Neoen Australia. Her work is shaping inclusive growth and genuine partnership across Australia.

Keynote Presentation: Towards a Northern Australian Population and Workforce Strategy

Wednesday 23 July • 9:55am – 10:05am



THE HON. DALE LAST *Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development*

Dale Last is the Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development.

Born and raised in country Queensland, Dale has dedicated his career to serving regional communities.

Dale joined the Queensland Police Service in 1981 and was awarded the National Police Medal in 1988 for diligent long service to the community. He was appointed Officer in Charge of Townsville Police Station in 2000, leading frontline law enforcement in Queensland's largest regional centre.

Following his service in the Queensland Police Service, Dale was elected to Townsville City Council, where he served as both Councillor and Deputy Mayor. In 2015, he was elected to the Queensland Parliament as the Member for Burdekin.

Dale is a fierce advocate for regional communities and rural development. His electorate of Burdekin is home to major resources projects and key transport infrastructure, including numerous mines and the Port of Abbot Point.

Dale lives on a small farm at Alligator Creek with his wife, two of his children and a menagerie including two horses and a pet pig called Honey.

Ministerial Keynote

Tuesday 22 July • 2:15pm – 2:25pm

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



THE HON. GERARD MALEY, MLA
Deputy Chief Minister of the Northern Territory | Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries | Minister for Mining and Energy | Minister for

Corrections | Minister for Renewables | Minister for Recreational Fishing

Gerard Maley serves as the Northern Territory's Deputy Chief Minister and was appointed to Cabinet in September 2024.

A lifelong resident of the Darwin rural area, Minister Maley trained as a mechanic before pursuing a legal career, where he passionately served the local community. His combined experience in trade and law equips him with a deep understanding of the Territory's unique challenges and opportunities.

Minister Maley is dedicated to strengthening the Territory's economy and protecting the way of life that Territorians value. He is focused on supporting industries that drive growth, create jobs, and sustain communities across the region.

Ministerial Keynote

Tuesday 22 July • 2:25pm – 2:35pm



PROFESSOR HENRIETTA MARRIE AM
Global Perspectives

Henrietta managed AUD \$30 million in philanthropic grants through The Christensen Fund between 2003-2012.

She has supported many Indigenous initiatives across northern Australia that include assisting Indigenous communities to move back on to their traditional homelands and support their traditional land management and environmental conservation practices, revitalise languages, promote education leadership and networking, particularly among Indigenous youth, and provide crucial support to a number of Indigenous cultural initiatives and festivals. Henrietta was born in Yarrabah, an Aboriginal community east of Cairns across Trinity Inlet, in northeast Queensland. Rising above a backdrop of racism and social exclusion, she has dedicated her life to preserving

the traditional knowledge of Indigenous peoples, both in her home community, around Australia and internationally. She was the first Aboriginal person from Australia to be appointed in a professional position with the United Nations, and then the first to work within an overseas philanthropic body. She has fought for the repatriation of cultural artifacts, drafted international guidelines to protect sacred sites, been instrumental in setting up an international institution for traditional knowledge in Australia. She has worked for many years as an academic with over 80 publications to her credit on issues relating to the protection of Indigenous cultural heritage, intellectual property, philanthropy, economic development and Cultural and eco-tourism, the bushfood industry, and access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing. She has served on a number of government committees and inquiries, as well as acted as an advisor to government bodies including Environment Australia, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and the Wet Tropics Management Agency.

Keynote Panel: Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future

Tuesday 22 July • 4:00pm – 4:10pm



SAMANTHA MARTIN
Founder, Tribal Voice Connections

Samantha "Bush Tukka Woman" Martin is an Aboriginal woman from East Kimberley, WA. An bestselling author,

TV presenter and consultant, she founded Tribal Voice Connections, a cultural consulting company promoting the value of cultural relationships. For the past ten years, Samantha has travelled the globe to promote the wisdom and customs of the planet's oldest living society, all the while showcasing the knowledge her ancestors left behind. She has worked hard to position her brand and company to support the global sharing of cultural knowledge and raise awareness of Bush Tukka and her diverse, fascinating cultures.

Keynote Panel: Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future

Tuesday 22 July • 3:50pm – 4:00pm

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



DR LISA MCDONALD
*Project Manager, Jobs
Townsville and North
Queensland, RDA Townsville &
North West Queensland*

Lisa McDonald is an experienced regional leader with a career

spanning roles in agricultural research, economic development, and energy product development. She has held senior positions with Townsville Enterprise and Energy Queensland. Lisa now leads workforce initiatives as project manager for Jobs Townsville North Queensland at Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland. Her work focuses on aligning skills and training with industry needs, increasing workforce diversity, and supporting the region to meet the challenges and opportunities of major economic transformation.

Keynote Presentation: Towards a Northern Australian Population and Workforce Strategy

Wednesday 23 July • 10:05am – 10:15am



SENATOR SUSAN MCDONALD
*Shadow Minister for
Resources | Shadow Minister
for Northern Australia (Pre-
Record Presentation)*

From growing up on her family's cattle property in North-West Queensland to running a business in South-East Queensland, Susan has a deep appreciation of the issues affecting Queenslanders across the state. Raised near Cloncurry, Susan was educated by Correspondence School and Mt Isa School of the Air before attending boarding school in Brisbane and studying commerce and economics at the University of Queensland. A qualified accountant and mum to three kids, Susan also ran a chain of butcher shops for six years, responsible for over 100 staff across five stores, before being elected to the Australian Senate for Queensland. Susan is based in Townsville, making her the Coalition's northernmost Senator in Queensland.

Parliamentary Service:

Susan is the Shadow Minister for Resources and Shadow Minister for Northern Australia, roles in which she will be able to help grow our country's most productive regions and industries for the benefit of all Australians. Susan was elected to the Senate in May 2019 as a member of the Liberal National Party and sits in the Federal Nationals party room. Susan also held roles in the previous Coalition Government as Special Envoy for Northern Australia and Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee.

Shadow Ministerial Keynote

Tuesday 22 July • 1:50pm – 2:00pm



SHERIDAN MORRIS
*Chair, CRC for Developing
Northern Australia*

Sheriden is currently the Managing Director and Company Secretary of the Cairns – based non-profit Reef

and Rainforest Research Centre (RRRC) and Deputy Chair of Citizens of the Great Barrier Reef.

Sheriden has extensive experience in environmental research and monitoring management, aquaculture development, agricultural science and agronomy in the sugar cane and banana industries of Far North Queensland and served as a Director of Wetland Care Australia and has previously worked with CSIRO and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

As an extensive contributor to land and sea management policy, Sheridan has also spearheaded the development and implementation of an innovative aid development program on Australia's northern borderlands with Papua New Guinea.

Sheriden is based in Babinda, Far North Queensland.

CRCNA Future Directions

Wednesday 23 July • 8:20am – 8:30am

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



KATIE-ANNE MULDER
*Chief Executive Officer,
Queensland Renewable
Energy Council*

Katie-Anne Mulder brings over 15 years of experience in industry development and

policy across the resources and renewable energy sectors. With roles in both Federal and State Governments, she has deep expertise in policy creation, regulatory frameworks, and strategic implementation. Her leadership has advanced major reforms in resource project approvals, land access, and critical minerals strategies. Katie-Anne has held key roles with the Queensland Resources Council and Queensland Exploration Council, managing operations, board relations, and government-funded programs. She led negotiations on coal and gas co-development arrangements and spearheaded statewide assessments of industry costs. Katie-Anne holds a Business degree and a Master of Applied Resources and Energy Law, and serves on the advisory board of Macquarie University's Centre for Energy and Natural Resources Innovation and Transformation (CENRIT). Her strong policy acumen and commitment to regional Queensland underpin her leadership of an ambitious renewable energy agenda.

Keynote Session: Decarbonised Investment and Nature Positive Development in Northern Australia

Thursday 24 July • 9:20am – 9:40am



REX O'ROURKE
*Chief Executive Officer, Torres
and Cape Hospital and Health
Services*

Rex has experience in the strategic leadership of health and human services in rural

and remote areas of Western Australia and the Northern Territory. He has engaged with Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations in the NT, WA and the ACT.

He also worked in the United States to contribute to national health reforms.

Rex is passionate about health equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and working towards closing the gap for health outcomes.

Keynote Panel: Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places Regional Cooperation

Thursday 24 July • 1:10pm – 1:20pm



MARK OLSEN
*Chief Executive Officer,
Tourism Tropical North
Queensland (TTNQ)*

Mark Olsen is the CEO of Tourism Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ), the

Destination Management Organisation for the World Heritage listed Great Barrier Reef and Wet Tropics rainforests. The region has over 2,500 visitor experiences promoted under the 'Leave Greater' brand, with sustainable tourism and respect of the world's oldest living culture at its core. The region's bold ambition is that every visitor will participate in conservation of our precious natural and cultural landscape. Mark is also the Chair of the State Network of Regional Tourism organisations and various State and National advisory boards.

Keynote Panel: The Key to Unlocking Critical Infrastructure and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia

Tuesday 22 July • 5:00pm – 5:15pm

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



JACINTA REDDAN
*Chief Executive Officer,
Advance Cairns*

Jacinta Reddan was appointed CEO of Advance Cairns, Far North Queensland's member-based advocacy and economic

development organisation, in 2022 following a long career in communications, marketing, government relations and public affairs, much of it in the Asia Pacific region.

Prior to moving to Cairns, Jacinta spent more than 20 years in senior roles across APAC, including as CEO of Hong Kong's 1400-member Australian Chamber of Commerce (Australia's largest international chamber of commerce). She also served as head of Asia Pacific communications and marketing at two global financial services corporations, and Asia PR and marketing manager for Tourism Australia during the opening of the China leisure market and the lead-up to the Sydney Olympics.

Keynote Panel: The Key to Unlocking Critical Infrastructure and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia

Tuesday 22 July • 4:25pm – 4:30pm



BRONWYN ROBERTSON
*Project Leader, Biodiversity
Terrain NRM*

An experienced environmental professional with over 20 years experience working with communities, Traditional

Owners and landholders in the Wet Tropics to deliver conservation projects. Strong understanding of environmental markets through her work on the Cassowary Credit Scheme.

Keynote Session: Decarbonised Investment and Nature Positive Development in Northern Australia

Thursday 24 July • 9:40am – 9:50am



JOANN SCHMIDER
*Board of Management
Chairperson, Community
Enterprise Queensland*

Joann is a Mamu, Dyirbal nation woman from Queensland's Wet Tropics Rainforest Country,

with a multicultural heritage. She chairs the Board of Management, of Community Enterprise Queensland (CEQ) which operates 31 remote stores and employs a 500-strong workforce to deliver essential goods and services across northern Australia. Joann brings experience in Indigenous governance, cultural knowledge systems, and community-led development to CEQ's commitment to building healthier, stronger futures for people and places in the North.

Keynote Panel: Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places

Thursday 24 July • 1:35pm – 1:50pm



JEFF STEWART-HARRIS
*Chief Executive Officer,
Mackay Isaac Tourism and
Chairperson Nth Qld Primary
Health Network, and Regional
Development Australia-
Greater Whitsundays*

Jeff is currently Chief Executive Officer of Mackay Isaac Tourism and chair of Nth Qld Primary Health Network, and Regional Development Australia-Greater Whitsundays and was recently elected as Chairperson for the Nth Australia RDA Alliance. Jeff is also a director on other Not for Profits organisations and supports local governments in various committee roles and functions.

Jeff professional executive and leadership career spans over 35 years and has seen him operate within executive roles across local government, marine and airport corporations and other private businesses.

He brings a deep expertise in the infrastructure, planning, regional and economic development, community, port, airport, and transport sectors. Jeff is a strategic and expansive thinker and a courageous leader of people.

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room

He is driven by the abiding beliefs that the regions are the powerhouse of our nation; and that all success is achieved through people. These beliefs power Jeff's willingness to challenge thinking and the status quo to ensure that our regions and their communities have sustainable futures created from strong, enduring social and economic performance.

Northern RDA Alliance Presentation

Tuesday 22 July • 1:10pm – 1:20pm



PENNIE TALBOT
*Executive Director at the
Office of Township Leasing,
NT Government, Office of
Township Leasing*

Pennie Talbot is an Aboriginal woman whose family descends from the Wagiman traditional lands of the upper Daly River, with connections to the Jawoyn and Gurindji peoples.

On 28 September 2018, the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, appointed Pennie as the Executive Director of Township Leasing, an Independent Statutory position established pursuant to subsection 19A(1) of the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976.

With a distinguished career in the Commonwealth public service, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) and as the founding Director of the Office of Township Leasing, Pennie has had the unique opportunity to work closely with Traditional Owners and communities to advance their economic and community aspirations through secure land tenure.

She is widely respected for her leadership, cultural authority, and her ability to build strong, respectful partnerships with Traditional Owners, government, and industry. Pennie's motivation and drive to empower Aboriginal peoples through the Township Leasing Model has been inspired by the Traditional Owners and communities she has worked in partnership with throughout her career.

As the Executive Director, Pennie is deeply committed to ensuring acknowledgement and respect for Aboriginal culture is embedded in all land administration and decision-making processes. She champions genuine partnership with Traditional Owners, particularly through the Township Lease Consultative Forums; culturally respected spaces that empower Traditional Owners to advance economic and community opportunities and aspirations through the activation of their traditional lands for benefit of their families and future generations.

Pennie is highly regarded for the strength of her relationships with Traditional Owners and a broad network of stakeholders, underpinned by her leadership and engagement skills across government and industry.

Keynote Panel: Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future

Tuesday 22 July • 3:40pm – 3:50pm



GARRY WALDRON
Chair, RDA Kimberley

Garry has extensive experience living, raising a family, and working across the Kimberley for nearly 40 years including living in Broome, Derby and the

remote community of Looma.

He has a background in teaching and more recently has managed several election processes in the Kimberley and Pilbara for the Australian and Western Australian Electoral Commissions. This demonstrates a high standard of governance and logistics capability supported by a strong network of regional stakeholders.

Northern RDA Alliance Presentation

Tuesday 22 July • 1:10pm – 1:20pm

KEYNOTE PRESENTERS

Trinity Room



DR MARK WENITONG
*Board of Management
Member, Community
Enterprise Queensland*

Dr Mark, a Kabi Kabi man and leading Aboriginal public health physician, chairs CEQ's

Nutrition and Health Pillar subcommittee. He also serves as Public Health Medical Advisor at Apunipima Cape York Health Council and Strategic Advisor at the Lowitja Institute. Through decades of work in clinical practice, health systems reform, and Indigenous health leadership, Dr Wenitong helps shape CEQ's "Food pathways to healthy communities" strategy, driving nutrition-focused, culturally grounded measures across the region.

Keynote Panel: Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places

Thursday 24 July • 1:35pm – 1:50pm



BLAKE WILSON
*General Manager, NORSTA
Maritime*

Blake Wilson, General Manager of NORSTA, is a dynamic leader with over 20 years of experience driving transformative growth in

energy, health, consulting, and national intelligence and defence-related sectors. Renowned for his expertise in business strategy and disruptive innovation, Blake delivers sustainable, high-impact solutions that create lasting value for organisations and communities.

Blake's career spans senior executive roles and entrepreneurial ventures, including Founding SunStak Energy Solutions, a leader in renewable energy, The Installation Company, a national service provision organisation, and Gradatim, a consultancy empowering organisations to achieve operational excellence. As CEO of International Health Medical Services, he led a workforce of over 600 staff and managed critical medical services across Australia, the Pacific, the US and Europe, overseeing budgets exceeding \$1.2 billion. His leadership as CEO of Wounds Australia and the National Health Co-op scaled healthcare organisations to national prominence, showcasing his ability to navigate complex challenges and deliver results.

At NORSTA, Blake drives sustainable growth and operational excellence, strengthening Australian-owned defence capabilities while championing regional economic development. His strategic vision and collaborative approach establish him as a trusted leader, dedicated to building a resilient, innovative future for NORSTA and its stakeholders.

Keynote Panel: The Key to Unlocking Critical Infrastructure and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia

Tuesday 22 July • 4:30pm – 4:45pm



PROFESSOR PETER YU
*Vice President, First Nations,
The Australian National
University*

Peter is a Yawuru man from Broome in the Kimberley with extensive experience in

Indigenous development and advocacy in the Kimberley, at the state, national and international level.

He has been instrumental in the development of many community-based organisations and initiatives that have had an enduring influence on the Kimberley region. He was Executive Director of the Kimberley Land Council during the 1990s and a member of the national leadership team negotiating the Federal Government's response to the 1992 Mabo High Court judgement on Native Title.

Peter has held various positions in the not-for-profit sector, as a Director on Water Trust Australia, Chair of the North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance (NAISMA), Chair of the Indigenous Reference Group (IRG) to the Northern Ministerial Council, member of the JANA Sustainability Advisory Council and a member of the Northern Australian Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) Statutory Review Independent Expert Panel 2024. He is currently Vice-President (First Nations) at The Australian National University.

Keynote Panel: Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future

Tuesday 22 July • 3:30pm – 3:40pm



for the north

“ NAIF’s support was instrumental in navigating a complex capital structure and bringing together a consortium of government and private sector investors.

Craig Francis

CEO of Genex Power,
Kidston Pumped Hydro
Storage Project

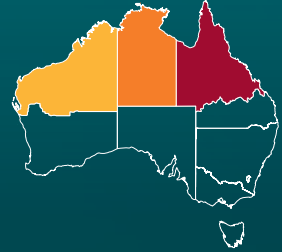


Australian Government

NAIF

Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility

Talk to our team at #DNA2025



We are a Commonwealth Government financier, providing concessional loans for the development of infrastructure projects in northern Australia and the Australian Indian Ocean Territories.

Our Investment Criteria

To be considered for financing by NAIF, your project must meet the mandatory criteria outlined in our Investment Mandate.



Involves the development or enhancement of infrastructure



Is of public benefit



Is located in, or provides significant benefit to northern Australia



Can repay or refinance NAIF's debt
(for debt finance)



Has an Indigenous Engagement Strategy
(with the exception of the Indian Ocean Territories)

32

PROJECTS

\$33B

PUBLIC BENEFIT

\$4.3B

COMMITTED LOANS

18,100+

FORECAST JOBS

*Financial data is accurate as at 30 June 2025

Find out more at
naif.gov.au

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	REGISTRATION OPEN Welcome! Come and say hello to the Conference Team and collect your Name Badge!
	Welcome Lunch Join us for a light lunch in the Mezzanine Exhibition, where you can mingle with exhibitors and network with fellow delegates, before an afternoon of engaging sessions!
Conference Opening	
1:00 PM – 1:10 PM	Welcome to Country Professor Henrietta Marrie AM, Global Perspectives
1:10 PM – 1:20 PM	Northern RDA Alliance Presentation Jeff Stewart-Harris, Chair Northern RDA Alliance and Chair, RDA Greater Whitsundays, Debra Burden, Chair, RDA Townsville and North-West Queensland; Garry Waldron, Chair, RDA Kimberley
1:20 PM – 1:40 PM	Conference Introduction & Housekeeping Professor Allan Dale – Conference Chair Professor of Tropical Regional Development, James Cook University (JCU) Chief Scientist, Collaborative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA)
	Ministerial Forum Professor Allan Dale – Conference Chair Professor of Tropical Regional Development, James Cook University (JCU) Chief Scientist, Collaborative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA)
1:40 PM – 1:50 PM	The Hon Madeleine King MP Minister for Resources Minister for Northern Australia Member for Brand (Pre-Record Presentation)
1:50 PM – 2:00 PM	Senator Susan McDonald Shadow Minister for Resources Shadow Minister for Northern Australia (Pre-Record Presentation)
2:00 PM – 2:10 PM	NAIF's Future Direction: Unlocking Northern Australia's Potential Craig Doyle, CEO, Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)
2:15 PM – 2:25 PM	The Hon. Dale Last Queensland Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Minister for Manufacturing and Minister for Regional and Rural Development
2:25 PM – 2:35 PM	The Hon. Gerard Maley, MLA Deputy Chief Minister of the Northern Territory Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries Minister for Mining and Energy Minister for Corrections Minister for Renewables Minister for Recreational Fishing
2:35 PM – 2:45 PM	The Hon. Stephen Dawson MLC Minister for Regional Development, Western Australia
2:45 PM – 2:55 PM	Jurisdictional Panel Discussion
2:55 PM – 3:25 PM	Afternoon Tea sponsored by Jet Zero Australia <h1>Jet Zero™</h1> Fuel up and refresh—courtesy of Jet Zero Australia! Take a break, grab a snack, and power up for the next round of sessions. It's the perfect pit stop to recharge and connect with fellow delegates before we take off again!
	Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future Chair: Barry Hunter, CEO of NAILSMA & Chair of Terrain NRM
3:25 PM – 3:30 PM	Session Scene Setting by Barry Hunter, CEO of NAILSMA & Chair of Terrain NRM
3:30 PM – 3:40 PM	Peter Yu Vice President, First Nations, The Australian National University
3:40 PM – 3:50 PM	Chair of Port Melville, Gibson Farmer Illortaminni and Pennie Talbot, the Executive Director at the Office of Township Leasing
3:50 PM – 4:00 PM	Samantha Martin Tribal Voice Connections
4:00 PM – 4:10 PM	Professor Henrietta Marrie AM Global Perspectives
4:10 PM – 4:25 PM	Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future Keynote Panel Discussion
	The Key to Unlocking Critical Infrastructure and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia Chair: Jacinta Reddan, Chief Executive Officer, Advance Cairns

PROGRAM

Tuesday 22 July 2025

4:25 PM – 4:30 PM	Session Scene Setting by Jacinta Reddan, Chief Executive Officer, Advance Cairns
4:30 PM – 4:45 PM	Powering Sovereign Capability: A Strategic Vision for Northern Australia Blake Wilson, General Manager, NORSTA Maritime
4:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Clare Gardiner-Barnes Commissioner, Infrastructure Australia
5:00 PM – 5:15 PM	The Savannah Way: Key to Unlocking Critical Infrastructure and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia Mark Olsen, Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Tropical North Queensland (TTNQ) & Bram Collins, Chairman, Savannah Way Ltd
5:15 PM – 5:25 PM	Tourism, SME's, Manufacturing and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia Keynote Panel Discussion
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	Welcome Networking Event Kick off the conference in style on the first night, relaxing with peers, colleagues, and friends at the stunning Hemingway's Brewery Cairns Wharf, a heritage-listed venue just a 5-minute stroll away at the Cruise Liner Terminal. Enjoy breathtaking waterside views of Trinity Inlet as you unwind in this relaxed setting. On arrival, you'll be welcomed with a drink and can indulge in delicious grazing boards featuring local produce. Plus, you can order from the restaurant's dinner and drinks menu for a truly memorable evening. Cost: Included for 3-day conference registrations. Additional tickets for day registrants and accompanying persons can be purchased for \$88.00 (incl GST) per ticket. Includes: Live entertainment, grazing stations and beverages.



Culture in Motion *See the AFL Cape York Dancers at the Networking Event!*

The AFL Cape York Cultural Dancers are talented Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth from communities across Cape York and the Torres Strait who board at AFL Cape York House in Cairns to pursue their education. In 2023 and 2024, they proudly showcased their culture at DanceRites at the Sydney Opera House, with the Aboriginal Dance Team placing second in the first year and the Torres Strait Islander Team ranking in the top eight. AFL Cape York House is a not-for-profit organisation whose cultural programs build confidence, pride in culture, and character, while supporting educational success for these young people.

PROGRAM

Wednesday 23 July 2025

8:00 AM – 8:15 AM	Day 2 Registration Open <div>   </div> Start your day with barista-made coffee, proudly provided by NAIF – because great conversations start with great coffee!
8:15 AM – 8:20 AM	Conference Welcome and Housekeeping MC: Amy Savage, Manager - Economic Development, Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
8:20 AM – 8:30 AM	CRCNA Future Directions Sheriden Morris
8:30 AM – 8:40 AM	A Torres Strait Story Dennis Fay, Founder, Salty Monkeys
	Regional Cooperation Between Northern Australia and Indo-Pacific Chair – Professor Hurriyet Babacan AM, Chair, Regional Development Australia (RDA) Tropical North
8:40 AM – 9:00 AM	His Excellency, Airlangga Hartarto The Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs of Indonesia
9:00 AM – 9:10 AM	Rachel Jolly PSM Assistant Secretary, Pacific Labour Mobility Branch, DFAT


PROGRAM

Wednesday 23 July 2025

9:10 AM – 9:20 AM	Address by (pre-recorded) Dr. Kao Kim Hourn Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)				
9:20 AM – 9:30 AM	Strengthening Queensland's Position in the Pacific Leata Alaimoana, Queensland Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner - Pacific, Trade and Investment Queensland				
9:30 AM – 9:40 AM	Regional Cooperation Between Northern Australia and Indo-Pacific Keynote Panel Discussion				
	Towards a Northern Australian Population and Workforce Strategy Chair – Brook Orr, Director - Northern Australia Universities Alliance (NAUA)				
9:40 AM – 9:45 AM	Session Scene Setting by Professor Scott Bowman AO, Vice-Chancellor and President, Charles Darwin University and Chair - Northern Australia Universities Alliance				
9:45 AM – 9:55 AM	Perspectives on Regional Development from Jobs and Skills Australia Professor Barney Glover, AO, Commissioner, Jobs and Skills Australia				
9:55 AM – 10:05 AM	Julie-ann Lambourne Queensland Indigenous Business Network				
10:05 AM – 10:15 AM	Wayde Chiesa, CEO & Dr Lisa McDonald, Project Manager JTNQ, RDA Townsville & Northwest				
10:15 AM – 10:25 AM	Towards a Northern Australian Population and Workforce Strategy Keynote Panel Discussion				
11:00 AM – 11:20 AM	Morning Tea and Poster Session				
	Trinity Room	Plenary 1	Plenary 2	Meeting 9	Meeting 10-11
	Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future #2 Chair: Dennis Fay	Health & Wellbeing: Our People and Places Chair: Sarah Docherty	Nature Positive and Decarbonised Investment in Northern Australia Chair:	Tourism, Small Business, Manufacturing and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia Chair: Jason Kidd	Workshop One
	Building the Northern Territory's Future: Indigenous Leadership and Economic Self-Determination Lauren Motlop and Deirdre O'Sullivan, Aboriginal Investment NT	Strengthening the Health Workforce in Regional and Remote Australia Emma King, HumanAbility	Clean Energy Opportunities for Northern Australia Peter Long, Astron Engineering	Australia's Largest Salt Project David Boshoff, BCI Minerals	Modern Methods of Construction, Housing and Its Liveability: Northern Australia, What's the Solution? Facilitator: Mel Ireland, Department of Natural Resources and Mining, Manufacturing, and Rural and Regional Development Professor Jay Sanjayan, Centre for Sustainable Infrastructure and Digital Construction, Swinburne University Simon Taylor, Pilbara Development Commission David Henderson, Cyclone Testing Station, James Cook University Ryan Slocombe, Tetris Capital

PROGRAM

Wednesday 23 July 2025

	Trinity Room	Plenary 1	Plenary 2	Meeting 9	Meeting 10-11
	Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future #2 Chair: Dennis Fay	Health & Wellbeing: Our People and Places Chair: Sarah Docherty	Nature Positive and Decarbonised Investment in Northern Australia Chair:	Tourism, Small Business, Manufacturing and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia Chair: Jason Kidd	Workshop One
11:25 AM – 11:45 AM	Opportunities and Challenges in Activating Indigenous Water Rights in Cape York Peninsula Dr Jim Turnour, James Cook University	Building a Digitally Enabled Rural and Remote Healthcare Workforce: the NARDHC Digital Health Microcredential Course Dr Michelle Krahe, James Cook University	Understanding Northern Australia – The Value We Place on Nature and Views about Climate Change Daniel Evans, .id - Informed Decisions	Jet Zero Australia: From the Regions to the Runway with Sustainable Aviation Fuel Ed Mason, Jet Zero Australia	Workshop Continued
11:50 AM – 12:10 PM	First Nations Economic Empowerment through Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and Sustainable Enterprise Development Associate Professor, Dr Taha Chaiechi, James Cook University	Integration of Telehealth by Telehealth Technicians (Djagamirr) Into Community Life in a Remote Aboriginal Community Marianne St Clair, Simbani Research Pty Ltd	Critical Minerals – The First Step Towards a Decarbonised Future Maria James, Mount Isa To Townsville Economic Development Zone Inc (mitez)	Building a Future Ready Economy in Mount Isa Lizzie Webb, The Next Economy and Tim Rose, Mount Isa City Council	Workshop Continued
12:15 PM – 12:35 PM	What Would Be the Benefits of Establishing a North Australian Indigenous Fishing Cooperative? Bo Carne, Aboriginal Sea Company	Social Work Contributions to General Practice in Northern Queensland Ines Zuchowski, James Cook University	Protecting the Coast to Protect our Turtles Lee Furness, Town of Port Hedland	Essential Ingredients of a Collaborative Ecosystem to Support Innovation, Business and Economic Development Tara Diversi, Launch Y(E)P	Workshop Continued
12:35 PM – 1:35 PM	Networking Lunch sponsored by Mackay Regional Council  Take a well-earned lunch break proudly brought to you by Mackay Regional Council! Enjoy a delicious meal and take the opportunity to mingle with fellow delegates and exhibitors in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere				



Please refer to the website and mobile app for the most up to date version of the program and to read the abstracts for each session.

	Trinity Room	Plenary 1	Plenary 2	Meeting 9	Meeting 10-11
	Panel Presentation: Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places Chair: Jennifer McHugh	Governing Differently for Different Results Chair: Paul Rosair	Defence, Biosecurity and Regional Cooperation Chair: John Coyne	Towards a Northern Australian Population and Workforce Strategy #2 Chair: Brook Orr	Workshop Two
1:35 PM – 1:55 PM	Inclusive Workforce Strategies: Lessons from Sport for Northern Australia Matthew Levy OAM	Supporting Landholder Capacity For Quality Agricultural Development Applications Across Northern Australia Project Tahna Jackson, NT Farmers	Protect Our Production: Strengthening the North's Response to Biosecurity Threats with Behavioural Science Sam Moore, Evidn	Deadly Women: First Nations Women in Queensland and Northern Territory Overcoming Educational Barriers and Creating Achievement for Themselves and Their Community Lydia Miller, Reef and Rainforest Research Centre	Australia Awards Presentation Northern Australia- Indo- Pacific Connectivity: Doing Regional Cooperation Differently Professor Hurriyet Babacan AM, Regional Development Australia (RDA) Tropical North
2:00 PM – 2:20 PM	Panel Presentation Continued	Geography is Not Destiny: Understanding and Addressing Human Development Inequality in Northern Australia Dr Shashi Karunanethy, Geografia	Advancing Defence Capability Through Indigenous-led Infrastructure in Northern Australia Darren Godwell, Indigenous Business Australia (IBA)	Unlocking the Next Generation: Changing the Narrative around Regional Careers for a Thriving Future Georgia Lavers, Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3)	Workshop 2 Continued
2:25 PM – 2:45 PM	Panel Presentation Continued.	Strengthening Research, Development and Extension in Northern Australia Anthony Curro, CRC for Developing Northern Australia	Port of Karumba Sustainable Development Neil O'Brien, Gulf Savannah Development	Karratha: Powering Australia's Future Through Liveability and Growth Virginia Miltrup, City of Karratha	Workshop 2 Continued
2:45 PM – 3:15 PM	Afternoon Tea and Poster Session				

	Trinity Room	Plenary 1	Plenary 2	Meeting 9	Meeting 10-11
	Sustainable Water Development Chair:	Governing Differently for Different Results #2 Chair: Greg Bowden	West Australia Development Opportunities & Challenges Chair:	Connectivity Far and Wide Chair: Nicole Carroll	Workshop Three
3:15 PM – 3:35 PM	Challenges for Water Markets in Northern Australia Professor John Rolfe, CQ University	Regional Cooperation: The Kimberley Regional Group of Councils Paul Rosier, Kimberley Regional Group and Vernon Lawrence, Kimberley Regional Group and Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley	From Covid Chaos and Confusion to Regional Aspiration, Innovation, Determination and Now...Graduation Susan Grylls, Pilbara Kimberley University Centres	A Roadmap to First Nations Digital Inclusion Dot West OAM and Assoc. Prof Lyndon Ormond-Parker, First Nations Digital Inclusion Advisory Group	Beyond the Norm: Innovative Approaches to Workforce Strategies for a Thriving SME Sector in Northern Australia <i>Moderator:</i> Sarah Whelan, Karratha & Districts Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KDCCI) <i>Panellists:</i> Jools Munro, Explore Property Munro, Ursula Donnellan, Mark Fletcher Plastering; Dwayne Brischkle, Reef City Maintenance & Construction; Jane Tittums, Naanda Australia Pty Ltd; Matt Ilvess, AeroPest Australia Pty Ltd.
3:40 PM – 4:00 PM	Research Supporting Water Security in Northern Australia Professor Damien Burrows, James Cook University	Post-mining Land Use: It's Time to Get Serious About Repurposing Jillian D'Urso, Cooperative Research Centre For Transformations In Mining Economies	Panel continued	Water Infrastructure as a Catalyst for Connection in Northern Australia Mark Darrough, National Water Grid	
4:05 PM – 4:25 PM	The Balance of Water—Navigating Water Security, Ecology, and Development in Northern Australia Dr Paula Cartwright, James Cook University	Engage Early and Often - Ensuring Real and Perceived Equitable Outcomes from Infrastructure Projects Maddison Clonan and Matt Punch, GHD Pty Ltd	Advancing Environmental Remediation and Waste Management in Northern Australia: Tellus' Contribution to a Sustainable Future Jade Ritchie, Tellus	Positioning Cairns as a Transactional Hub for Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Tony Sheehan, Tradelinked Cairns PNG Pacific	
4:25 PM – 5:30 PM	DINNER Time to dust off your best attire and get ready to shine at the Conference Dinner! It's time to get fancy and enjoy an unforgettable evening!				
5:30 PM – 6:00 PM	Jump aboard the electric coach and glide your way to the Conference Dinner! Transfers will depart from the conference hotels Pullman Cairns International and Crystalbrook Flynn.				
5:45 PM – 9:30 PM	Get ready to dine in style at the Conference Dinner, proudly sponsored by NAUA – an evening of great food, great company, and unforgettable moments! <div>     </div>				

POSTER PRESENTATIONS - Wednesday 23 July 2025 | 10:25am - 11:00am

Harnessing AI and Autonomous Technology for Indigenous-Led Regional Innovation

Aaron Bell, KJR

Dual Purpose Peanut - The Northern Australian Perspective

Associate Professor Surya Bhattarai, CQUniversity

Using Remote Sensing to Inform Ecologically Relevant Water Quality Criteria in Northern Australia

Dr Adam Canning, James Cook University

A Day in the Life: Research That's as Hot as the North

Belinda Carlson, CRC for Northern Australia

Building Capacity Through Knowledge: Using History as a Tool for Positive Partnerships

Dr Sandi Robb, Cairns Historical Society Cairns Museum

Advancing the Barkly Region: Airport Expansion & Workforce Accommodation for a Thriving Northern Australia

Sandra De Kock, Airport Development Group | Northern Territory

Community-Led Leadership – Strengthening Regional Futures in Central Western Queensland

Heather Ellis, BlueWren Connections Pty Ltd

The Significance of Female Labour Force Participation in the North

Pete Faulkner, Conus Business Consultancy Services

Improving the Social & Economic Wellbeing Through Leadership and Capacity Building of Our Members

Catherine Fairlie, The Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation

Bridging Culture and Innovation: Integrating Drones, Data, and Traditional Knowledge for Indigenous Leadership

John Fejo, KJR

The Outback Way Action Plan: A Blueprint for Sustainable Growth

Melanie Forbes, Outback Highway Development Council Inc

Revolutionising Community Investment

Lyndal Hansen, NFP House

Enabling Others: Case Studies from the Pilbara

Steven Harding, Shire of East Pilbara

Bridging Digital Divides: Enhancing Cultural Safety in Online Kidney Health Resources for First Nations Peoples

Tracy Hardy and Dr Jaimon Kelly, University of Queensland

Enabling Consumer Protections in Government Telecommunications Procurement

Dr Rachel Hay, James Cook University

Empowering Indigenous Economies: Potential for Gidyea Gum as a New Cultural Industry

Thomas Hay, University of Queensland`

LiXiA: Advancing Innovative Infrastructure and Building Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia

Simon Igloi, Lixia Pty Ltd

A Paradigm Shift in Place-Based Workforce Development: Schools as the Blueprint for Regional Resilience

Leanne Kruss, Australian Integrated Agriculture Pty Ltd and Luciano Mesiti, Primary Industry Education Foundation Australia

How Will Northern Australia Mobilise to Make the Most of Telecommunication Upgrades for Economic Prosperity?

Kylie Lindsay, NBN Co

Rethinking Market Systems Design: Strengthening Indigenous Cultural Markets in Northern Australia

Nina Clements, Indigenous Connection

Strategic Investment in Critical Digital Assets for Business Continuity and Increased Profitability

Ciana Martinus, Prescient Security

SoulJam: A Safe Haven When the World Closes Its Doors

Genus Passi, Namu Collective

AI for Workforce Capability: Enhancing Front and Back of House of Education in Northern Australia

Toni Peggrem, AI Consortium

Growing Northern Australia - Solutions for Regional Development and Sustainability

Ruth Palmer, Property Council of Australia

Growing Back Better Queensland – Post-Flood Recovery and Resilience in Queensland Agriculture

Saba Sinai, CQUniversity Australia

Engaging Cultural Authority Towards Achieving Sustainable Operational Outcomes: the Gunawuna Jungai Story

Kieran Smith and Barry Walden, Gunawuna Jungai and Dr Leigh-Ann Onnis, James Cook University

HR in the Tropics: HR Leading Workforce Strategies for Northern Australia

Dr Leigh-Ann Onnis and Dr Jane Oorschot, James Cook University

Northern Australia and Decarbonisation: a Case of Misdirected Effort and Squandered Opportunity

Hon Neil Thomson MLC, Member For Mining & Pastoral Region

Creativity: The Missing Link in Agriculture Research Extension

Michael Thomson, Blue Hill

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Day 3 Registration Open <div>   </div> <p>Start your day with barista-made coffee, proudly provided by NAIF – because great conversations start with great coffee!</p>				
8:30 AM – 8:35 AM	Conference Welcome and Housekeeping MC: Amy Savage, Manager - Economic Development, Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning				
	Defence, Biosecurity and Regional Cooperation Chair - Dr John Coyne, Director - National Security Programs, Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI)				
8:35 AM – 8:45 AM	Mike Copage Head, Climate and Security Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute				
8:45 AM – 8:55 AM	Dr Anna Hayes Senior Lecturer Politics and International Relations, James Cook University				
8:55 AM – 9:05 AM	Beth Cookson Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry				
9:05 AM – 9:15 AM	Defence, Biosecurity and Regional Cooperation Keynote Panel Discussion				
	Decarbonised Investment and Nature Positive Development in Northern Australia Chair – Kylie Porter, Chief Executive Officer, Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3)				
9:20 AM – 9:40 AM	Katie-Anne Mulder Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Renewable Energy Council				
9:40 AM – 9:50 AM	Barry Hunter CEO of NAILSMA & Chair of Terrain NRM and Stewart Christie CEO of Terrain NRM				
9:50 AM – 10:00 AM	Decarbonised Investment and Nature Positive Development in Northern Australia Keynote Panel Discussion				
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Morning Tea with Exhibitors				
	Trinity Room Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places #2 Chair: Belinda Carlson	Plenary 1 Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future #3 Chair: Prof Adrian Miller	Plenary 2 Towards a Northern Australian Population and Workforce Strategy Chair: Sarah Whelan	Meeting 9 Tourism, Small Business, Manufacturing and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia Chair: Daniel Harris	Meeting 10-11 Workshop Four and Five Chair: Brook Orr
10:30 AM – 10:50 AM	Applying an Indigenous Strengths-based Theoretical Framework for First Peoples of Australia with Chronic Kidney Disease Tracy Hardy and Dr Jaimon Kelly, University of Queensland	Integrating Indigenous Priorities in Spatially Enabled Planning of the Indigenous Estate: Initial Findings Jonah Lafferty, Josh Mamarika and Danelle Bara, Anindilyakwa Land Council	Re-thinking Engagement for Underrepresented Youth in Northern Australia Sarah Chapman, STEM Changemakers	Solving the Data Drought in Northern Australia Nicholas Hart, Pivotel	From Conversation to Action: Unlocking Leadership at All Levels in Northern Australia Matt Linnegar and Andrew Bryant, Australian Rural Leadership Foundation

	Trinity Room	Plenary 1	Plenary 2	Meeting 9	Meeting 10-11
	Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places #2 Chair:	Beyond the Referendum: First Nations Leadership in Reshaping the North's Future #3 Chair: Prof Adrian Miller	Towards a Northern Australian Population and Workforce Strategy Chair:	Tourism, Small Business, Manufacturing and Sovereign Capability in Northern Australia Chair: Daniel Harris	Workshop Four and Five Chair: Brook Orr
10:55 AM – 11:15 AM	Improving Northern Health and Healthy Environments: the Remote Health Systems and Climate Change Centre Associate Professor Alexandra Edelman, Menzies School of Health Research	The Impact of First Nations Women in Local Northern Australia and Global Economies Dr Donna Odegaard AM, First Nations Business Australia	TAFE Queensland - a New Approach to Skills and Workforce Development Robert Petherbridge, TAFE Queensland	Regional Feasibility for Plantation Forestry across North Queensland Hulton King, North Queensland Regional Forestry Hub	Workshop Four Continued
11:20 AM – 11:40 AM	Using Telementoring to Promote Engagement and Collaboration Amongst Health Service Providers in Northern Australia Professor Anthony Smith, Centre For Online Health, The University of Queensland	Successful Partnerships with First Nations Communities – the First Nations Community Engagement Toolkit Micro-credential Associate Professor Kylie Radel, Central Queensland University	The Outback Way Action Plan: A Blueprint for Sustainable Growth Melanie Forbes, Outback Highway Development Council Inc	Impact of Ethical Sourcing and ESG on Future of Workforce in Agriculture and Other Industries Sachin Ayachit, Fair Farms	Building the Northern Australia Workforce Plan: Education, Training and Shaping a Dynamic Workforce Geoff Barbaro, Skills Insight
11:45 AM – 12:05 PM	Building Social Licence to Operate and Grow after a Disaster Lynda Pollock, 3HConsulting	Port of Melville - Tiwi Forestry Gibson Farmer Illortaminni, Port Melville Pty/Ltd, Pennie Talbot, Office of Township Leasing & Andy Bubb, Port of Melville Pty/Ltd	Housing Northern Australia's Workforce: Securing Cairns Housing Foundations Nick Masasso, Cairns Regional Council	Solving Australia's Export and Freight Constraints Through Private Infrastructure Investment in the North The Hon Andrew Robb AO, Board Member – Inter-Port Global	Workshop Five Continued
12:05 PM - 1:05 PM	Networking Lunch with Exhibitors				
	Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places Chair: Tara Diversi, Director, Launch Y(E)P				
1:05 PM – 1:10 PM	Session Scene Setting by Tara Diversi, Director, Launch Y(E)P				
1:10 PM – 1:20 PM	Rex O'Rourke Chief Executive Officer, Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Services				
1:20 PM – 1:35 PM	Thriving Places, Thriving Kids: Child and Community Development in the Developing Northern Australia Agenda Michael Hogan, Executive Convenor, Thriving Qld Kids Partnership (ARACY)				
1:35 PM – 1:50 PM	Food Pathways to Healthy Communities: Driving Wellbeing Through Remote Retail Joann Schmider, Board of Management Chairperson and Dr Mark Wenitong, Board of Management Member, Community Enterprise Queensland				
1:50 PM – 2:00 PM	Health and Wellbeing: Our People and Places Keynote Panel Discussion				
2:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Conference Closing Includes Prize Draws and 2026 Destination Announcement				



We're giving away a number of exciting prizes at DNAC

Simply use the conference app to scan the QR codes located throughout the conference venue or participate in Q&A and live polls in the keynote sessions.

HOW TO WIN

The top 10 scoring delegates will be eligible for the prize draw during the conference closing.

Winners must be present to claim their prizes.

Here are some examples of how points can be earned:

- Registration desk
- Exhibition booths
- Poster presentations
- Networking function
- Mystery Points around the conference venue

Delivering water security for the Territory

Department of Lands, Planning and Environment

We support the Territory's economic development and protect our natural and cultural assets through integrated planning, evidence-based advice and efficient regulation.

We are focused on supporting healthy, resilient communities and driving economic growth by delivering key water priorities, including:

**Enabling
water access
for economic
development**

**Protecting
water to maintain
healthy country
and ecosystems**

**Supporting
the Territory's
water security in a
changing climate**



An Australian Government Initiative



Regional
Development
Australia
NORTHERN RDA ALLIANCE

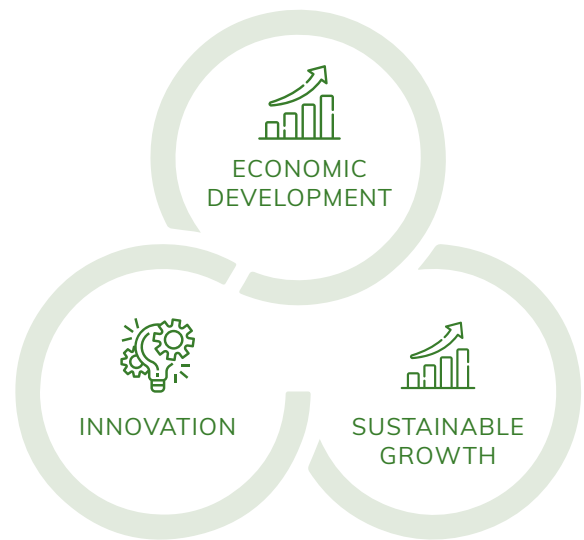
The Northern RDA Alliance

Driving Growth Across the North

The Northern RDA Alliance champions economic development, innovation, and sustainable growth across Northern Australia.

Through deep local insight and strong stakeholder collaboration, the Alliance helps bridge regional development gaps and deliver place-based solutions that align with Australian Government priorities.

By identifying strategic investment opportunities, informing policy and program design, and supporting ESG-led regional initiatives, the Alliance empowers communities and industries to thrive. Led by independent committees of local leaders, the Alliance brings regional voices to the national stage - **working collectively to unlock the full potential of the North.**



Local people creating local opportunities



WE'D LOVE YOUR FEEDBACK

We'd love your feedback
about the conference.

Please scan the QR code at
the conference to complete
our short conference
survey.



WIN

As a THANK YOU for
completing this survey
by Friday 1 August 2025,
you'll go into the draw to
win a **\$500 gift card!**



SPONSORS

HOST CITY PARTNERS



Cairns Regional Council

Cairns Regional Council serves a diverse and vibrant region in Far North Queensland, spanning approximately 1,700 square kilometres and framed by two World Heritage areas – the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics rainforest.

Council is committed to fostering a robust economy, protecting natural assets, enhancing liveability through design, supporting our community and culture, and delivering for the community through strong governance and informed decision-making.

Key priorities include shaping a long-term vision for the region, which includes advancing the Cairns 2050 Growth Strategy, and maximising legacy outcomes from Brisbane 2032.

Council plays a leading role in advocacy, economic development, and strategic planning to ensure a thriving future for the Cairns region.

 www.cairns.qld.gov.au



Business Events Cairns

Connect with nature in a place unlike anywhere else. In Cairns & Great Barrier Reef you'll experience the astoundingly diverse and connect to something greater.

It's not just about relaxing on the beach (although we do that well too), it's about making a connection to our special part of the world.

Explore the best experiences Tropical North Queensland has to offer. From wandering to waterfalls to taking the plunge on the Great Barrier Reef, soaring over the rainforest to connecting with an Indigenous guide and learning about the world's oldest living culture, Cairns & Great Barrier Reef welcomes you to See Great, Leave Greater.

 www.tropicalnorthqueensland.org.au

SPONSORS

WORKFORCE PLANNING PARTNER



Jobs and Skills Councils - An Australian Government Initiative

Jobs and Skills Councils (JSCs) have been established to provide industry with a stronger voice to ensure Australia's vocational education and training (VET) sector delivers better outcomes for learners and employers.

They bring together employers, unions and governments in a tripartite arrangement to find solutions to skills and workforce challenges.

The following JSCs are proud to support the Developing Northern Australia Conference:

- Build Skills Australia
- Future Skills Organisation
- HumanAbility
- Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance
- Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance
- Powering Skills Organisation
- Public Skills Australia
- Skills Insight

JSCs are funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

☎ 03 9321 3526

🌐 www.dewr.gov.au/skills-reform/jobs-and-skills-councils

GOLD SPONSORS



CRC for Developing Northern Australia

The Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA) is a key initiative of the Australian Government's Our North, Our Future: White Paper on Developing Northern Australia and is investing \$75 million over ten years (2017 to 2027) to deliver industry-led research and development collaborations which de-risk the development landscape and enable the sustainable economic growth of Northern Australia. CRCNA funding is developing new technologies, products and services which address industry issues in Northern Australia within initial focus areas of: Agriculture (incl. aquaculture, horticulture and forestry); Health service delivery; Traditional Owner-led business development; and Water security.

☎ 07 4401 5035

🌐 www.crnca.com.au

SPONSORS

GOLD SPONSORS



Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development

Delivering public services is at the heart of all government agencies.

For the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development, that means supporting landholders, businesses and communities to capitalise on our abundant natural resources, minerals and ingenuity to deliver long-term, sustainable economic development.

We do this by helping the community make the best use of our renewable and on-renewable land, mineral and energy resources, as well as providing support for manufacturers to grow their businesses and explore new markets, and engaging with regional and rural communities to understand their needs and advocate for their interests and improve access to government services.

Visit www.qld.gov.au/regionaldevelopment to find out more.

 www.nrmmrrd.qld.gov.au

GOLD SPONSORS



ONA, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

The Office of Northern Australia (ONA) oversees the Australian Government's policy agenda to deliver sustainable, resilient economic and social development for northern Australia. The ONA works collaboratively with Australian Government agencies and northern Australian jurisdictions (Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory) as well as industry and investment partners to deliver inclusive, progressive policy in the north. The branch provides support for the Northern Australia Ministerial Forum, which is progressing a shared vision for liveable, safe, sustainable and healthy communities in the north, and the Northern Australia Indigenous Reference Group, which provides advice on maximising benefits and implementation outcomes for Indigenous Australians.

 northernaustralia@infrastructure.gov.au

 www.northernaustralia.gov.au

SPONSORS

BRONZE SPONSOR



Department of Lands, Planning and Environment, Northern Territory Government

The Northern Territory (NT) Government is developing Northern Australia by growing the Territory economy whilst maintaining the Territory's iconic landscapes and lifestyle.

The Office of Water Security within the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment coordinates strategic water policy and transformational initiatives that will enable water security for all Territorians.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries works to grow the sector and maintain our reputation as a supplier of safe and quality agricultural produce and sustainable fisheries, through scientific research and biosecurity.

Read more about how we are developing the NT:

www.watersecurity.nt.gov.au

www.daf.nt.gov.au

 08 8999 4444

 www.watersecurity.nt.gov.au

BRONZE SPONSOR



Indigenous Business Australia (IBA)

IBA serves, partners and invests with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who want to own their future. Whether that be to own a home, to start and run a business, or investment opportunities – we're deeply invested in the financial success and economic independence of Indigenous Australians. It's why we exist. For entrepreneurs and business owners, IBA can provide the right mix of products, services, advice, networks and capability to support your goals. Our vision is for a nation in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are economically independent and an integral part of the economy.

 www.iba.gov.au

SPONSORS

CONFERENCE DINNER

Northern Australia Universities Alliance

An alliance between CQUniversity, Charles Darwin University and James Cook University



Northern Australia Universities Alliance (NAUA)

The Northern Australia University Alliance (NAUA) is a collaborative initiative that brings together three partner universities: CQUniversity, Charles Darwin University, and James Cook University, with a shared vision for the sustainable development of Northern Australia. Our alliance is built upon the mutual aspirations to contribute to the social, environmental, and economic growth of this vibrant region. The north is a significant place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People; in the north it is about building the capacity of its communities to determine their futures.

As proponents of genuine progress in the north, NAUA adopts a place-based focus, understanding that regional universities are pivotal in fostering embedded human development and research for the northern agenda. Through our alliance, NAUA strives to develop and retain the crucial skills, education, and research capabilities necessary for the advancement of Northern Australia's industries and communities. Our collaborative relationship seeks to explore and progress strategic issues and opportunities that hold immense potential for the region. We are dedicated to identifying areas where collective action generates greater benefits than working in isolation.

 www.naua.edu.au

BREAKFAST NETWORKING PARTNER



An Australian Government Initiative



Regional
Development
Australia
NORTHERN RDA ALLIANCE

Northern Regional Development Australia Alliance

The Northern RDA Alliance is the collective voice for Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committees across Northern Australia, stretching from Western Australia's Gascoyne to Central Queensland and the Top End. Formed over a decade ago, the Alliance champions sustainable economic growth, investment, and community development aligned with Australian Government priorities. Leveraging deep local knowledge and regional networks, the Alliance informs policy, drives infrastructure and industry development, and promotes ESG-aligned innovation. As trusted advisors to government, the Alliance connects sectors and stakeholders to unlock Northern Australia's full potential through place-based solutions that support resilient, prosperous, and inclusive regional communities.

 07 4957 6160

 www.northernrdaalliance.com.au

SPONSORS

LUNCHEON BREAKS



Mackay Regional Council

Mackay Regional Council's footprint is more than 7600km² – five times the size of Brisbane City Council, double Townsville and larger than Cairns and the Sunshine Coast combined.

With a population of more than 125,000, it has a gross regional product of \$11.4 billion across a diverse economic base, ranging from agriculture and tourism to manufacturing and mining services.

☎ 1300 622 529

🌐 www.discovermackay.com.au

REFRESHMENT BREAKS

Jet Zero™

Jet Zero Australia

At Jet Zero we are excited to be bringing the regions to the runway of the Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) industry.

We are investing in the development and operation of large-scale SAF projects in regional centres to meet aviation's decarbonisation targets, create new and exciting jobs and improve sovereign fuel security.

We aim to be quick to market with a production target of 102 million litres per annum (MLpa) of SAF and 11 MLpa of Renewable Diesel (RD) on our first project by 2028.

We distinguish ourselves with our commercial mindset, knowledge & expertise and our partnerships.

☎ 02 8999 1596

🌐 www.jetzero.com.au

BARISTA CART



Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF)

The Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) is the Commonwealth Government's \$7 billion financing agency to support infrastructure development that generates public benefit for northern Australia.

NAIF's mandate focuses on projects that deliver public benefit, Indigenous outcomes and contribute to the sustainable growth of the region.

NAIF has committed \$4.4 billion in loans across 32 projects across the north. Projects range from large-scale resource and energy developments to social infrastructure, including universities, to airport upgrades, agriculture and aquaculture developments.

In total, NAIF supported projects are forecast to deliver \$38.2 billion in public benefit and Indigenous Outcomes for the region.

☎ 1300 466 243

🌐 www.naif.gov.au

SPONSORS

LANYARD PARTNER



CRC for Developing Northern Australia

The Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA) is a key initiative of the Australian Government's Our North, Our Future: White Paper on Developing Northern Australia and is investing \$75 million over ten years (2017 to 2027) to deliver industry-led research and development collaborations which de-risk the development landscape and enable the sustainable economic growth of Northern Australia. CRCNA funding is developing new technologies, products and services which address industry issues in Northern Australia within initial focus areas of: Agriculture (incl. aquaculture, horticulture and forestry); Health service delivery; Traditional Owner-led business development; and Water security.

☎ 07 4401 5035

🌐 www.crnca.com.au

INDIGENOUS SCHOLARSHIPS



North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA)

The North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA) is an Indigenous not-for-profit organisation supporting Indigenous people to manage country sustainably for future generations. With more than two decades of experience delivering programs across northern Australia, NAILSMA is committed to empowering Indigenous people to take control of their lands, seas and waters. Guided by the principle, looking after our Country... our way, NAILSMA delivers practical, long-term solutions to support Indigenous people to care for Country in ways that respect cultural, environmental, social, and economic values.

🌐 www.nailsma.org.au



Contribute to workforce planning that works for Northern Australia

Drop by the Jobs and Skills Council (JSC) interactive booth – connect, contribute, and explore ideas on workforce development

The Northern Australia Action Plan 2024-2029 prioritises workforce development as a key driver of economic growth. In response, the Joint Select Committee on Northern Australia has recommended a more structured approach to workforce planning.

A group of JSCs will host a workshop and interactive booth to gather insights from attendees about workforce challenges to support local industries shape JSC workforce plans, and to support the development of the Northern Australia Workforce Development Plan.

We look forward to meeting with conference attendees and brainstorming ways to help identify practical, place-based strategies to support emerging industries, local needs, and the participation of First Nations peoples. Insights gathered will inform key workforce planning bodies to ensure workforce strategies reflect regional priorities, First Nations perspectives and the needs of remote communities.

What is a Jobs and Skills Council?

Jobs and Skills Councils (JSCs) have been established to provide industry with a stronger voice to ensure Australia's vocational education and training (VET) sector delivers better outcomes for learners and employers.

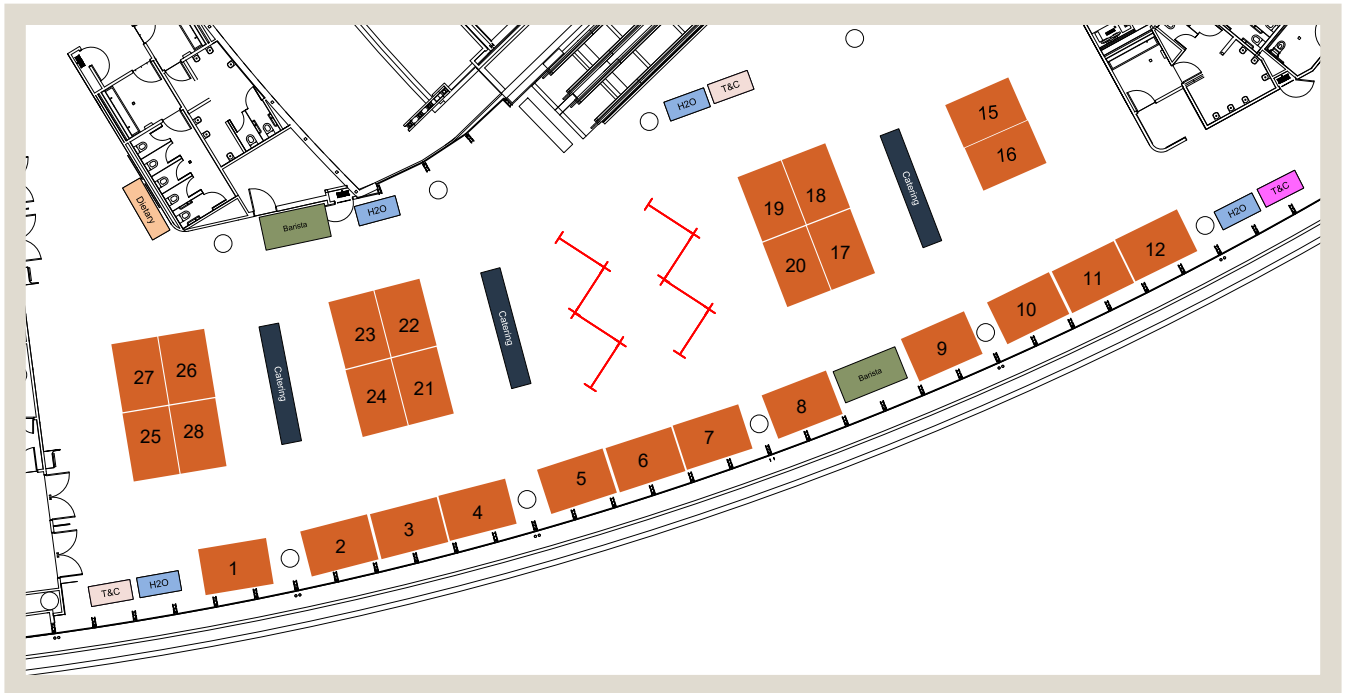
We bring together employers, unions and governments in a tripartite arrangement to find solutions to skills and workforce challenges.



EXHIBITION FLOOR PLAN

Exhibition Hours

Tuesday 22 July	12:00pm – 5:30pm
Wednesday 23 July	8:30am – 4:30pm
Thursday 24 July	8:00am – 1:00pm



Exhibitor List

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 North Queensland Regional Forestry Hub | 15 QLD Government |
| 2 Australian Rural Leadership | 16 QLD Government |
| 3 Department of Employment and Workplace Relations | 17 AI Consortium |
| 4 AUDA | 18 AI Consortium |
| 5 Office Of Northern Australia | 19 CRC for Developing Northern Australia |
| 6 Office Of Northern Australia | 20 CRC for Developing Northern Australia |
| 7 Remplan | 21 Jobs and Skills Councils |
| 8 NAIF | 22 Jobs and Skills Councils |
| 9 NAIF | 23 NBN CO |
| 10 Job Skills Australia | 24 .id Informed Decisions |
| 11 Northern Territory Government | 25 AEC |
| 12 Up North | 26 CSIRO |
| | 27 Indigenous Business Australia |
| | 28 Northern Australia University Alliance |

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS



.au Domain Administration (auDA)

auDA manages the .au domain name system (DNS), which is Australian critical infrastructure that supports more than four million .au domain names and helps internet users navigate to websites and send emails with domain names ending in .au. auDA is a not-for-profit endorsed by the Australian Government. Its purpose is to deliver a trusted .au for the benefit of all Australians and champion an open, free, secure and global internet. auDA supports the needs of Australian internet users by delivering a secure and reliable .au, implementing effective .au policy rules and investing in the Australian internet ecosystem to improve the utility of the .au domain.

☎ 0422 727 565

🌐 auda.org.au



AEC Group Pty Ltd

AEC Group is an outcome-driven consulting firm dedicated to delivering practical, high-quality solutions. With over three decades of experience, AEC has grown from a single regional office to a nationally recognised organisation. Our technical disciplines encompass economics, finance, market research, and graphic design. Our team is composed of talented individuals who thrive in a collaborative and supportive environment, fostering personal and organisational growth. We are committed to understanding our clients' unique needs and delivering innovative, timely solutions that drive their immediate success and long-term ambitions.

☎ 07 3831 0577

🌐 www.aecgrouppltd.com



AI Consortium

The Queensland AI Consortium is a collaboration of technology-focused organisations that manage the Queensland AI Hub, an initiative aimed at accelerating artificial intelligence (AI) adoption and capability development across the state. We exist to support AI capability and adoption across Australia, with a particular focus on Northern Australia and regional areas to ensure AI innovations and efficiency is utilised by all Australians.

🌐 www.aiconsortium.au



Australian Rural Leadership Foundation

The Australian Rural Leadership Foundation (ARLF) was established to respond to a clear need: leadership that reflects and supports rural, regional and remote Australia. Since then, over 3,000 people have taken part in ARLF programs, supported by more than \$100 million in funding from partners and sponsors. ARLF designs immersive, practical learning experiences that challenge people to lead with integrity, navigate complexity and connect across difference. It doesn't define leadership by title, but by action. Today, alumni contribute across industries, communities and sectors shaping change in ways that matter to where they live and work.

☎ 02 6281 0680

🌐 www.rural-leaders.org.au

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS



CSIRO

CSIRO's SME Connect helps Australian small and medium businesses solve problems and drive innovation through tailored programs including Kick-Start and the Regional University Industry Collaboration (RUIC) program. We support businesses at every collaboration stage - from defining problems and connecting with research capability, to project scoping and guiding agreements. SME Connect makes it easier to access research expertise and turn R&D into real-world impact.

 www.csiro.au



.Id - Informed Decisions

.id (informed decisions) is Australia's leading provider of tools and consulting services that empower confident and strategic local and national decision-making. Our unique analysis and models unlock detailed, evidence-based stories covering demographic, economic and social trends, plus the forecast of population, housing and land supply across Australia.

This independent evidence is built on a breadth of expertise and local-area research to help our clients understand local areas in their regional and national context. .id has been trusted by the private sector, local and state government for over 25 years, to provide impartial evidence to inform place-based decisions.

 03 9417 2205

 www.home.id.com.au/contactus



Jobs And Skills Australia

Jobs and Skills Australia is an independent body established in November 2022 to support Australia's productivity and economic health. We lead research and analysis, draw on industry insights, forecast workforce needs, and identify labour market opportunities to improve outcomes for individuals and communities.

Our vision is to realise the full skills potential of our nation. We work to ensure all individuals can contribute to a skilled, inclusive and productive workforce. Our work informs policy and program settings across education, training and skilled migration, guided by the Jobs and Skills Australia Act 2022 and shaped through stakeholder engagement.

 www.jobsandskills.gov.au/engage/connect-with-us



NBN CO

nbn is committed to responding to the digital connectivity needs of people across Australia, working with industry, governments, regulators and community partners to help lift the digital capability of Australia.

One of the company's key objectives is to support Australia's digital economy and enhance social connection by creating opportunities for communities, governments and industry to drive digital adoption and innovation.

 0419 850 223

 www.nbnco.com.au

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS



North Queensland Regional Forestry Hub

The North Queensland Forestry Hub is one of 11 Regional Forestry Hubs across Australia, established under the Federal Government's National Forestry Industry Plan 2018. The Regional Forestry Hub regions were chosen to represent existing concentrations of wood supply resources, combined with significant existing processing and/or manufacturing operations, established domestic and/or international transport links, and strong potential for growth.

Each Regional Forestry Hub has a steering committee of industry stakeholders. The committees determine the priorities for their region. The Hubs work with industry, state and local governments, and other key stakeholders to prepare and provide the Government with strategic planning, technical assessments and analyses that aim to support growth in the forest industries in their region. In addition to continuing this work the role of the Hubs is being expanded to include extension services for local industries and landholders across the research and being generated.

 www.qldforestryhubs.com.au



Department Of Employment And Workplace Relations (DEWR)

The Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme allows eligible Australian businesses to hire workers from 9 Pacific islands and Timor-Leste when local labour is unavailable. It supports short-term roles (up to 9 months) and long-term roles (one–4 years) in unskilled to semi-skilled positions.

The scheme helps fill labour shortages in rural and regional Australia and nationally for agriculture and select agriculture related food manufacturing sectors by providing employers with access to a pool of reliable, productive workers. It allows Pacific and Timor-Leste workers to take up jobs in Australia, develop their skills and send income home.

 1800 51 51 31

 www.palmscheme.gov.au



REMPPLAN

REMPPLAN are economic and demographic specialists. We provide powerful economic modelling and impact analysis tools and advisory services for governments, consultants, and businesses. We help clients understand regional economies and communities, assess the effects of planned projects or policies, and provide support for funding proposals. With detailed data and clear visualisations, REMPLAN empowers data driven decision-making for economic and community development, investment attraction, and strategic planning.

 1300 737 443

 www.remplan.com.au

CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS



upnorthgroup.com.au

UP NORTH

Urban Planning North (UP North) comprises a team of experts who represent the best and brightest in their collective fields to collaborate on projects that deliver on our shared passion for sustaining and growing regions.

The UP North team is committed to creating regions we need for people we love. As our team is comprised of the Principals of small businesses, we have the confidence to respectfully challenge the status quo.

Our tailor-made team delivers bespoke projects and products. We have combined expertise in strategic and land-use planning, local government and policy, economics, GIS and infrastructure delivery and design.



www.upnorthgroups.com.au

HOW CAN WE SUPPORT YOU?

HOME OWNERSHIP

BUSINESS SUPPORT

INVESTMENTS



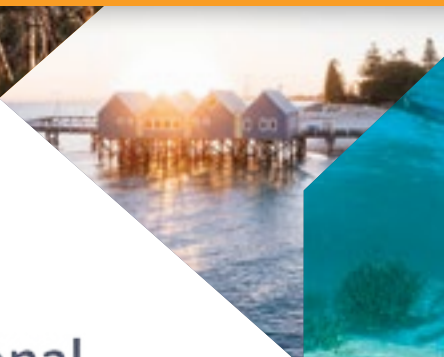
INDIGENOUS
BUSINESS
AUSTRALIA

iba.gov.au



Kimberley Regional Group

Enhancing the rich diversity & liveability of the Kimberley



OUR PRIORITIES OUR FUTURE



THANK YOU

TO OUR SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS

HOSTS



BUSINESS
EVENTS

SPONSORS

Workforce Planning Partner



Gold



Bronze



Conference Dinner



Luncheon Breaks



Refreshment Breaks

Jet Zero

Breakfast Networking Partner



Barista Cart



Lanyard Partner



Indigenous Scholarships



SHOWCASE EXHIBITORS

