

2023 COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL

A search for the soul of the nation

Melbourne, Australia
Monday & Tuesday, May 29 and 30
attend in-person or online



Communities in Control
The Conference. The Movement.



ourcommunity.com.au
Where not-for-profits go for help



The Communities in Control Movement

Where community leaders come to share new thinking, best and next practice and inspiration.

Local communities are the laboratories of innovation and agility. They deliver targeted social and economic outcomes, and they've laboriously and painfully accumulated a vast stock of knowledge about what works and what doesn't. If government, business, and philanthropic initiatives fail to respect that knowledge, they will fail; often, that's precisely what happens.

Many governments respect only coordinated power or unquestioning support. Many think that community groups can be ignored or picked off or bought off and silenced one by one. Many philanthropic funders and well-meaning businesses splash around cash for causes they know little about and don't take the time to consult the experts.

Every year for two decades the Communities in Control conference has offered an opportunity for community group workers, volunteers, supporters and others at the grassroots (particularly local governments) to look up from the coalface and look around them and see what could be possible. Our speakers – visionaries and realists, rabble-rousers, saints and entertainers, executives and academics – have filled in the outlines of a community-driven realignment of Australia's fundamental assumptions.

Our unwavering message has been that when communities are in charge of their own destinies and are able to set their own priorities, when they receive the practical support they need to design their own approaches and create their own solutions, Australia is a happier, healthier and livelier place on every scale from the nation to the street.

Why You Must Attend

- Hear from and interact with Australia's **best thinkers, leaders and doers**
- Learn **what works** – hear about best-practice examples of community building
- Learn **what's next** – be prepared for what's around the corner
- **Get refreshed** – participants rate this the best opportunity they get all year to recharge their batteries (and after the year we've all had, that's never been more needed)
- Get inspired – **meet people** who believe in the power of community, swap war stories, share solutions
- Get access – this is the **least expensive conference** of its type around. No other conference offers you access to this calibre of speakers and professional development at such a low cost
- Make a difference – influence the debate, to **be part of the change**



Can a country have a soul?

As individuals, we believe we have a core – something that has value but can't be sold; something that sums us up and which, in the end, it's fair that we be judged by. When we were unquestioningly in the Christian era, we called that a soul.

Our souls, though, are irreducibly private, incommensurate, not to be added together and reduced to a formula that could guide a country. Nations fight for their interests, which are what you get when souls are taken out of the equation.

The nation is defined by its borders; the soul has wider responsibilities. The nation can't make moral judgements about other nations it wants to trade with: souls aren't so indiscriminating. Nations measure themselves against GDP yardsticks, or perhaps even wellbeing: the soul stands in the cold light of truth and rates itself against what it could have been.

For each of us, though, there's something at our core that resonates with what our nation does – that feels shame, or pride, or hope, on reading government pronouncements and comparing them with the world we know. It is a reaction based not on finance or PR or power but on our common humanity. We project our consciences onto our country, and when enough of us do this, the country's goals shift for the better.

If a country has a soul, it lives in the volunteer sector, the part of the whole that isn't driven by calculations of dollars or votes or prejudices. The Communities in Control conference is a safe space where idealists can bring out their dreams and demand that they be made real.

Politicians sometimes think we judge policy only by how much it makes people we don't like suffer. To go beyond that we need a new vision – a light on the hill, if you will. Listen to what is said at the conference. Feed your soul.

Conference Opening

Welcome to Country

This conference will be held on Wurundjeri land. The conference organisers would like to make known our deep regret at the dispossession of and ongoing injustices inflicted upon the Wurundjeri people and all Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, to state our sincere respect for the people and culture of the traditional owners, and to place on the record our fervent hope that genuine reconciliation and true co-existence may be achieved in the very near future. We support the reforms outlined in the Uluru Statement from the Heart.



Denis Moriarty

Group Managing Director, Our Community

Denis is the Founder and Group Managing Director of Our Community. He is a graduate of both the Vincent Fairfax Ethics in Leadership Awards and the Williamson Community Leadership program, and a member of several not-for-profit and private boards. He is passionate about change and is driven by a desire to improve the lives of the most disadvantaged in society in a way that assists individuals and communities to take charge of their own destiny.



Kathy Richardson

Executive Director, Our Community

Kathy is Executive Director of Our Community and the group's "Chaos Controller". A journalist for the first part of her career, Kathy is passionate about equality, inclusion and human rights. She was selected as an Eisenhower Fellow (Innovation) in 2014.

A search for the soul of the nation: Who are we?

What is the "idea of Australia"? What defines the soul of our nation? Are we an egalitarian, generous, outward-looking country? Or is Australia a place that has retreated into silence and denial about the past and become selfish, greedy and insular? A lifetime of watching Australia as a journalist, editor, academic and writer has given Julianne Schultz a unique platform from which to ask and answer these critical questions. In this keynote, Julianne will explain us to ourselves and suggest ways Australia can realise her true potential. Urgent, inspiring and optimistic.

Emeritus Professor Julianne Schultz AM

**Author, academic, thought leader
on media and culture**

Julianne Schultz AM FAHA is the publisher and founding editor of *Griffith Review* and Professor of Media and Culture in the Griffith Centre for Social and Cultural Research, Griffith University. She is a non-executive director of The Conversation and chairs its editorial advisory board, and is also an acclaimed author of several books, including *Reviving the Fourth Estate* (Cambridge) and *Steel City Blues* (Penguin), and the librettos to the award-winning operas *Black River* and *Going Into Shadows*, as well as *The Idea of Australia: A search for the soul of the nation*, which inspired the conference theme for 2023.

Julianne became a Member of the Order of Australia for services to journalism and the community in 2009 and an honorary fellow of the Australian Academy of Humanities the following year. She is a thought leader on media and culture and an accomplished public speaker and facilitator. She has served on the board of directors of the ABC, Grattan Institute and Copyright Agency, and chaired the boards of the Australian Film TV and Radio School, Queensland Design Council and National Cultural Policy Reference Group.



Understanding Inequality: How and why we are not equal

Inequality is on the rise in Australia. This is bad news for individuals. It's bad news for the regions. It's bad for health. It's bad for our economy. We know how things are trending and we know it needs to stop. We also need to stop pretending that we can fix a problem we do not understand. How does inequality look in Australia? Why are we all not equal? If we can answer this, we have taken the first step in addressing our inequality, and moving towards making this country a fairer, better place.

Emma Dawson

Executive Director, Per Capita

Emma Dawson is Executive Director of Per Capita, an independent progressive think tank dedicated to fighting inequality in Australia. She has worked as a researcher at Monash University and the University of Melbourne; in policy and public affairs for SBS and Telstra; and as a senior policy advisor in the Rudd and Gillard governments.

Emma has published reports, articles and opinion pieces on a wide range of public policy issues. She is a regular contributor to Guardian Australia, the Age, Independent Australia and the Australian Financial Review, and a frequent guest on various ABC and commercial radio programs nationally. She appears regularly as an expert witness before parliamentary inquiries and often speaks at public events and conferences in Australia and internationally.

Emma is the co-editor, with Professor McCalman, of the essay collection *What Happens Next? Reconstructing Australia after COVID-19*, published by Melbourne University Press.



How to lose friends and influence white people: Making a difference when championing change and racial equality

The community sector is full of fierce advocates who are trying to make a real change, but are our methods effective? In this keynote, based on the title of her acclaimed 2022 book, Antoniette Lattouf will guide you on how to be effective, no matter who you are trying to influence. Whether it's the racist relative sitting across the table at a family function, or the CEO blind to the institutional barriers to people of colour in the workplace, award-winning journalist and vivacious leader Antoniette Lattouf has some tips and advice on what to do. A world of allies and advocates will be a better place for all of us – we just need to learn how to make (and keep) them.

Antoniette Lattouf

Broadcaster, columnist, author and diversity advocate

Antoniette Lattouf is a broadcaster, journalist, author, diversity advocate, mental health ambassador and mum of two girls – and terrible at reverse parking. The multi-award-winning journalist is the co-founder of Media Diversity Australia, a not-for-profit organisation working towards increasing cultural and linguistic diversity in the media.

She's worked in television, online and radio at Network 10, SBS, ABC and Triple J. She's been a guest commentator on ABC's *Q&A* and *The Drum*, Sky News, Network 10's *The Project* and *Studio 10*, and SBS's *Insight* and *The Feed*. In 2022, Antoniette became a co-host of Listnr's daily news and analysis podcast *The Briefing*.

Antoniette's first book, *How to Lose Friends and Influence White People*, was published by Penguin Random House in 2022. A witty and approachable anti-racism guide, it is an honest exploration of the modern manifestations of systemic racism in Australia today, and how we, as a collective, can take steps to make change. Antoniette provides practical tools, using warmth, humour, and research to share evidence-based solutions that can be used by anyone – from seasoned advocates who are people of colour, through to suburban white teenagers.

In 2019, Antoniette was named among AFR's 100 Women of Influence. In 2021 she was awarded a Women's Agenda Leadership Award and recognised as a B&T Women in Media Champion of Change.

Leading others to take the lead: Your role as a leader in the community sector

A good leader doesn't do. A good leader leads. Yet far too often, we over-invest our time in the "doing", and under-invest it in guiding our people in the right direction. Every person on Earth was born to lead change. The best leaders know this, and provide their people with the tools, time and skills needed to do it. In this keynote, Holly will demonstrate why, in today's world, you can't afford to keep leadership exclusive, and how you can lead others to take the lead and create change.

Holly Ransom

Leadership expert, speaker, author

Holly Ransom is a globally renowned content curator, a powerful speaker and a master questioner with the belief that if you walk past it, you tell the world it's okay. Named one of Australia's 100 Most Influential Women by the *Australian Financial Review*, she has delivered a Peace Charter to the Dalai Lama, was Sir Richard Branson's nominee for *Wired* magazine's "Smart List" of Future Game Changers to watch and was awarded the US Embassy's Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Leadership Excellence in 2019.

Having interviewed the likes of Barack Obama, Malcolm Gladwell, Richard Branson, Billie Jean-King, Condoleezza Rice, Nobel Prize winner Muhammad Yunus, and Sophia, the world's first humanoid robot, Holly fights complexity with curiosity, apathy with empowerment and fear with fact. As a Fulbright scholar and Harvard Kennedy School Class of '21 fellow, Holly is a recipient of the prestigious Anne Wexler Public Policy Scholarship.

Holly's book *The Leading Edge* helps people harness their own potential to lead by asking better questions, thinking beyond biased answers, and building collective momentum for change. In *The Leading Edge*, Holly brings the real-world leadership lessons of so many diverse thinkers and pioneers she's met to the fore. The Leading Edge is part of Holly's broader belief that we need to democratise leadership learning and break open the notion that leadership is exclusive.



The free speech conundrum: Combatting hate and anger in the wild west of the internet

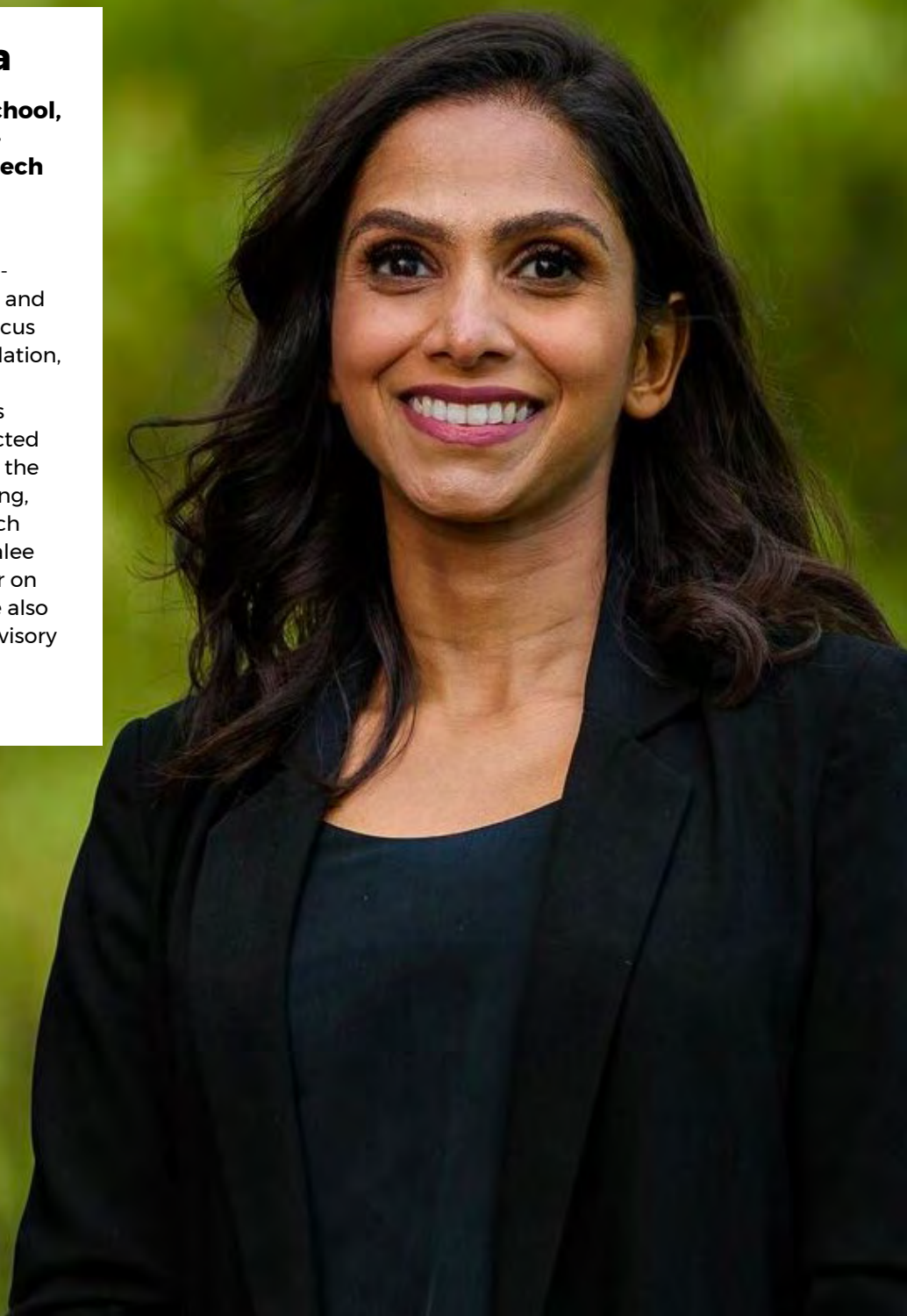
One outspoken billionaire tries to control the narrative in the guise of "free speech", and suddenly, Twitter accounts once banned for abuse and hate speech (including that of former US president Donald Trump) have returned to the platform. You only have to spend a minute on Twitter to see that its new approach to content moderation has already led to some of the most vile, offensive language imaginable. Hate speech, abuse and anger are everywhere online. What can we do to combat them? How can we support those who deal with them?

Dr Anjalee de Silva

**Lecturer, Melbourne Law School,
WLIA Fellow, expert in anti-
discrimination and free speech**

Anjalee de Silva is a Lecturer at Melbourne Law School. She is an expert in administrative, anti-discrimination, and free speech and media law and theory, with a focus on harmful speech and its regulation, particularly in online contexts.

In particular, her work examines vilification or 'hate speech' directed at and about women, as well as the role of law in deterring, regulating, and mitigating the harms of such speech. Outside academia, Anjalee is a local government Councillor on Monash City Council, where she also serves on the Gender Equity Advisory Committee.



The optimistic leader: Why the future belongs to optimists, and pessimists are just spectators

Spend any time on the internet or watching the news, and you'll get the sense that everything is falling apart. The economy is going to hell, war has returned, and humans are killing the planet - which is killing us right back. But is that really true? The answer might surprise you. It turns out the world is doing far better than we think. We're just not hearing much about it. This talk shows why, in times of great uncertainty, the most crucial leadership quality is courageous, intelligent optimism. Cynics might sound smart, but in reality they're taking the easy way out. Intelligent optimists, by contrast, look beyond the events in front of them, prioritise solutions over problems and guide people through the current crisis. Optimists move the world forward - they always have.

Rebecca Maklad and Melissa Neighbour

Futurists, speakers

Rebecca Maklad and Melissa Neighbour are from Future Crunch, a group of scientists whose mission is to foster intelligent, optimistic thinking about the future, and to empower people to contribute to it.

Rebecca is the CEO of Future Crunch and an Influence strategist. As an authority in the world of professional speaking, she spent 15 years representing and advising some of the world's most respected thought leaders, and since 2014, alongside the co-founders, she has built Future Crunch into a global thought leadership and media brand. Rebecca is the creator of Ignite, a bespoke consulting process designed to help entrepreneurs and leaders stand out in their marketplace and transform their expertise and stories into real influence. She is also the host of the Future Crunch podcasts *The DNA Of Purpose* and *The Intelligent Optimist*.

Melissa is an environmental town planner, community builder and sustainability specialist. She is the Owner of Sky Town Planning, a purpose-driven town planning consultancy based in Sydney. She has developed and implemented award-winning sustainable development projects across Australia, and is on a mission to activate sustainable forms of living in urban spaces of the future. She is a founding member of the World Economic Forum Sydney Shaper Hub, and was the National Convener for the United National Association of Australia Young Professionals Network.



Connecting our soul and the natural world: Unleashing the power to transform our relationship with people, profit, and planet

How do we relate to the natural world? Are we really separate from nature? Where are our souls in all this? What drives runaway climate change and terrifying natural disasters is not CO2 by itself... unwittingly, it's us, hemmed in by an economic system that thrives on disconnection from nature and from each other. It's time to reconnect our souls so we can grow economies that celebrate what we hold dear. What's required is to look deep inside ourselves – perhaps the hardest and most rewarding work of all. Cynthia will meld together the latest research with ancient First Nations' wisdom to show how a different path is possible.

Professor Emerita Cynthia Mitchell

Regenerative Futures Thought and Practice Leader

Cynthia Mitchell is respected globally as a thought and practice leader concerning how we transform ourselves, our systems, and our institutions towards regenerative futures.

Cynthia's story is unusual in academic terms – instead of narrowing, she has steadily expanded her focus, starting with biotechnology and engineering and opening to encompass sustainability, learning and change, economics, systems, and leadership. Over 20 years, she helped grow the Institute for Sustainable Futures at UTS from a fledgling into a world class entity, whilst she delivered more than a hundred collaborative research projects that enabled her industry and government partners to make practical sustainability improvements.

Along the way, she received many accolades and awards here and abroad, including an honorary doctorate from Sweden and being in the Australian Financial Review's 100 Women of Influence in 2015. She proudly serves on the national Community Directors Council, providing governance oversight to the not-for-profit sector.

In 2021, Cynthia started her first business, 'the good ancestor', through which she helps her clients take actions that demonstrate love and care for the generations who will follow us.



How do we search for something we can't see? It must be felt.

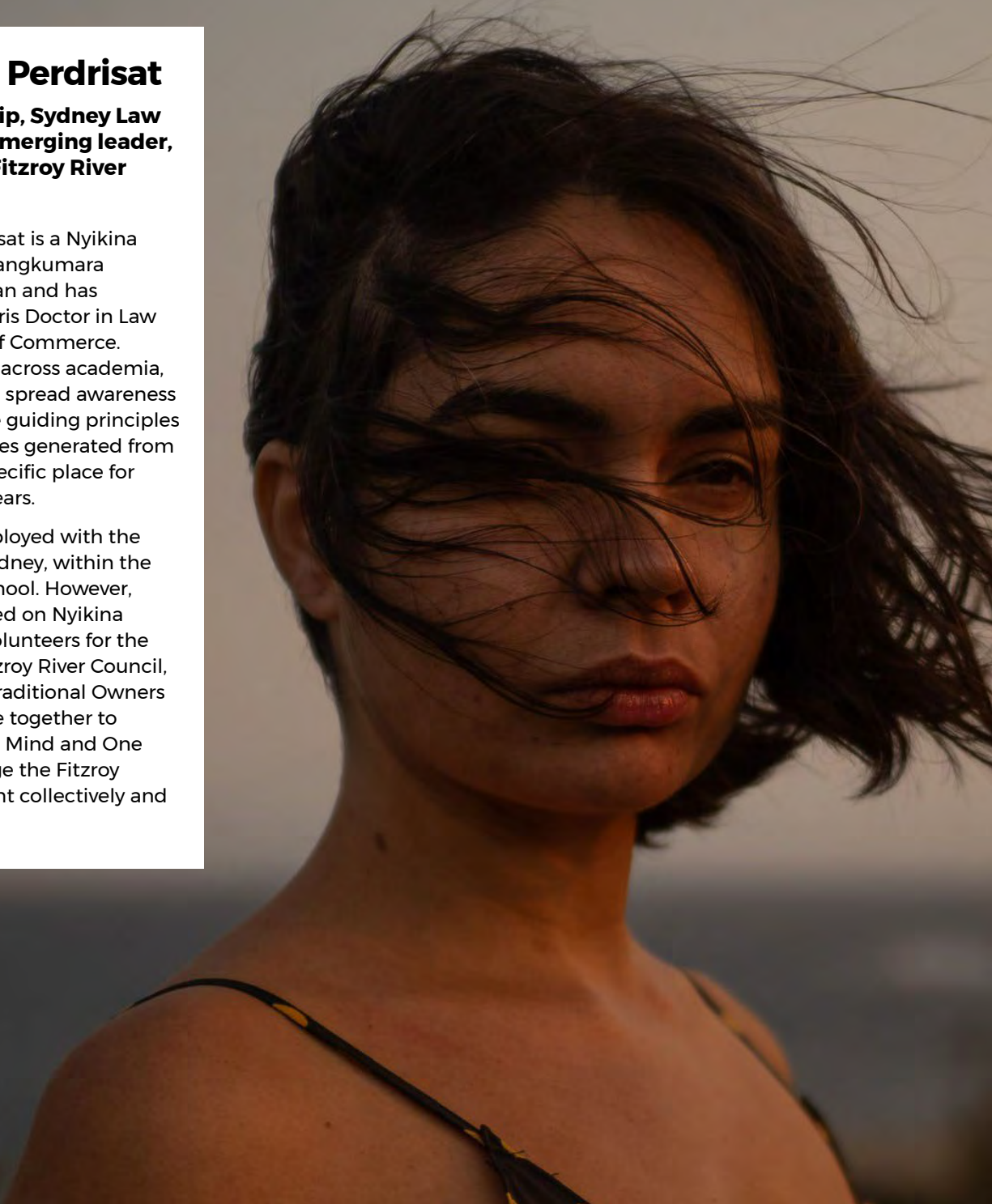
You cannot see the energy of Country, but we know it is there. Like the wind, we can't see it, but we can feel it. When I talk about Country, I am talking about community, but I am including all species, not just human beings. Each community on this continent is influenced by varying amounts of water and sun, and as climate change continues to worsen, we will rely more on our communities for support, hope and outcomes.

Marlikka Perdrisat

PhD fellowship, Sydney Law School, and emerging leader, Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council

Marlikka Perdrisat is a Nyikina Warrwa and Wangkumara Barkindji woman and has attained her Juris Doctor in Law and Bachelor of Commerce. Marlikka works across academia, film, and law to spread awareness of First Law, the guiding principles that First Peoples generated from living with a specific place for thousands of years.

Marlikka is employed with the University of Sydney, within the Sydney Law School. However, Marlikka is based on Nyikina Country, and volunteers for the Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council, an alliance of Traditional Owners who have come together to stand with One Mind and One Voice to manage the Fitzroy River Catchment collectively and holistically.



On belonging ... Learning to see our place in the world

Aristotle believed that good people are led to do bad things because of a kind of 'conditioned blindness'. Something similar has left many Australians unable to truly 'see' the country to which we all belong. Ethics is the antidote to this kind of blindness – if only we are willing to see.



Dr Simon Longstaff AO

**Ethicist, philosopher,
Ethics Centre CEO**

Simon Longstaff began his working life on Groote Eylandt in the Northern Territory. He is proud of his kinship ties to the Anindilyakwa people. After a period of studying law in Sydney and teaching in Tasmania, he pursued postgraduate studies as a member of Magdalene College, Cambridge.

In 1991, Simon commenced his work as the first Executive Director of the Ethics Centre. In 2013, he was made an officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for "distinguished service to the community through the promotion of ethical standards in governance and business, to improving corporate responsibility, and to philosophy."

Simon is an adjunct professor of the Australian Graduate School of Management at UNSW, and a Fellow of CPA Australia, the Royal Society of NSW and the Australian Risk Policy Institute, and a member of the Our Community board.

Ending loneliness together: Combatting the new challenge of our times

Before the pandemic, loneliness was already an increasing problem within Australia, but now it's one of the leading problems we face. Loneliness is a social issue that is becoming a huge burden on our health system and our economy. The community sector has the knowledge, tools and people at its disposal to help end loneliness – we just need to know how to harness our potential. In this keynote, Dr Michelle Lim will share the latest on how loneliness is affecting our society, and offer insights on what you can do to help.

Dr Michelle H Lim

CEO, Ending Loneliness Together, Prevention Research Collaboration, School of Public Health, The University of Sydney, Deputy Co-Chair, International Scientific Board - Global Initiative on Loneliness and Connection, Clinical Psychologist

Dr Michelle Lim is CEO of **Ending Loneliness Together**, a national Australian network made up of universities and industry partners, and the director of the social health and wellbeing group at the University of Sydney's School of Public Health.

Her work informs the Australian government, not-for-profit and corporate sectors, and she was the chief investigator of the *Australian Loneliness Report* (2018) and the *Young Australian Loneliness Survey* (2019). Her findings noted that one in four Australians aged 12 to 89 report problematic levels of loneliness. In 2020, Dr Lim co-founded and became the inaugural co-director of the **Global Initiative on Loneliness and Connection**, a coalition of organisations from 12 countries committed to ending the global problem of loneliness and social isolation.



Life and Death Decisions: Fighting to save lives from disaster, disease and destruction

Lachlan was sixteen when he found his father dead on the side of a dirt road in North Queensland, Australia. He had suffered a sudden heart attack and died alone. It was this tragedy that motivated Lachlan to train as a doctor specialising in providing medical care for people living in remote, resource-deprived locations. Lachlan's work with the World Health Organization and Médecins Sans Frontières has taken him to some of the world's most extreme environments, from the sinking islands of the Pacific to epidemics and war zones in the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa. In this keynote, Lachlan will take a deeply human look at the personal cost of our broken global health system by recounting his personal experiences treating patients across the world.



Dr Lachlan McIver

Global health expert, environmental advocate, author

Dr Lachlan McIver is a Global health expert, environmental advocate, author.

Lachlan specialises in rural and remote medicine, tropical medicine and public health and has a PhD in global health. Originally from Millaa Millaa in Far North Queensland, Lachlan has travelled to almost 100 countries. He has treated patients in some of the most isolated, volatile, resource-deprived communities on the planet, while grappling with complex health challenges such as climate change and antibiotic resistance.

He has co-authored close to 50 scientific publications in medical journals and textbooks on topics ranging from environmental health and infectious diseases to anaesthetics and emergency medicine. He is an adjunct Associate Professor at James Cook University and the co-founder of the international not-for-profit organisation Rocketship Pacific Ltd, which focuses on improving health in Pacific island countries through stronger primary care.

Lachlan and his wife live in Switzerland, where he is the Tropical Diseases and Planetary Health Advisor at the Geneva headquarters of Doctors Without Borders. In his spare time, Lachlan writes and records cheeky ironic punk-rock music in his basement under the pseudonym The Serpent's Nest.

His first book, *Life and Death Decisions*, was published in 2022. An explosive memoir, it combines Lachlan's personal journey with an urgent call to action on some of the greatest but most neglected health crises of our time.

Joan Kirner Social Justice Oration 2023

Craig Foster AM

Former Soccerroo, broadcaster, Adjunct Professor, sport & social responsibility, author, human rights activist

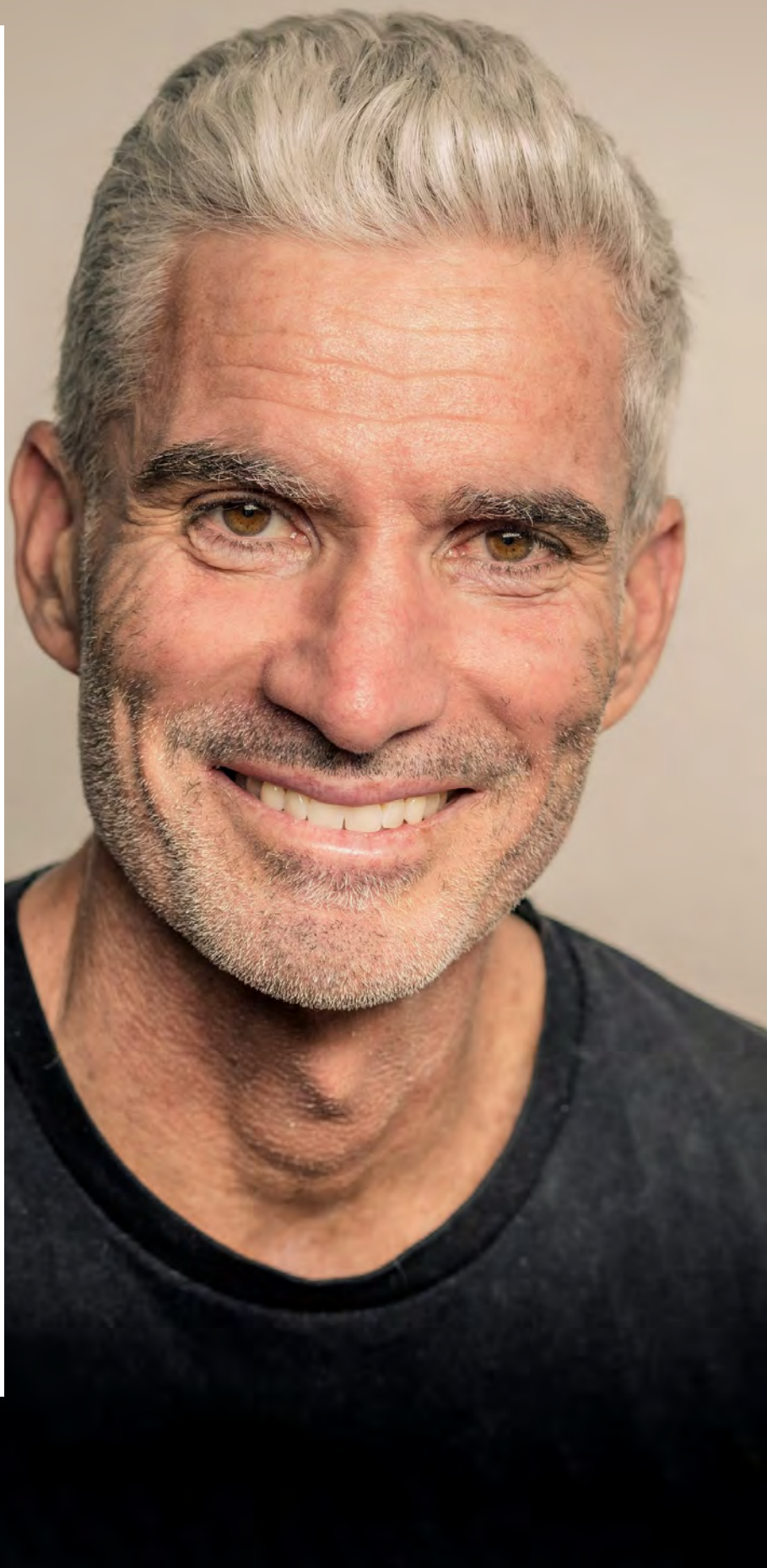
Craig Foster is a former Soccerroo, a respected broadcaster, a social justice advocate and a human rights campaigner.

Craig represented Australia in football on 29 occasions, and was the 40th captain of the national team. Following his retirement, Craig moved into broadcasting, and quickly became one of Australia's most respected sports broadcasters, with an 18-year triple Logie-winning career with Australia's multicultural broadcaster, SBS.

Beyond football, Craig has been a fierce advocate for human rights, working on campaigns including #SaveHakeem, #GameOver and #RacismNotWelcome. He is a member of the Australian Multicultural Council under the Department of Home Affairs, an ambassador for Amnesty Australia, a member of the Affinity Intercultural Foundation advisory board, and an ambassador for Sydney's Addison Road Community Centre.

Craig's list of awards and recognitions is long, and they include being recognised by the Australian Financial Review as a 'True Australian Leader' in 2019, being named Australian Father of the Year in 2022 for human rights and humanitarian work that has affected kids from many different cultural backgrounds, and being named the NSW Australian of the Year for 2023.

Today, Craig advises on athlete activism for some of Australia's most prominent sportspeople and is an Adjunct Professor of Sport and Social Responsibility with Torrens University.



Communities in Control Program

Day One

Monday, May 29, 2023

8.30 – 9.15 Registration opens

9.15 – 9.45 Welcome

Denis Moriarty, Group Managing Director, Our Community
Kathy Richardson, Executive Director, Our Community

Acknowledgement of Country

Surprise musical performance

9.45-10.45 A search for the soul of the nation: Who are we?

Emeritus Professor Julianne Schultz AM
Author, academic, thought leader

What is the "idea of Australia"? What defines the soul of our nation? Are we an egalitarian, generous, outward-looking country? Or is Australia a place that has retreated into silence and denial about the past and become selfish, greedy and insular? A lifetime of watching Australia as a journalist, editor, academic and writer has given Julianne Schultz a unique platform from which to ask and answer these critical questions. In this keynote, Julianne will explain us to ourselves and suggest ways Australia can realise her true potential. Urgent, inspiring and optimistic.

10.45 – 11.15 Morning tea

11.15 – 12.10 Understanding inequality: Key findings from the new inequality index

Emma Dawson
Researcher, commentator on inequality

Why are we not equal? We may find the answer in Per Capita's new inequality index, due to be released before Communities in Control 2023. In this keynote presentation, Emma Dawson, executive director at Per Capita, will relay some of the key findings from the first release of the inequality index, a tool which will guide government and the community sector as we seek to combat inequality.

12.10 – 1.00 Lunch

1.00 – 1.50 How to lose friends and influence white people

Antoinette Lattouf
Broadcaster, columnist, author and diversity advocate

The community sector is full of fierce advocates who are trying to make a real change, but are our methods effective? In this keynote, based on the title of her acclaimed 2022 book, Antoinette Lattouf will guide you on how to be effective, no matter who you are trying to influence. Whether it's the racist relative sitting across the table at a family function, or the CEO blind to the institutional barriers to people of colour in the workplace, award-winning journalist and vivacious leader Antoinette Lattouf has some tips and advice on what to do. A world of allies and advocates will be a better place for all of us – we just need to learn how to make (and keep) them.

1.50-2.30 Leading others to take the lead: Your role as a leader in the community sector
Holly Ransom
Leadership expert, speaker, author

A good leader doesn't do. A good leader leads. Yet far too often, we over-invest our time in the "doing", and under-invest it in guiding our people in the right direction. Every person on Earth was born to lead change. The best leaders know this, and provide their people with the tools, time and skills needed to do it. In this keynote, Holly will demonstrate why, in today's world, you can't afford to keep leadership exclusive, and how you can lead others to take the lead and create change.

2.30 - 3.00 Afternoon Tea

3.00 - 3.50 The free speech conundrum: Combatting hate and anger in the wild west of the internet

Dr Anjalee de Silva
Lecturer, Melbourne Law School, WLIA Fellow, expert in anti-discrimination and free speech

One outspoken billionaire tries to control the narrative in the guise of "free speech", and suddenly, Twitter accounts once banned for abuse and hate speech (including that of former US president Donald Trump) have returned to the platform. You only have to spend a minute on Twitter to see that its new approach to content moderation has already led to some of the most vile, offensive language imaginable. Hate speech, abuse and anger are everywhere online. What can we do to combat them? How can we support those who deal with them?

3.50- 4.40 The optimistic leader: Why the future belongs to optimists, and pessimists are just spectators

Rebecca Maklad and Melissa Neighbour
Futurists, speakers

Spend any time on the internet or watching the news, and you'll get the sense that everything is falling apart. The economy is going to hell, war has returned, and humans are killing the planet – which is killing us right back. But is that really true? The answer might surprise you. It turns out the world is doing far better than we think. We're just not hearing much about it. This talk shows why, in times of great uncertainty, the most crucial leadership quality is courageous, intelligent optimism. Cynics might sound smart, but in reality they're taking the easy way out. Intelligent optimists, by contrast, look beyond the events in front of them, prioritise solutions over problems and guide people through the current crisis. Optimists move the world forward – they always have.

4.40 - 6.00 21st Birthday Celebrations!
(Drinks for in-person attendees
supplied as part of the conference fee)



Tuesday, May 30, 2023

9.00 – 9.50 Connecting our soul and the natural world: Unleashing the power to transform our relationship with people, profit, and planet

Professor Emerita Cynthia Mitchell
Regenerative Futures Thought and Practice Leader

How do we relate to the natural world? Are we really separate from nature? Where are our souls in all this? What drives runaway climate change and terrifying natural disasters is not CO2 by itself... unwittingly, it's us, hemmed in by an economic system that thrives on disconnection from nature and from each other. It's time to reconnect our souls so we can grow economies that celebrate what we hold dear. What's required is to look deep inside ourselves – perhaps the hardest and most rewarding work of all. Cynthia will meld together the latest research with ancient First Nations' wisdom to show how a different path is possible.

9.50 – 10.40 How do we search for something we can't see? It must be felt.

Marlikka Perdrisat
PhD fellowship, Sydney Law School, and emerging leader,
Martuwarra Fitzroy River Council

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10.40 – 11.10 Morning tea break

11.10 – 12.00 On belonging: Learning to see our place in the world

Dr Simon Longstaff AO
Ethicist, philosopher, Ethics Centre CEO

Aristotle believed that good people are led to do bad things because of a kind of "conditioned blindness". Something similar has left many Australians unable to truly "see" the country to which we all belong. Ethics is the antidote to this kind of blindness – if only we are willing to see.

12.00 – 1.00 Lunch break

1.00 – 2.00 Ending Loneliness together: Combatting the new challenge of our times

Dr Michelle H Lim
CEO, Ending Loneliness Together, Prevention Research Collaboration, School of Public Health, The University of Sydney, Deputy Co-Chair, International Scientific Board - Global Initiative on Loneliness and Connection, Clinical Psychologist

Before the pandemic, loneliness was already an increasing problem within Australia, but now it's one of the leading problems we face. Loneliness is a social issue that is becoming a huge burden on our health system and our economy. The community sector has the knowledge, tools and people at its disposal to help end loneliness – we just need to know how to harness our potential. In this keynote, Dr Michelle Lim will share the latest on how loneliness is affecting our society, and offer insights on what you can do to help.

**2.00 – 3.00 Life and Death Decisions:
Fighting to save lives from disaster, disease and destruction**

Dr Lachlan McIver

Global health expert, environmental advocate, author

Lachlan was sixteen when he found his father dead on the side of a dirt road in North Queensland, Australia. He had suffered a sudden heart attack and died alone. It was this tragedy that motivated Lachlan to train as a doctor specialising in providing medical care for people living in remote, resource-deprived locations. Lachlan's work with the World Health Organization and Médecins Sans Frontières has taken him to some of the world's most extreme environments, from the sinking islands of the Pacific to epidemics and war zones in the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa. In this keynote, Lachlan will take a deeply human look at the personal cost of our broken global health system by recounting his personal experiences treating patients across the world.

3.00 – 3.30 Afternoon tea break

3.30 – 4.15 Joan Kirner Social Justice Oration 2023

Craig Foster AM

Former Socceroo, broadcaster, Adjunct Professor, sport & social responsibility, author, human rights activist

4.15 Close

Conference Details

Communities in Control 2023

Dates

Monday & Tuesday, May 29 & 30, 2023. All program times are AEST.

Where

Moonee Valley Racing Club, Feehan Avenue, Moonee Ponds, Victoria.

Or

Online

Parking

Free all-day parking is available at the venue.

Public transport

Taxi and Uber: The drop off and pick up point for all ride share vehicles is Feehan Avenue.

Tram: Route #59 City-Airport West. Catch the tram from anywhere on Elizabeth St in the city and get off at Stop 33 (Moonee Ponds Junction). MVRV main entrance is a 200m walk.

Train: Catch a Craigieburn line train from the city and get off at Moonee Ponds Station.

Walk down Puckle St (becomes Dean St) through the shopping strip and enter at Gate 6.

Contact Public Transport Victoria for info on timetables, ticket prices and maps; www.ptv.vic.gov.au; phone 131 638.

Price

Communities in Control: \$395 per person to attend in-person or \$295 per person to attend online.

See registration form for group booking discounts. ***Strictly no split tickets permitted or single days.***

Takeaway reference material

In line with our sustainability objectives, any materials made available for distribution will be provided via the Our Community website. A direct weblink will be advised via email following the conference.

Bookings, cancellation & refund policy

Registrations must be paid no later than 10 working days before the event. 50% of the registration fee is refundable if notice of cancellation is received more than 10 working days before the event; NO REFUND is available where notice of cancellation is received less than 10 working days before the event. Substitution of attendees is allowed, provided written notice is provided. It is not possible to transfer registration between events.

Commitment to access & equity

The organisers and supporters of this conference are committed to access and equity and as much as possible will be done to meet the needs of all delegates. Please contact Maureen McGinnis if you require assistance – maureenm@ourcommunity.com.au. While we will do everything within our power to meet all needs, we may not be able to meet last-minute requests because of time constraints.

About the conference organisers

This conference is an initiative of Our Community, Australia's leading community sector support organisation – visit www.ourcommunity.com.au

Changes to the program

While we will make every attempt to deliver this conference as advertised, please be aware that sometimes events beyond our control may lead to unavoidable changes to the program or schedule.

Registration

Communities in Control (May 29 & 30, 2023)

Register Online: www.communitiesincontrol.com.au

(by credit card, cheque or EFT)

Tick The Price That Applies To You



FLYING SOLO

Full Price
Single Ticket

- ☐ Attend in-person: \$395pp
☐ Attend online: \$295pp



DYNAMIC DUO

Save \$25pp
2-4 people

- ☐ Attend in-person: \$370pp
☐ Attend online: \$270pp



GANG OF FIVE

Save \$50pp
5 or more

- ☐ Attend in-person: \$345pp
☐ Attend online: \$245pp

STRICTLY NO SPLIT TICKETS PERMITTED

Registration (Attendee one)

Name	<input type="text"/>		
Job Title	<input type="text"/>		
Organisation	<input type="text"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		Post Code
Email	<input type="text"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>
Dietary or accessibility notes (in-person only)	<input type="text"/>		

Registration (Attendee two)




Name	<input type="text"/>		
Job Title	<input type="text"/>		
Organisation	<input type="text"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		Post Code
Email	<input type="text"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>
Dietary or accessibility notes (in-person only)	<input type="text"/>		

More than 2 attendees? Register online at communitiesincontrol.com.au

Registration

Communities in Control (May 29 & 30, 2023)

Cost

	1 person:	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend in-person \$395 or <input type="checkbox"/> Attend online \$295	x	<input type="text" value="1"/>	=	<input type="text" value="\$"/>
	2-4 people:	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend in-person \$370 or <input type="checkbox"/> Attend online \$270	x	<input type="text"/>	=	<input type="text" value="\$"/>
	5 or more:	<input type="checkbox"/> Attend in-person \$345 or <input type="checkbox"/> Attend online \$245	x	<input type="text"/>	=	<input type="text" value="\$"/>
TOTAL						<input type="text" value="\$"/>

Payment Method

- ☐ Cheque Enclosed
- ☐ Please send me an invoice
- ☐ Credit card (see below or register online www.communitiesincontrol.com.au)
- ☐ Payment made by EFT to Our Community (CommBank BSB 063 020 Account No. 10473753)

Credit Card Details

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX

Card No:

Expiry: Name on card: Signature:

Total Amount: Date:

Four Easy Ways To Register

Online: **www.communitiesincontrol.com.au**
(payment can be made by credit card, cheque or EFT)

Phone: (03) 9320 6800

Mail: Our Community
PO Box 354
North Melbourne VIC 3051

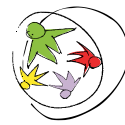
Email: **service@ourcommunity.com.au**

Tax Invoice

Where a registration is less than \$1000 (inc GST) this document becomes a tax invoice for GST purposes upon completion of payment. Prices inclusive of GST.

Our Community ABN is 24 094 608 705.

About Us



ourcommunity.com.au
Where not-for-profits go for help

Our Community

Our Community is Australia's Centre for Excellence for the nation's 600,000 not-for-profits and schools, providing advice, tools, resources and training.

A multi-award-winning social enterprise, Our Community's offerings include:

- **Institute of Community Directors Australia:** The best-practice governance network for the members of Australian not-for-profit and government boards and committees, and the senior staff who work alongside them - providing ideas and advice for community leaders
- **FundingCentre.com.au:** The best place to go to get and store information on grants and fundraising in Australia
- **GiveNow:** Australia's most innovative giving platform - increasing donations to community causes, helping people become better givers, and providing a payment solutions hub for all not-for-profits.
- **Communities in Control:** Australia's most inspiring annual community sector gathering: thought leadership for the not-for-profit sector
- **SmartyGrants:** Software, data science and intelligence for revolutionary grantmakers - accelerating outcomes and impact.
- **The Innovation Lab:** The engine room for sharing ideas and mobilising data science to drive social change
- **Our Community House:** A co-working space for the social sector, where data and creativity come together to catalyse social change

Communities in Control Alliance Partners



Commonwealth Bank



Maddocks



Empower Results®



Panel Pledge Champion
This event demonstrates gender balance

Our commitment to diversity

The convenors of this conference are committed to showcasing the brilliance of the community - all of it, not just the white, male, cis-gendered able-bodied parts of it. We strive to represent the Australian community in all its kaleidoscopic glory. It's not possible, however, to represent every group every year. Please view our full speaker list at www.communitiesincontrol.com.au. Speaker suggestions are always welcome - email denism@ourcommunity.com.au