



LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION OF
QUEENSLAND
PRESENTS

**25 – 27
July 2023**

Bush Councils Convention

Program

Goondiwindi Waggamba
Community Cultural Centre

L G A Q . A S N . A U



Every Queensland
community deserves
to be a liveable one

THANK YOU TO OUR CONVENTION PARTNERS

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WELCOME TO THE LGAQ'S BUSH COUNCILS CONVENTION 2023

Broad Horizons - There are no better words to capture the essence of our rural, remote and regional council areas. From the sweeping skies and landscapes, to the boundless ideas, opportunities and community spirit they embody, our Bush Councils have so much to offer and are an iconic part of our state's identity.

It is one of the great privileges as President of the LGAQ to welcome you all again to the Bush Councils Convention, following the success of last year's event.

This year, we will be in Goondiwindi, where host Mayor Lawrence Springborg is keen to showcase 'Gundy' and the region, his community and its warm welcome.

The three-day program is packed with essential and thought-provoking sessions, where participants will have a chance to listen and engage with inspiring speakers, including representatives from all levels of government.

There are many highlights throughout the program, including the 'Of droughts and flooding rains: lessons from a disaster-ridden summer' panel where we'll hear from local government representatives who well-know why Queensland is called the most natural disaster-prone state.

There will also be critical talks and panels on some of the most important issues facing councils and our communities – from housing to tourism, roads and education, to workforce and waste.

The Bush Councils Convention is an important event of the LGAQ calendar.

I encourage all participants to take advantage of the sessions on offer and to embrace this opportunity to share your experiences, insights and learnings with your council colleagues from across the state.

And while you are there, please also visit and spend some time with our valued trade partners, along with our speakers and special guest presenters from State and Federal governments.

I look forward to seeing you all again at Bush Councils and together exploring the Broad Horizons.

Mayor Mark Jamieson

LGAQ President

Bush Councils Convention

Day one | Tuesday 25 July

Time	Sessions
8:30am	Registration
9:00am	Welcome to Country – the Clontarf Foundation
9:15am	LGAQ welcome Mayor Mark Jamieson, LGAQ President
9:20am	Welcome to Gundy – regional Australia at its best The Hon. Cr Lawrence Springborg AM – Mayor, Goondiwindi Regional Council
9:40am	Official opening & Federal Government update Senator the Hon. Anthony Chislm – Assistant Minister for Education, Assistant Minister for Regional Development and Deputy Manager of Government Business in the Senate
9:50am	Policy Executive Q&A: Rural and Remote Councils Compact progress report Mayor Peter Scott, Cook Shire Council Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister, Deputy Mayor, Balonne Shire Council Mayor Andrew Martin, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council Mayor Jane McNamara, Flinders Shire Council Mayor Paul McVeigh, Western Downs Regional Council
10:35am	A word from our partner: Brighter Super Brendan Laws, Relationship Manager
10:40am	Morning tea
11:10am	Workforce issues impacting rural and remote communities Hon Di Farmer MP, Minister for Employment and Small Business, Minister for Training and Skills Development and Minister for Youth Justice
12:00pm	Emerging biosecurity update Rachel Chay – Chief Biosecurity Officer, Biosecurity Queensland
12:30pm	Lunch
1:30pm	If I were mayor for a day: Young voices on the future of our rural and regional communities Goondiwindi State High School Border Rivers Christian College
2:00pm	A word from our partner: Hastings Deering CAT Greg Hewlett, Industry Account Manager Government

Day one continued	
2:05pm	<p>The Young Councillor Cohort – youth and experience: A meeting of minds</p> <p>Cr Kirstie Schumacher, South Burnett Regional Council Cr Robyn Fuhrmeister – Deputy Mayor, Balonne Shire Council Cr Andrew Martin – Mayor, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council Cr Boyd Johnstone, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council</p>
2:35pm	<p>Afternoon tea</p>
3:05pm	<p>Peak Services Butch Lenton Award showcase: ‘The Hub’ – Country Universities Centre</p> <p>Mayor Samantha O’Toole, Balonne Shire Council Matthew Magin – CEO, Balonne Shire Council</p>
3:15pm	<p>Queensland Government update</p> <p>Nikki Boyd MP – Assistant Minister for Local Government</p>
3:30pm	<p>Gearing up for 2024: Electoral reforms for a new term of local government</p> <p>Pat Vidgen – Electoral Commissioner, Electoral Commission of Queensland Glen Beckett – Head of Assist, LGAQ</p>
4:00pm	<p>Of drought and flooding rains: Lessons from a disaster-ridden summer</p> <p>Mayor Samantha O’Toole, Balonne Shire Council Major General (Retd) Jake Ellwood – Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Reconstruction Authority</p>
4:30pm	<p>Close of day one</p>
4:30-6:30pm	<p>Welcome function</p> <p>Sean Rice, Proterra</p>

Bush Councils Convention

Day two | Wednesday 26 July

Time	Session
9:00am	Achieving social licence and delivering for Queensland The Hon Cr Lawrence Springborg AM – Mayor, Goondiwindi Regional Council Warwick Squire- CEO, GasFields Commission Queensland
9:45am	Gundy gurus: AgTech and innovation panel Lucy Walker – Pharmacist Jerome Leray – InFarm Maurice Hayes – Hayes Spraying Tom Woods – Alge Pharm
10:30am	Sponsor address: Local Government Mutual Services Mayor Samantha O’Toole, Balonne Shire Council
10:40am	Morning tea
11:10am	Beefin’ up Queensland’s stock route network Des Howard – CEO, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council Mayor Rick Britton, Boulia Shire Council Mayor Shaun ‘Zoro’ Radnedge, Murweh Shire Council
11:40am	Carbon farming unpacked Gillian Mayne – Director, Natural Capital Programs, Department of Environment and Science Jayne Thorpe Project Delivery Officer, Southern Queensland Landscapes Cr Suzette Beresford – Mayor, Paroo Shire Council
12:20pm	Sponsor address: Telstra May Boisen, Regional Australia, Southern QLD Principal
12:30pm	Lunch

Day two continued	
1:30pm	<p>Queensland's water security</p> <p>Linda Dobe - Acting Director-General, Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and water</p>
1:50pm	<p>A national vision for Australia's roads</p>
2:30pm	<p>A dust to must: Spectacular reasons to visit outback Queensland</p> <p>Denise Brown - CEO, Outback Tourism</p>
3:00pm	<p>Afternoon tea</p>
3:30pm	<p>State Opposition update</p> <p>Ann Leahy MP - Shadow Minister for Disaster Recovery, Shadow Minister for Volunteers and Shadow Minister for Local Government</p>
3:45pm	<p>Keynote address</p>
4:15pm	<p>Close of day two</p>
6:30pm	<p>Convention dinner</p> <p>Tim Fynes-Clinton, King & Co</p>

Bush Councils Convention

Day three | Thursday 27 July

Time	Session
8:30am	Registration: Tea and coffee on arrival
9:00am	Regional waste plan: Opportunities for rural & remote councils Cr Neil Fisher - Deputy Mayor, Rockhampton Regional Council, LAWMAC
9:15am	Don't close us down: Availability of essential services in the bush Cr Tony Rayner - Mayor, Longreach Regional Council Senator the Hon Matt Canavan
10:15am	Morning tea
10:45am	Rural health: Securing the services we need Lee Poole - Manager for Nursing and Clinical Services, Royal Flying Doctor Service Cr Janene Fegan - Deputy Mayor, McKinlay Shire Council Dr Matt Masel- Goondiwindi GP
11:15am	Tackling the housing crisis: From round tables to results Alison Smith - CEO, LGAQ Greg Hoffman PSM - Executive Officer, NWQROC and Western Queensland Alliance of Councils Wayde Chiesa - CEO, Regional Development Australia
11:45am	Tales from the track: The highs and lows of professional racing Michael Rodd - Melbourne Cup-winning jockey
12:30pm	Close

Registrations

Full registration \$990

Corporate registration \$1,600

Optional Functions

Tuesday 25 July Network Drinks \$60 pp

Wednesday 26 July Convention dinner \$120pp

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Please refer to the LGAQ registration cancellation policies when registering for the event.



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CONTACT US

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