

# LGANT CONVENTION

LGANT Forums, Conference, General Meeting &  
Annual General Meeting



08-10 NOV  
2023



DOUBLETREE BY HILTON HOTEL  
ESPLANADE DARWIN  
DARWIN, NT

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# President's Welcome

**On behalf of the Local Government Association of Northern Territory Board, member councils and staff it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 2023 LGANT Convention from Wednesday 8 to Friday 10 November at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin.**

For only the second time this year government, industry leaders, and subject-matter experts will meet to discuss, explore, and exchange insights on the pressing challenges faced by our member councils.

LGANT's vision is for a robust local government sector creating diverse, sustainable, and liveable communities across the Northern Territory. Our purpose is to support and represent member councils to drive economic and social development for and with our communities.

This year we will be exploring the role of infrastructure in wellbeing with a particular focus on roads, housing, connectivity and community or social infrastructure.

Infrastructure is the backbone of any thriving community, and its effective development and maintenance requires continuous collaboration and knowledge sharing. The 2023 LGANT November Convention promises to be a valuable experience, fostering relationships and providing a platform to discuss the challenges, opportunities, and innovations in infrastructure across the Northern Territory.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for the valuable support provided by our sponsors JLT Public Sector, Commonwealth Bank, LG Solutions, Regional Development Australia NT, Mead Perry Group, The BelRose Group, Disaster Management Australia, HostPlus, Workzone Territory, Rebus Restrooms, Response Employment Training and BRM Advisory.

I very much look forward to welcoming CEOs, Mayors, Presidents, Elected Members, Local Authority Chairs, local government staff, NT Government, partners, presenters, and kindred associations to this important annual event.



**The Hon. Kon Vatskalis**  
**LGANT President**

# Program

## Day 1 - LGANT Forums

Wednesday 8 November 2023

Reflections Room, DoubleTree by DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin

8:30am	<b>Registrations Open</b>	3:40pm	<b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>
9:00am	<b>Welcome</b> Sean Holden, CEO - LGANT	3:55pm	<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b>
9:05am	<b>Local Government Roundtable</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Northern Territory Government Cabinet Ministers</li><li>Local government Mayors and Presidents</li></ul>		<b>CEO's Forum - Litchfield Room</b> Facilitated by Marc Gardner, CEO - Roper Gulf Regional Council (RGRC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>LG Pro and LG Chief Officers Group. Marc Gardner, CEO - RGRC</li><li>CEO induction: Ingrid Stonhill, CEO - Katherine Town Council</li><li>Foreign influence: Sally Pfeiffer, Assistant Secretary Counter Foreign Influence Partnerships - Department of Home Affairs</li><li>Hot topics and open discussion</li></ul>
11:00am	<b>MORNING TEA</b>		<b>Mayors and President's Forum - Reflections Room</b> Facilitated by Hon. Kon Vatskalis, President - LGANT <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Next Steps: The Future of Local Government</li><li>Hot topics and open discussion</li></ul>
11:15am	<b>LGANT General Meeting (GM) and Annual GM Procedures and Agenda Review</b> Facilitated by Hon. Kon Vatskalis, President - LGANT		
12:30pm	<b>LUNCH</b>		
1:05pm	<b>The Power of Influence</b> Mark Booth, Director - BRM Advisory		
2:05pm	JLT Public Sector 		
2:20pm	<i>Allocated 5mins to breakout</i>		
2:25pm	<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b>		
	<b>Regional and Shire's Forum - Reflections Room</b> Facilitated by Leslie Manda, CEO - Central Desert Regional Council (CDRC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>CDRC Staff Forum: Leslie Manda, CEO</li><li>Local Authorities best practice examples: Leslie Manda, CEO</li><li>Hot topics and open discussion</li></ul>	5:30pm	<b>Welcome Reception</b> Drinks and Canapés 
	<b>Municipal's Forum - Litchfield Room</b> Facilitated by Simone Saunders, CEO - City of Darwin <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Livability: Simone Saunders, CEO</li><li>My first 100 days: Andrew Wilsmore, CEO - Alice Springs Town Council</li><li>Hot topics and open discussion</li></ul>	7:00pm	End

# Program

## Day 2 - LGANT Conference

Thursday 9 November 2023

Grand Ballroom, DoubleTree by DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin

8:30am	<b>Registrations Open</b>	
9:00am	<b>Opening</b> MC Teghan Hughes	
9:05am	<b>Welcome to Country</b> Mary Williams - Larrakia Nation	
9:10am	<b>President's Address</b> Hon. Kon Vatskalis, President - LGANT	
9:15am	<b>ALGA President's Address</b> Linda Scott, President - Australian Local Government Association	
9:25am	<b>Panel: Economic Development Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Hon. Nicole Manison MLA</b>, NT Minister for Mining and Industry; Minister for Northern Australia and Trade; and Minister for Tourism and Hospitality</li><li>• <b>Cathryn Tilmouth</b>, Executive Director Northern Australia - Minerals Council of Australia</li><li>• <b>Marc Gardner</b>, CEO - Roper Gulf Regional Council</li></ul>	
10:15am	<b>Aboriginal Benefits Account and Strategic Investment Plan</b> Elly Patira, CEO - NT Aboriginal Investment Corporation	
10:30am	LG Solutions	 <small>"partners in Council's financial data"</small>
10:40am	<b>MORNING TEA</b>	
11:00am	Mead Perry Group	
11:05am	<b>A Sustainable Funding Model for Local Roads</b> Natasha Bradshaw, Associate - Grattan Institute's Transport and Cities Program	
11:45am	<b>Austrroads and Local Government</b> Geoff Allan, Chief Executive - Austrroads	
12:00pm	<b>Tyre Recycling Facility</b> Peter Wasley, Managing Director - Northern Waste Reduction Services	
12:15pm	Regional Development Australia	
12:20pm	<b>Panel: Planning, Housing and Related Infrastructure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Hon. Joel Bowden MLA</b>, NT Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics</li><li>• <b>Drew Wagner</b>, CEO - Urban Development Institute of Australia NT</li></ul>	
12:50pm	<b>Local Buy for NT Councils</b> Emma Peters, Senior Manager Stakeholder Engagement	
1:00pm	<b>LUNCH</b>	
1:40pm	Disaster Management Australia	
1:45pm	<b>Connectivity Presentations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Naomi Reed</b>, Head of nbn Local SA/NT; Regional Development and Engagement - nbn <i>and</i></li><li>• <b>Brian O'Keefe</b>, Senior Account Manager WA/SA/NT; New Developments - nbn</li></ul>	
2:10pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Matthew Szymczak</b>, Industry Chief Technology Officer - Local Government, NFP and Agribusiness, Telstra</li></ul>	
2:25pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Ashley Grove</b>, Business Development Manager; Satellite and Infrastructure - Vocus</li></ul>	
2:40pm	<b>Community Connectivity</b> Ingrid Stonhill, CEO - Katherine Town Council	
2:50pm	<b>NT Electric Vehicles Strategy and NT Fleet Learnings</b> Jo Cruickshank, Director Strategic Policy, Strategy, Policy and Legislation - Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics <i>and</i> Wayne Sanderson, Director NT Fleet - Department of Corporate and Digital Development	
3:05pm	HostPlus	
3:10pm	<b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>	

Continued...

# Program

## Day 2 - LGANT Conference

Thursday 9 November 2023

*Grand Ballroom, DoubleTree by DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin*

3:30pm	<b>Primary Prevention Infrastructure</b> Our Watch
4:00pm	<b>Social Infrastructure</b> Emma White, A/CEO - Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities
4:15pm	<b>Supporting Local Governments to Develop their Facilities</b> Paul Bruce, Community Development Lead - AFL NT
4:25pm	<b>Veterinary Infrastructure Improving Service Delivery to EARC Communities</b> Shane Marshall, Director of Technical & Infrastructure Services - East Arnhem Regional Council (EARC) <i>and</i> Madeleine Kelso BVSc, Veterinarian and Animal Control Manager - EARC
4:35pm	End

# Dinner Program

Thursday 9 November 2023

*Grand Ballroom, DoubleTree by DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin*

6:00pm	<b>Welcome Drinks</b> Entertainment by Max Fredericks
6:30pm	<b>Opening</b> MC Teghan Hughes
	<b>Guest Speaker</b> Amy Crawford, CEO - ALGA
	<b>Celebrating Industry Professionals</b> Samantha Ratley, President - Local Government Professionals Northern Territory
	<b>Awards</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long Service Awards - Elected Members</li><li>• LGANT Public Servant Officer Award</li><li>• Inaugural Circular Economy Award</li></ul>
10:00pm	End

# Program

## Day 3 - General Meeting and Annual General Meeting

Friday 10 November 2023

Grand Ballroom, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin

8:30am	<b>Registrations Open</b>
9:00am	<b>Welcome</b> LGANT
9:05am	<b>A Stronger, Connected Local Government Sector</b> Local Government Unit - Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet
10:05am	<b>Aboriginal Interpretive Service and Local Government Councils</b> Allan Girdler, A/Director - AIS; Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet
10:20am	<b>Local Government Council By-Elections</b> Iain Loganathan, Electoral Commissioner - Northern Territory Electoral Commission
10:35am	<b>Ceremonial Signing of the MOU between LGANT and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)</b> The Hon. Kon Vatskalis, President - LGANT <i>and</i> Neville Khan, Senior Engagement Officer - AEC
10:45am	<b>MORNING TEA</b>
11:00am	<b>General Meeting</b> Chaired by the Hon. Kon Vatskalis, President - LGANT
	<b>Annual General Meeting</b> Chaired by the Hon. Kon Vatskalis, President - LGANT
1:00pm	End

# VENUE & ACCOMMODATION



**Rooms with breathtaking harbor views. Find DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Esplanade Darwin on Darwin Esplanade, within walking distance of the city center attractions like Crocosaurus Cove and Deckchair Cinema.**

This laid-back hotel in a palm-fronted complex is 2 km from Mindil Beach along the Beagle Gulf, an 8-minute walk from the Darwin Entertainment Centre performing arts theatre and 11 km from Darwin International Airport.

Featuring flat-screen TVs, the relaxed rooms come with minibars. Suites add kitchenettes and extra bathrooms, plus private terraces with hot tubs. Room service is available.

Amenities include an outdoor pool and a 24/7 gym, as well as a casual restaurant/bar offering a poolside terrace. There's also a coin-operated laundry. Parking is available.

For a special discount rate, use the code **LGANT** to book your stay now at [www.hilton.com](http://www.hilton.com)

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