



**NGA** 2025  
National General Assembly

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

National Convention Centre, Canberra 24 - 27 June 2025

# 2025 PARTNERS

## Foundation Partners



Australian Government  
Department of Infrastructure,  
Transport, Regional Development,  
Communications and the Arts



## Major Partners



## Event Sponsor



## Featured Exhibitor



PUBLIC SKILLS  
AUSTRALIA  
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# PRESIDENT WELCOME



Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to attend ALGA's 31st National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government in Canberra from 24-27 June.

The theme of this year's event will be "National Priorities Need Local Solutions", focusing on the important role we all play delivering local place-based initiatives that help address our nation's big challenges.

Of course, we can't deliver on this promise without sustainable funding, and ALGA continues to advocate to the federal government for a significant increase in untied, formula-based funding for all councils.

This year's NGA will once again feature concurrent "listening sessions", offering in-depth engagement on four key national issues: emergency management, safer roads, housing and community infrastructure, and local government jobs and skills.

Following the federal election, NGA 2025 will provide a great opportunity to help shape a new government or refocus a returned government on the needs of councils across Australia.

On the final day of the NGA we will hold Ministerial Engagement Forums, which will allow us to engage directly with the federal government on the policies, support and funding we collectively need.

One of the highlights of every NGA is the debate on motions, where your councils bring key issues for local government to the national stage.

I look forward to hearing your council's motions, and discussing the challenges and opportunities for our communities.

I am excited to invite you to attend this year's NGA, and hope to see you in Canberra in June.

Yours sincerely,

Matt Burnett, President  
Australian Local Government Association

# NGA 2025

## Provisional Program

### New NGA Program Format

After the success of the new format in 2024, this year's NGA will feature the same changes to the sessions and breaks. Sessions have been extended in length to allow extra time for questions and answers. Break times are two 60 minute breaks on each day. These changes provide delegates greater value through better opportunities to ask questions in presentations, as well as more time to visit the exhibition hall, or conduct meetings during meal breaks.

## TUESDAY 24 JUNE REGIONAL FORUM

8.00am	<b>Registrations Open</b>
9.00am - 5.00pm	<b>Regional Forum</b> (Additional registration required)
5.00pm - 7.00pm	<b>National General Assembly Welcome Reception &amp; Exhibition Opening</b>

## WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

8.00am	Registrations Open
9.00am	<b>MC Welcome and Introduction</b> <b>Welcome to Country</b> Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia (invited)
9.40am	<b>Minister Address - TBC</b>
10.00am	<b>Leader of the Opposition Address - TBC</b>
10.20am	<b>ALGA President's Address</b> <b>Mayor Matt Burnett, ALGA President</b>
<b>11.00AM</b>	<b>MEAL BREAK ONE</b>
12.00pm	<b>Australia and the New Geo Economic Landscape</b>
1.00pm	<b>From Big Picture to Local Action</b> Jason Clarke
<b>2.00PM</b>	<b>MEAL BREAK TWO</b>
3.00pm	<b>Debate on Motions</b>
5.00pm	<b>Close of day one</b>

## THURSDAY 26 JUNE NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9.00am	<b>Adapting Together: Local Government Leadership in a Changing Climate</b> Presented by ALGA, Nations Partners & Ricardo
10.00am	<b>AI for Society: Shaping a Better Tomorrow</b> Stephen Scheeler
<b>11.00AM</b>	<b>MEAL BREAK ONE</b>
12.00pm - 2.00pm	<b>Concurrent Listening Sessions</b>
	<b>Emergency Management: Capability and Capacity</b> <i>Sponsored by JLT &amp; Telstra</i>
	<b>Safer Roads</b> <i>Sponsored by Hyundai</i>
	<b>Housing and Community Infrastructure</b> <i>Sponsored by Novoplan</i>
	<b>Local Government Jobs and Skills</b> <i>Sponsored by KPMG</i>
<b>2.00PM</b>	<b>MEAL BREAK TWO</b>
3.00pm	<b>Debate on Motions</b>
7.00pm	<b>General Assembly Dinner</b> Great Hall, Australian Parliament House

## FRIDAY 27 JUNE MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT FORUM

8.00am	<b>Registrations Open</b>
9.00am	<b>National Priorities Need Local Solutions - Ministerial Engagement Forums</b>
10.30am	<b>MORNING TEA</b>
11.30am	<b>National Priorities Need Local Solutions - Ministerial Engagement Forums continued</b>
1.00pm	<b>LUNCH</b>

	Tuesday 24 June	Wednesday 25 June	Thursday 26 June	Friday 27 June
9.00am				
5.00pm				
7.00pm				

# REGIONAL FORUM 2025

## PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

8.00am	REGISTRATIONS OPEN
9.00am	<b>ALGA President Opening Address</b> Matt Burnett, ALGA President <b>Welcome to Country</b> Paul Girrawah House, Ngambri-NGunnawal Custodian
9.15am	<b>Minister Address - TBC</b>
9.30am	<b>Shadow Minister Address - TBC</b>
9.45am	<b>NBN Forum Partner Address</b>
10.10am	<b>State of the Regions</b> Bernard Salt AM
11.10am	<b>MORNING TEA</b>
11.40am	<b>Driving Efficiency through Technology</b>
12.30pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
1.30pm	<b>Creating Vibrant Communities - Sharing Issues and Ideas</b>
3.00pm	<b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>
3.30pm	<b>Better Mental Health in Regional Communities</b> Prof Jenny May AM, National Rural Health Commissioner
4.20pm	<b>Building a Stronger and Safer Network: The Future of Regional Road Infrastructure</b> Kenn Beer, Principal Engineer, Safe System Solutions



## PROFESSOR JENNY MAY AM

National Rural Health Commissioner

Professor Jenny May AM has been passionate about rural health since her first rural medical student placement in 1980 and then as a trainee rural doctor at Tamworth Hospital in 1985.

Professor May's vast and extensive knowledge working across Australia and internationally has provided multiple opportunities to contribute through research on health workforce matters. She now calls Tamworth home and has had the incredible privilege to live and work with her doctor husband and family in a number of remote and regional locations.

Professor May holds fellowships with RACGP and ACRRM and has extensive experience in clinical practice, research, education and rural health advocacy. In 2016 she was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for significant service to community health in rural and regional areas, as a general practitioner, member of professional medical groups, and as an educator.

With over 35 years of working and supporting rural, regional and remote health care, her appointment as the third National Rural Health Commissioner has been widely welcomed.



## BERNARD SALT AM

Founder, Demographics Group

Bernard Salt AM is widely regarded as one of Australia's leading social commentators. He has written six popular best-selling books, hosted a TV show on SkyNEWS Business called "The Next Five Years" and hosted a top-rated podcast called "What Happens Next".

After a 20-year career as a Partner in a global advisory firm, Bernard founded The Demographics Group to provide advice to business on demographic, social and property trends.

He is best known to the wider community for his penchant for identifying new social behaviours including "the goat's cheese curtain."

Bernard has been a columnist with The Australian newspaper for more than 20 years. His column in The Weekend Australian Magazine is highly regarded and widely read.

Bernard was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in the 2017 Australia Day honours for his services to the Australian people via demography.

And finally, Bernard is the person responsible for popularising the phrase "smashed avocado" ... globally.



## KENN BEER

Principal Engineer, Safe System Solutions

Kenn is a Registered Professional Engineer, accredited Senior Road Safety Auditor, transport planner, trainer and assessor. He has over 20 years' experience in road safety engineering, planning, policy and strategy development.

Kenn is one of Australia's most active Safe System practitioners and trainers, and has delivered many diverse projects, including: safety strategies for local and state government; business cases for TAC; Road Safety Audits and Safe System Assessments. Kenn was co-lead for the 2020 update to the Austroads Guide to Road Safety series.

Kenn Beer will lead Australia's pathway to Vision Zero – zero deaths, or serious injuries – on Australia's roads by 2050.

# NGA 2025 INFORMATION

## SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

### Welcome Reception & Exhibition Opening

Tuesday 24 June 2025

Venue: National Convention Centre Canberra

The Welcome Reception will be held in the exhibition hall and foyer.

5:00pm - 7:00pm

\$55.00 per person for day delegates and guests. No charge for full registered delegates. No charge for registered accompanying partners.

Dress Code: Smart casual

### General Assembly Dinner

Thursday 26 June 2025

Venue: Parliament House

The dinner is being held in The Great Hall.

7:00pm - 11:00pm

\$179.00 per person

Dress Code: Formal/Cocktail

Numbers to this dinner are strictly limited. Tickets are allocated on a first in basis.

### General Assembly Business Sessions

Wednesday 25 June 2025 - Friday 27 June 2025

Venue: National Convention Centre Canberra

All plenary sessions will be held in the Royal Theatre at the National Convention Centre.

Dress Code: Smart casual

### Exhibition

Wednesday 25 June 2025 - Friday 27 June 2025

Venue: National Convention Centre Canberra

The exhibition is being held in the Exhibition Hall at the National Convention Centre.

### Partner Tours

The partners meet at the National Convention Centre Canberra each morning to commence their tour.

#### Marion High Tea & Canberra Glassworks Tour

Wednesday 25 June - 9.45am

The group will start the morning at 'The Marion' where guests will indulge in a Traditional High Tea. The menu includes traditional items such as pastries, scones, tea and coffee. Guests can relax and enjoy the views overlooking Lake Burley Griffin.

The next stop is the Canberra Glassworks. Here guests will take part in a workshop tour, featuring a tile demonstration that showcases the intricate craftsmanship behind glass art.

For lunch, enjoy a delicious meal at The Dock in Kingston, before heading to the last stop for the day: The Australian War Memorial. Here guests will have the opportunity to discover its new main entrance and to reflect on Australia's history and its heroes.

#### Instala DIY & Museum of Australian Democracy

Thursday 26 June - 10:30am

Get in tune with your inner artisan during a DIY crafts session. Create a one-of-a-kind piece with perfume or candle making to take home as a souvenir.

After this creative experience, you'll enjoy a relaxing lunch at the Braddon Assembly Pub, where you can savour a delicious hearty meal.

The afternoon will conclude with a visit to the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House (MoAD). Through the guided tour guests will be immersed in Australia's political history, gaining insights into the nation's democratic journey and their various exhibits.

## LISTENING SESSIONS

Another change to the format of the NGA last year was the inclusion of four concurrent "Listening Sessions".

These sessions were designed to provide delegates with the opportunity to engage directly with representatives from federal government departments about the issues faced by councils.

The sessions focused on four key topics: Roads and Transport, Energy Transition, Disaster Resilience and Recovery, and National Housing and Community Infrastructure.

In 2025 the "Listening Sessions" will be held on Thursday 26 June, with the topics being; **Emergency Management: Capability and Capacity, Safer Roads, Housing and Community Infrastructure and Local Government Jobs & Skills.**



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Privacy Disclosure

ALGA collects your personal contact information in its role as a peak body for local government. ALGA may disclose your personal contact information to the sponsors of the event for the purposes of commercial business opportunities.

If you do not consent to ALGA using and disclosing your personal contact information in this way, please tick the appropriate box on the registration form.

Importantly, your name can also be included in the General Assembly List of Participants. You must tick the appropriate box on the registration form if you wish your name to appear in this list.

## Photographs

During the General Assembly there will be a contracted photographer taking photographs during the sessions and social functions. If you have your picture taken it is assumed that you are giving consent for ALGA to use the image. Images may be used for print and electronic publications.

## Coach Transfers

**Daily Shuttles** run to and from the National Convention Centre

Shuttle service between all General Assembly hotels (except Crowne Plaza Canberra) and the National Convention Centre will operate between 8:00am and 8:30am. Return shuttles will depart the National Convention Centre at 5:00pm.

Welcome Reception and Exhibition Opening - Tuesday 24 June 2025  
National Convention Centre

Coaches will collect delegates from all General Assembly hotels (except Crowne Plaza Canberra) at approximately 4:45pm. The return coaches will depart between 6.30pm - 7.00pm.

General Assembly Dinner - Thursday 26 June 2025  
The Great Hall, Parliament House

Coaches will collect delegates from all General Assembly hotels at approximately 6:15pm. A return shuttle service will operate between 10:30pm and 11:15pm.

## Car Parking

Parking for delegates is available underneath the National Convention Centre for a cost of approximately \$23.50 per day. Alternatively, voucher public parking is available 300m from the Centre at a cost of approximately \$20.00 per day. The voucher machines accept either cash or cards (Visa or MasterCard).

## Payment Procedures

Payment can be made by:

Credit card MasterCard and Visa

Electronic Funds Transfer

Bank: Commonwealth Bank

Branch: Woden

BSB No: 062905

Account No: 10097760

ALGA ABN

31 008 613 876

## Canberra Weather in June

Winter days in Canberra are characterised by clear sunny skies but the days are cool at around 11-15°C and temperatures do drop to 0°C on average in the evenings, so be sure to bring a warm jacket.

Mornings can be foggy so keep this in mind when booking flights. It is best to avoid early arrivals or departures in case of delays due to fog.

# CANCELLATION POLICY

## STANDARD REGISTRATION TERMS

An administration charge of \$110.00 will be made to any participant cancelling before Friday 23 May 2025. Cancellations received after Friday 23 May 2025 will be required to pay full registration fees. However, if you are unable to attend, substitutes are welcome at no additional cost

By submitting your registration you agree to the terms of the cancellation policy.

## Substitutions

As with all ALGA events, substitutions are allowed for delegates. Please notify the conference organisers in writing if substitutions are required.

No refund will be available to no shows.

## ACCOMMODATION TERMS

All cancellations or amendments must be made in writing to Conference Co-ordinators and will be acknowledged by email.

All rooms cancelled 30 day prior to check-in will be charged the full amount unless the room can be resold.

You are required to pay for your full accommodation account and any incidental expenses incurred during your stay when checking in to the hotel.

No refund will be available to no shows.



# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



## **STEPHEN SCHEELER**

Stephen Scheeler is Australia's most authoritative voice on A.I., technology, disruption and leadership.

He is the former Facebook CEO for Australia and New Zealand, where he guided Facebook's rise from quirky start up to media and technology titan. Working with Mark Zuckerberg and Facebook's Silicon Valley leaders, his tenure at Facebook saw the ANZ business – including Instagram, Messenger and WhatsApp – become one of the most successful Facebook markets in the world.

Today, he is founder of The Digital CEO, Senior Advisor to McKinsey & Company, and Executive-in-Residence at the Australian Graduate School of Management. He is also co-founder and CEO of Omniscient – the world leader in using A.I. to decode the human brain. Omniscient is often called “the OpenAI of the brain”.

As a speaker, Stephen has appeared on the highest-profile keynote stages – including TEDx and SXSW Austin. He has spoken to or advised the likes of Google, PwC, EY, Deloitte, Westpac, Macquarie Bank, Citibank, Mastercard, American Express, Toyota, Oracle, Telstra, Seek, Qantas and the Australian Government.

He is a frequent media commentator on data, A.I., technology and the future of business & society, and a member of the Australian Prime Minister's Knowledge Nation 100, top innovation leaders in Australia.



## **JASON CLARKE**

Since achieving the lowest Year 12 score in the history of his school in 1977, Jason Clarke has been an exhibition designer, a script writer, commercial event and film producer and for a while, Creative Director of Australia's largest multi-media production company. He's staged Shakespeare, grand opera, experimental avantgarde theatre and even designed a dolphin show for a major marine park.

He's developed and taught courses in Logic, Problem Solving and Innovation for Melbourne Business School, Mt Eliza Business School, the Australian School of Entrepreneurship, the Stern Business School of New York and the Ben Gurion Business School of Israel.

But since 2000 he's been a freelance thinker-for-hire, offering creative and lateral thinking services for organisations struggling to embrace innovation and change.

His clients include just about every kind of enterprise, from plucky little start-ups to national and global corporations, from communities and not-for-profits to State and Local Governments. Today he's a regular international speaker and one of the most sought-after creative minds in Australia.

But he'll tell you he's just a Plumber of the Mind, the guy you go to when your head gets clogged.

# REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration form available at [NGA25.COM.AU](https://nga25.com.au)

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION

- Attendance to all General Assembly sessions
- Meal breaks as per the General Assembly program
- One ticket to the Welcome Reception & Exhibition Opening
- General Assembly satchel and materials

Early Bird Payment recieved by Friday 30 May 2025	\$979.00
Late Payment recieved after Friday 30 May 2025	\$1,099.00

## DAY REGISTRATION FEES

- Attendance to all General Assembly sessions on the day of registration
- Meal breaks as per the General Assembly program
- One ticket to the Welcome Reception & Exhibition Opening
- General Assembly satchel and materials

Wednesday 25 June 2025	\$529.00
Thursday 26 June 2025	\$529.00
Friday 27 June 2025	\$329.00

## TUESDAY REGIONAL FORUM REGISTRATION FEES

- Attendance to all Regional Forum sessions
- Meal breaks as per the Regional Forum program

Forum Only Tuesday 24 June 2025	\$479.00
Regional Forum NGA Delegate Discount	\$279.00

## ACCOMPANYING PARTNER REGISTRATION FEES

- 1 ticket to the Welcome Reception & Exhibition Opening
- Day tour Wednesday 25 June 2025
- Day tour Thursday 26 June 2025

Partner Registration Fee	\$335.00
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All amounts include GST

# 2025 NGA Conference Hotels

## A by Adina

1 Constitution Avenue, Canberra

A by Adina Canberra is the newest hotel to Canberra which is located on Constitution Avenue only a 5-minute walk from the National Convention Centre.

The hotel combines spacious apartment living with 24-hour reception, room service, service provided by knowledgeable concierges and a well-equipped gym.

A new dining district is also newly constructed in the immediate area.

All rooms have a king bed and the studios offer a twin option of two singles beds.

Studio Rooms: \$260 per night  
— Single/twin/double

1 Bedroom Apartments: \$290 per night  
— Single/double

## Adina Serviced Apartments

79 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

Adina Serviced Apartments Canberra James Court (formerly Medina) is located in the heart of the city on Northbourne Ave. offering contemporary spacious one bedroom apartments. Each apartment features a fully-equipped kitchen, in-room laundry and modern conveniences including flat screen TVs and free WiFi, outdoor pool, sauna, gym, spa and undercover parking on site (\$20/day). The hotel is approximately a 20-minute walk from the National Convention Centre.

1 Bedroom Apartments: \$230 per night  
— Single

## Avenue Hotel

80 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

The Avenue Hotel is one of the only 5 star options in the Canberra city and offers guests both studio and apartment style rooms. The hotel is a 15-20 minute walk from the Convention Centre.

The apartments have a fully functioning kitchen. Twin option at the hotel consists of two king singles.

Superior King Rooms \$315 per night  
— Single/twin/double

1 Bedroom Apartments \$345 per night  
— Single/double

## Crowne Plaza

1 Binara Street, Canberra

The Crowne Plaza is adjacent to the Convention Centre and only a short walk from restaurants, bars and the main shopping district.

Twin option at the hotel consists of two double beds.

City View Room \$367 per night  
— Single/twin/double

Park View Room \$412 per night  
— Single/twin/double

## Mantra on Northbourne

84 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

Mantra on Northbourne is centrally located within the CBD and approximately a 15-20 minute walk from the National Convention Centre. The hotel features underground parking (for a fee), a 24 hour reception, a heated indoor pool, sauna and a fully-equipped gymnasium.

All apartments offer one king bed, individually controlled air-conditioning, WiFi (for a fee), pay per view movies, mini bar, tea/coffee making facilities, a separate lounge and dining area, kitchen and a fully equipped laundry.

1 Bedroom Apartments: \$219 per night  
— Single/double

## Nesuto Apartments

2 Akuna Street, Canberra

Located in the heart of Canberra's CBD, the Nesuto Apartments is only a five-minute walk from the National Convention Centre. The one-bedroom apartments also offer a separate lounge/dining area.

Twin option at the hotel consists of two single beds. Additional costs will apply if more than two guests are within the one room.

Studio Apartment \$285 per night  
— Single/twin/double

1 Bedroom Apartments \$305 per night  
— Single/twin/double

## Qt Hotel

1 London Circuit, Canberra

The Qt Hotel is a modern hotel with boutique style furnishings, central to the city and a 10-minute walk to the National Convention Centre.

Twin option at the hotel consists of two single beds.

King Room \$239 per night  
— Single/twin/double

Superior King Room \$259 per night  
— Single/twin/double

## The Sebel Canberra Civic

197 London Circuit, Canberra

The Sebel Canberra Civic is one of Canberra's newest hotels which opened in June 2019 and is just a 7-minute walk from the National Convention Centre.

This property offers free WiFi throughout the hotel, a fully equipped gym, and an onsite restaurant and bar lounge.

All rooms come with a fully equipped kitchenette with Nespresso machine and dining table. Every bathroom is accessibility friendly with walk in showers.

Superior Room \$235 per night  
— Single/double

Executive Room \$265 per night  
— Single/double

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