

HUNTER REGION WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

MAKE YOUR PRESENCE KNOWN & LEAD YOUR ORGANISATION INTO TOMORROW

23 - 24
FEBRUARY 2021
ONLINE DELIVERY

LEARN FROM



Kirsten Molloy
Former Chief Executive Officer



Michelle McPherson
Chief Financial Officer



Morven Cameron
Chief Executive Officer



Janet Nelson
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research & Innovation



Aaron Johansen
Chief Executive Officer



Roslyn Toms
Group Executive Legal & Chief Risk Officer



Michelle Lawson
Past Chair



Gillian Geraghty
Head of Regional Project Delivery



Alison McGaffin
Director, Hunter & Central Coast



Fiona Williams
Human Resources Manager



Lisa Tierney
Chief Operations Officer



Dr Sally Fitzpatrick
Acting Program Manager



Brad Webb
Chief Executive Officer



Grace McLean
CEO & Founder



Melissa Harries
Principal Psychologist



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SUPPORTED BY



DEVELOP YOUR PRESENCE & RELEVANCE

The Hunter Regional Plan 2036 is well underway. The NSW Government is backing the Hunter to enable growth and support its economy through innovative business investment, infrastructure enhancements, and tourism initiatives. Yet, in the face of this boom, women remain underrepresented in senior leadership roles across the region.

Liquid Learning is delighted to be hosting the inaugural Hunter Region Women in Leadership Summit, celebrating some of the region's most remarkable women leaders representing industry, government, and the community. Leaders who are paving the way for change and progress.

Join us for this one-of-a-kind event to share practical insights for growing your leadership capabilities. Learn how organisations can create supportive structures for women and those of diverse backgrounds. Start the revolution in the Hunter Region for change in your career and your organisation.

- ▶ **Skills** and strategies for career advancement
- ▶ **Powerful** techniques for stakeholder communication
- ▶ **Create** a healthy, resilient organisational culture to boost performance
- ▶ **Build** new networks with other innovative leaders

SUMMIT DAY 1

23 FEBRUARY

EVENT KICK-OFF & NETWORKER 9:00 - 9:45

Join Liquid Learning and your chair, Alexandria Joy, for this opening kick-off session, and start to unpack our conference theme, 'Develop your Presence & Relevance', outline your desired learning outcomes and prepare for two days of incredible speakers, senior leaders, expert deep-dives and unmissable panel discussions!

KNOW WHO YOU ARE KEYNOTE 9:50 - 10:30

No matter the industry or organisation you are in (or will be), your values and core beliefs will be tested and challenged as a leader. How do you identify the things to hold onto and the things to let go? And do they change?

COMPASS HOUSING SERVICES LOCAL HERO 10:35 - 10:50

Compass Housing Services is one of the largest and fastest-growing providers of social housing within Australia and New Zealand. Their mission is to provide secure and affordable housing to low-income earners and empower their lives through community connections and education to break the cycle of disadvantage.

Lisa is the Chief Operating Officer at Compass Housing Services, and her leadership has provided the asset and tenancy management of approximately 5,000 properties across NSW and QLD while leading an innovative and diverse team. Listen as Lisa shares what it means to be a leader in the community for Compass Housing and how to lead successfully in times of transition in mergers.

Lisa Tierney
Chief Operations Officer
Compass Housing Services



JUGGLE WORK - TICK! JUGGLE FAMILY - TICK! TIME FOR SELF - ??? PANEL 11:05 - 12:05

Your workload has doubled, you have family affairs to manage, and the place you volunteer on the weekend wants you to do an extra shift. You want to give 110%, but you still need to keep a little in the tank for yourself. The question is, how do you manage your time and energy to maximise your life?

Join our panel for some real-talk as local leaders offer an honest, candid account of their careers and personal stories, how it's shaped them, and how, together, you can achieve harmonious wellbeing.

Alison McGaffin
Director, Hunter & Central Coast
Regional NSW

Michelle Lawson
Past Chair
Women in Mining NSW

Melissa Harries
Principal Psychologist
Mindset Psychology

Roslyn Toms
Group Executive Legal & Chief Risk Officer
(General Counsel/Company Secretary)
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RESILIENT LEADERSHIP - NAVIGATING PROFESSIONAL PRESSURES EXPERT COMMENTARY 12:10 - 1:10

Resilient leaders can sustain their energy levels under pressure. They assess disruptive changes and adapt. And they know how to bounce back from setbacks. Julie will elaborate on why leaders need to cultivate resilience in themselves and their teams, plus share strategies to help you thrive.

Julie Alexander
Chief Executive Officer
Changing Change International (CCI)

VULNERABILITY, THE UNSUNG SUPERPOWER OF LEADERSHIP CASE STUDY 2:10 - 3:10

If there's one thing superheroes and leaders have in common, it's a story of transformation in the face of defeat. Many leaders think that to save the day, they've got to hide weakness. But real heroes know that vulnerability isn't your kryptonite - it's a superpower! Jennifer has had a successful career in finance and now sits on multiple boards across the Hunter region. She will explore the power of vulnerability, touching on the benefits it can bring for you and your team.

Jennifer Hayes
Chief Financial Officer
Hunter Water Corporation

SAMARITANS LOCAL HERO 3:10 - 3:25

With over 800 staff and almost 400 volunteers, Samaritans provides valuable community services, while promoting social and economic reform in NSW and Australian contexts. Since 1984, Samaritans has been working closely with the vulnerable within communities to live their life to the fullest through the values of compassion, integrity and justice. Brad sees how gender inequality perpetuates ongoing social disadvantage, and he wants to see that change. Hear how Samaritans are going about this task, and what you can do to support that effort.

Brad Webb
Chief Executive Officer
Samaritans



CHANGING THE BAD RAP OF OFFICE POLITICS & NEGOTIATIONS INTERVIEW 3:45 - 4:30

Like it or not, office politics is a critical part of leadership. It requires you to learn how to master interpersonal relationships and exert influence to get tasks done. So how do you do it well?

Aaron Johansen leads Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group and has learnt a thing or two about the art of negotiation and winning over leaders. So get ready to jot down notes and learn how to master politics and negotiation, both with internal and external stakeholders.

Aaron Johansen
Chief Executive Officer
Newcastle Coal Infrastructure Group



GOOD LEADERSHIP LEADS ORGANISATIONS, GREAT LEADERSHIP LEADS PEOPLE

KEYNOTE 9:00 - 9:50

Kirsten is well known for being a trailblazer as an experienced former CEO and non-executive Director. She is an authentic and collaborative leader whose passion lies in making a positive difference to organisations. Kirsten's career has taught her that leadership is most effective when you focus less on what you can do for yourself and instead look at what you can do for others. Join Kirsten as she shares how she has learned to show compassion as a leader in challenging environments and how to have a positive impact on those around you, encouraging growth and driving success.

Kirsten Molloy
Former Chief Executive Officer
Hunter Valley Coal Chain Coordinator



"WE NEED TO TALK" - CONSTRUCTIVE CONVERSATIONS AT WORK

EXPERT COMMENTARY 9:55 - 10:55

Holding your own in any leadership position demands a confident approach, especially when dealing with sensitive situations. Whether you're negotiating a pay rise, going for a promotion, or giving a presentation, the ability to communicate confidently and authentically when managing people and dealing with key stakeholders is essential for success. In this intensive expert commentary session, expert facilitator, Jo Wise, will coach you on the art of constructive conversations and how to leverage the power of your voice at work.

Jo Wise
Leadership Performance Coach
Jo Wise Leadership

TO QUOTA OR NOT TO QUOTA? CONVERSATIONS ON HOW TO INCREASE DIVERSITY & GENDER

PANEL 11:10 - 12:10

How can you encourage unity and create a positive workplace for leaders of diverse backgrounds? Quotas have been propagated to achieve this, but are they working? Are they even healthy to have? What about the other issues occurring internally and hidden from sight? How do you address them?

Have your questions at the ready as our panel of thought leaders inspire you to take action in your organisation and the Hunter Region.

Gillian Geraghty
Head of Regional Project Delivery
Transport for NSW



Trish Davidson
Executive Director of Medical Services
Hunter New England Local Health District



Fiona Williams
Human Resources Manager
Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service



MASTERING THE NEXT CHALLENGE OF LEADING LEADERS

CASE STUDY 12:15 - 12:55

Leading is one thing, but leading leaders is another. Leaders can be strong-willed, passionate and opinionated, but they are key players when you are wanting to create momentum for action.

So, how do you successfully lead leaders? Michelle will share experience from her career, championing leaders through the balance of autonomy, trust and transparency in all conversations. Hear from Michelle as she provides insight into her approach for leading leaders, and how you can prepare to become one in the future.

Michelle McPherson
Chief Financial Officer
IAG



"IF YOU THINK YOU'RE LEADING, BUT NO ONE IS FOLLOWING, THEN YOU'RE ONLY TAKING A WALK"

CASE STUDY 2:15 - 3:00

One of the most valuable aspects of a leader is team leadership. To some it comes naturally - to others, it takes intentional focus. You need to pay attention to how your team click and encourage them to follow the why behind the what.

Morven has led Lake Macquarie City Council through change since her placement as CEO in 2017. She has worked closely with each leader of her division, inspiring them to lead their teams. Hear from Morven as she shares the skills required and the discipline needed to be an influential team leader.

Morven Cameron
Chief Executive Officer
Lake Macquarie City Council



NFP CONNECT LOCAL HERO

3:05 - 3:20

NFP Connect started as a simple coffee catch up in Newcastle with the mission of supporting those working in not-for-profit organisations overcome feelings of isolation and frustration. Today, Grace McLean has established NFP Connect to be a thriving community, which is transforming not-for-profits to operate more efficiently and connecting local businesses to purposeful corporate social responsibility. For Grace, if there is a powerful lesson gained from working closely within both sectors. Hear from Grace as she shares from her experience of leaders being purposeful in their giving.

Grace McLean
CEO & Founder
NFP Connect



DEVELOP YOUR PRESENCE & RELEVANCE

ROUNDTABLE 3:35 - 4:30

You have been able to listen, discuss and connect with leaders from the Hunter Region and abroad. Our expert coach Alexandria Joy will guide a collaborative roundtable reflecting on the takeaways from the summit. Together you will identify opportunities for progression and create an action plan for your future.

Alexandria Joy
Chief Empowerment Officer



WHAT OUR DELEGATES ARE SAYING



“Fantastic initiation to leadership/management with some real practical tools to take back and implement in the workplace. Extremely motivating and thought-provoking. Has Given me an insight into how leadership/management skills influence the workplace”



EVERYMIND LOCAL HERO

1:00 - 1:15

From their beginnings in 1992, Everymind has become a national influence in the research and prevention of mental ill-health and suicide. Working closely with governments, research institutions and the private sector to roll out world-leading programs that are supporting the wellbeing of employees and their stakeholders. For Everymind and Dr Sally Fitzpatrick, leadership means two things. Firstly, everyone must have a say and, secondly, that prevention is the cure. Take in the triumphant stories that Everymind gets to see from their people-first focused leadership.

Carmel Loughland
Acting Director
Everymind



