

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 2025

Tuesday 29 - Wednesday 30 July 2025
The Pullman Melbourne, Albert Park



ESF
EMERGENCY
SERVICES
FOUNDATION
better together

DAY 1 - TUESDAY 29 JULY 2025

7:45 - 17:00	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN		
	STREAM 1		
	Chair: XXX		
08:50 - 08:55	Welcome to Country, Name/RAP		
08:55 - 09:00	Welcome from Conference Chair, Mark Swiney Fire Rescue Victoria		
09:00 - 09:30	Welcome from the Emergency Management Commissioner, Tim Wiebusch		
	Laurie Lavelle Keynote: Fighting Fires and Falsehoods while Facing the Future Bob Jensen International crisis, risk and emergency management advisor, Washington DC		
09:30 - 10:25	MORNING TEA - EXHIBITION AREA		
10:25 - 10:50	STREAM 1	STREAM 2 (DIVERSITY)	WORKSHOP 1
	Chair: XXX	Chair: XXX	Chair: XXX
10:50 - 11:25	Case study: Two brains are better than one Reegan Key and Lucy Bell, EMV <i>Reflections and realities of job-sharing in the EM sector</i>	Understanding the 2022 flood from diverse perspectives Bhiamie Williamson National Indigenous Disaster Resilience Program <i>Views from Aboriginal communities in SA, Central and NW Victoria</i>	Edge of wedge decision making DEECA <i>Exploring risk and real-world barriers to sound decision making</i>
11:25 - 12:00	Community-led public rescue equipment: Innovating for long-term safety Grace Strugnell, Life Saving Victoria Paul Hoffman, Venus Bay Surf Life Saving Club	Cultural healing and Aboriginal participation for October 2022 flood clean-up Victoria A2B Personnel <i>2024 National Resilient Australia Award for Business</i>	
12:00 - 12:35	Lessons learnt from the February 2024 storm event and Network Outage Review Sarah Hannah, AusNet <i>AusNet has redesigned its emergency management capability, capacity and engagement.</i>	The Changing faces of fire management TBC First nations / DEECA (TBC) <i>Working together to lead change in Indigenous landscapes</i>	
12:35 - 13:30	LUNCH - EXHIBITION AREA		
	STREAM 1	STREAM 2	WORKSHOP 2
	Chair: XXX	Chair: XXX	Chair: XXX
13:30 - 14:05	Mobilising an army of agencies and communities Mark Gunning, Country Fire Authority <i>Whole communities combine to minimise loss and damage in Western District fires</i>	Highlighting sector-led research hosted by Dr Emily Phillips, Inspector-General for Emergency Management	Where can our young people take us? Youth Affairs Council Victoria <i>Establishing the Centre of Excellence - 'Young People and Disasters'</i>
14:05 - 14:40	Moral injury (TBC) Jesse Winter, Fire Rescue Victoria <i>ESF Scholarship recipient</i>		
14:40 - 15:15	Managing recovery in a complex world Mariela Diaz CEO Emergency Recovery Victoria		
15:15 - 15:45	AFTERNOON TEA - EXHIBITION AREA		
	STREAM 1		
	Chair: XXX		
15:45 - 16:20	The Claire Zara Memorial Oration TOPIC Kate Fitz-Gibbon, Chair, Respect Victoria; Professor Business & Economics, Monash University		
16:20 - 17:00	Looking back to look forward (TBC) Joe Buffone, NEMA <i>Overview of the last 25 years, and their probable impact</i>		
17:00	Close		
17:00 - 19:00	CONFERENCE COCKTAILS - EXHIBITION AREA		
19:00 - 22:00	CONFERENCE DINNER		

Program subject to change

Current at 9 October 2024

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DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY 30 JULY 2025

08:00 - 16:30	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN		
	STREAM 1		
	Chair: XXX		
09:00 - 09:20	OPENING ADDRESS: ESF Lived Experience Program Susan MacKenzie, CEO Emergency Services Foundation		
09:20 - 10:00	KEYNOTE: Topic TBC Catherine Greaves, CEO Life Saving Victoria		
10:00 - 10:40	KEYNOTE: Topic TBC Andrew Colvin, CEO Australian Red Cross		
10:40 - 11:00	MORNING TEA - EXHIBITION AREA		
	STREAM 1	STREAM 2	WORKSHOP 3
	Chair: Susan MacKenzie, CEO, Emergency Services Foundation		
11:00 - 11:35	PANEL: ESF Residential Wellbeing Program Dr Shannon Hood (Program Facilitator), Ass Prof. Lisa Dell (Phoenix Australia), Alex Vella, (MICA Paramedic)	PANEL: National Volunteering Blueprint Blythe McLennan, Natural Hazards Research Aust & Celeste Young, Victoria University <i>Current challenges and strategies</i>	Reflections and realities How will research set us for the next 25 years? Co-designing opportunities to harness full value of research and knowledge sharing
11:35 - 12:10	Empowering community mobilisation in Disaster Response Kelly Hofert, Yarra Ranges Council & Rachael Davidson, Healesville Community Emergency Group <i>Tools to assist communities to step up in disasters</i>	Managing the complexities of Neurodivergence in EM David Clancy, Fire Rescue Victoria <i>Creating an inclusive environment</i>	How can we connect academics with agency practitioners towards better research that is utilised every day by agencies across Australia?
12:10 - 12:45	Sleep - impact of shift work Matt Nicholson, Fire Rescue Victoria <i>ESF Scholarship recipient</i>	Utilising the voice of the community - Key lessons in multicultural fire safety resource development Ruth Harley, FRV & Elisa Bourne, CFA <i>Making sure our terminology and translations make sense to all communities</i>	
12:45 - 13:30	LUNCH - EXHIBITION AREA		
	STREAM 1	STREAM 2	WORKSHOP 4
	Chair: XXX		
13:30 - 14:05	Supporting community preparedness Liz Mackinlay, Australian Business Volunteers <i>Supporting and mobilising communities to engage in disasters</i>	Enhancing Cultural Safety in EM: A pathway to resilience Lisa Keedle, Yarra Ranges Council & Nelson Aldridge, Taungurung man <i>Creating culturally safe spaces in response, relief and recovery situations</i>	Making the invisible visible Victoria University <i>Developing a framework for monitoring and evaluating risk prevention programs at community level</i>
14:05 - 14:40	Next Generation CAD Dispatch Leveraging cutting edge technology Dallas Reilly, Triple Zero Victoria <i>New integrated comms system revealed</i>	The future: Student-led Emergency Planning Students with support from Briony Towers <i>Students take the lead in EM Planning at Upwey High School</i>	
14:40 - 15:15	FORUM: Class 3 emergencies - What might they look like in Victoria? Tony Combridge & Briony Jones, Victoria Police <i>Towards a highly cohesive community with reduced opportunities for divergent extremism.</i>	From Reflection to Action: Male Allyship and Next-Generation Fire Services Bronnie Mackintosh (Girls on Fire/FRNSW), Lily Brown (Parks Vic), Wayne Phillips (Commissioner, ACT ESA) <i>The transformative power of allyship in building inclusive fire services</i>	
15:15 - 15:40	AFTERNOON TEA - EXHIBITION AREA		
	STREAM 1		
	Chair: XXX		
15:40 - 16:10	PANEL: Inclusion in the EM sector FRV/EMV - I&D Leadership Group <i>Gathering feedback about mapping pathways to an inclusive EM sector</i>		
16:10 - 16:15	CLOSING REMARKS Tony Pearce, Chair, Emergency Services Foundation		
16:15	CONFERENCE CLOSE		

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