

# 14<sup>TH</sup> NSW PUBLIC SECTOR WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

LEARN, SHARE AND BE INSPIRED!

15 - 18 JUNE 2021  
ONLINE DELIVERY

## LEARN FROM



**Tracey  
McCosker PSM**  
Chief Executive



**Elizabeth Tydd**  
NSW Information  
Commissioner  
and CEO



**Alex O'Mara**  
Group Deputy  
Secretary, Place,  
Design & Public  
Places



**Joann Wilkie**  
Deputy Secretary,  
Economic  
& Financial  
Management Group



**Leeanne Chau**  
Assistant  
Commissioner,  
Visual Analytics &  
Transformation,  
Australian  
Taxation Office



**Kathleen Mackay**  
Chief Digital  
Officer



**Valerie Griswold**  
Executive Director,  
Better Regulation  
Division



**Clare Beech**  
Executive Director,  
Clinical Systems  
Integration



**Prof. Trish  
Davidson**  
Executive Director,  
Medical Services



**Natasha Mann**  
Executive Director,  
Justice Strategy &  
Programs



**Gabriella Suchard**  
General Manager,  
Communication &  
Engagement



**Janet Ruecroft**  
Former Assistant  
Commissioner,  
Education &  
Training,  
Fire and  
Rescue NSW



**Corryn McKay**  
Director Strategic  
Relations and  
Communication



**Karen Patterson**  
Director, Capability  
& Culture, Clinical  
Excellence  
Commission



**Hailie Ryzak**  
Director, Strategy  
& Corporate  
Services



## CONTACT US

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# CHALLENGE YOURSELF

The NSW Public Sector is no stranger to change, leading the charge in many of the workplace initiatives and frameworks now adopted nationwide - But as we continue to navigate our new normal and look towards to the future, it's critical that leadership at every level is equipped with the skills, strategies and technical know-how to leverage their innate strengths, embrace uncertainty and lead the change.

Learn, share and be inspired! Coming off more than a decade of inspiration and empowerment, we are proud to present our 14th NSW Public Sector Women in Leadership Summit - showcasing the NSW Government's most respected and celebrated female leaders! Join us as they share their richly diverse achievements, candidly reflect on their career journeys, and offer practical insight for positioning yourself for personal and professional success.

Designed to encourage interaction and collaboration, our NSW Public Sector Women in Leadership Summit creates a setting for public sector leaders at all levels, to reflect on their experience, envisage the future, and draw inspiration for the journey ahead. We are delighted to be bringing together this year's program, packed with speakers, panelists and participants from across the NSW Public Sector, offering you an unrivaled opportunity to extend your professional network and unlock your innate leadership capability!

- ▶ **Discover** the foundations of authentic and ethical public sector leadership
- ▶ **Develop** strategies for governing and leading through adversity
- ▶ **Power** success through mentorship and empowerment
- ▶ **Build** mental mechanisms for personal and professional success

## Liquid Learning's Virtual Event Experience

**COMPLETELY LIVE** virtual event experience - no pre-recorded sessions!

**LIVE CHAT** and **INTERACTIVE BREAK-OUT ROOMS** for unparalleled interactivity and engagement in the virtual setting

An **UNMISSABLE NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY**, putting you in the room with your peers, future mentors and leaders!

**CANDID CASE STUDIES** from senior women leaders from across the country, sharing personal insights into leadership success!

**INTERACTIVE PANELS** diving into the hot topics and real-world issues you're facing today!

**GROUP ROUNDTABLES** that put you in the conversation!

Regular **RECHARGE BREAKS** between sessions!

Connection Concerns? Or just want to relive the experience? As part of your ticket you also get **EXCLUSIVE ACCESS** to stream our **POST-EVENT SHOWCASE**, so you'll never miss a session again!

# PRE-SUMMIT WORKSHOP

## 15 JUNE

### FOUNDATIONS FOR SUCCESS - UNLEASH YOUR POTENTIAL

Join expert facilitator, Sally Dooley, for an action-packed day of intensive leadership training, as she works on your mindset and helps you develop the necessary skills to unleash your inner potential, and thrive in the rapidly evolving NSW Public Sector.

#### Maximise your leadership potential

- ▶ Explore the key capabilities, attributes and skills of an effective Public Sector leader
- ▶ Identify your passion, purpose and core values as a leader
- ▶ Develop strategies to advocate your value as a leader
- ▶ Embrace resilience and flexibility as key leadership skills

#### Build the fundamentals of Emotional Intelligence (EQ)

- ▶ Gain a deeper understanding of your EQ and identify opportunities for growth
- ▶ Explore the impact of your EQ on people and organisational climate
- ▶ Embrace the qualities of empathy and EQ to progress yourself as a leader
- ▶ Leverage your EQ as a personal strength in the workplace

#### Master high-level communication, influence and negotiation skills

- ▶ Manage emotions for positive, assertive communication and relationships
- ▶ Establish rapport, credibility and influence
- ▶ Develop techniques of persuasion, negotiation and influence with coaching skills and "conversational intelligence"
- ▶ Build strategies for preparing for and having difficult conversations with confidence

#### Create an action plan to excel your career and develop as a leader

- ▶ Build your professional brand and leadership identity
- ▶ Align your leadership strength with the expectations of your department/agency
- ▶ Establish a leadership mindset that will accelerate your career development
- ▶ Develop a personal action plan to unlock your pathway to progression

### EXPERT FACILITATOR

**Sally Dooley**  
Leadership Coach, Facilitator & Speaker  
**Sally Dooley Leadership**

**BOOK  
NOW**

Visit  
[www.liquidlearning.com](http://www.liquidlearning.com)

Call  
+61 2 8239 9711

**EVENT KICK-OFF AND NETWORKER** 9:00 - 9:45

Join Liquid Learning and your chair, Julie Alexander, for this opening kick-off session. Start to unpack our conference theme and decide how you're going to 'challenge yourself', outline your desired learning outcomes and prepare for two days of incredible speakers, senior leaders, expert deep-dives and unmissable panel discussions!

**CHANGE THE CULTURE, CHANGE THE GAME** CASE STUDY 9:50 - 10:40

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take".

Culture is like the wind; it's invisible, yet its effect can be seen and felt across an organisation. For most organisations seeking to become more adaptive and innovative, culture change is often the most challenging part of the transformation. Innovation demands new behaviors from leaders and employees that put shared values and culture as its focus, as opposed to operation excellence and efficiency. Innovation and community culture are at the heart of Alex's role, and representing this in her department, as well as the community she serves, is critical. Join Alex as she shares personal insight from her own career, and provides you with tips and tricks for creating cultural beliefs that work to establish a new framework for your organisation's culture.

**Alexandra O'Mara** Group Deputy Secretary,  
Place, Design & Public Places  
**Department of Planning,  
Industry and Environment**



**RISK SMART - TAKE YOUR CAREER TO THE NEXT LEVEL** CASE STUDY 10:45 - 11:30

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take".

Risk and reward go hand in hand. Some of our greatest career achievements come from taking educated risks, taking on new and, at times daunting, responsibilities. But taking that first step into something new and unknown can be unsettling, and the only person who can decide when the time is right is you! Join Hailie as she reflects on her own career and offers practical advice for seizing opportunities and taking smart risks in your own career.

**Hailie Ryzak**  
Director, Strategy & Corporate Services  
**Blue Mountains City Council**



**MORNING TEA** 11:30 - 11:45

**BIG STAKES - NAVIGATING CONFLICT AND TRICKY CONVERSATIONS** EXPERT COMMENTARY 11:45 - 12:45

We all face conflict at work. Maybe it's a boss who took all the credit for your project or a colleague who keeps going over your head to get more resources. In these situations, some of us shy away from having a disagreement, and some of us dig right into the difficult conversation. Whatever your natural tendency is, dealing with conflict is a crucial skill to succeed at work - It can lead to higher job satisfaction, stronger relationships with colleagues, and innovation. Join expert facilitator and your chair, Julie Alexander, as she provides you with strategies, tools and frameworks for navigating conflict and dealing with those difficult conversations at work.

**Julie Alexander**  
CEO  
**Changing Change International (CCI)**

**A CAREER IN REVIEW - 40 YEARS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR** CASE STUDY 12:50 - 1:30

For most of us, we'll spend a third of our lives at work - that's about 90,000 hours! So what career strategies can we put in place to make our working life as fulfilling as possible? After all, if you're going to spend all that time working, why not make it one of the best parts of your life? Janet Ruecroft has over 40 years experience serving the people of NSW, across four different state departments. Join Janet as she reflects on her remarkable and long-standing public sector career, and provides personal insight and practical advice on the best way to position yourself for success as an up-and-coming leader in our public service.

**Janet Ruecroft**  
Former Assistant Commissioner, Education & Training  
**Fire and Rescue NSW**

**LUNCH** 1:30 - 2:30

**REIMAGINING GOVERNMENT AND THE FUTURE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE** PANEL 2:30 - 3:45

The last year has truly highlighted how capable NSW public leaders are at remaining resilient as they have learnt, adapted and progressed the state through testing times. Teams have been pushed to collaborate, try new things and recognise challenges as opportunities to learn and grow. So how might we continue to empower and enable our leaders to work in more innovative ways so that they can face the complex challenges in the NSW public sector?

**Gabriella Suchard**  
General Manager, Communication & Engagement  
**Australian Digital Health Agency**



**Clare Beech**  
Executive Director,  
Clinical Systems Integration  
**NSW Ambulance**



**Tracey McCosker PSM**  
Chief Executive  
**NSW Health Pathology**



**Corryn Mckay**  
Director Strategic Relations and Communication  
**Sydney Local Health District**



**Valerie Griswold**  
Executive Director, Better Regulation Division  
**Department of Customer Service NSW**



**Natasha Mann**  
Executive Director, Justice Strategy & Programs  
**NSW Department of Communities & Justice**



**AFTERNOON TEA** 3:45 - 4:00

**SELF-CARE VS SELF-REPAIR - EMBRACING IMBALANCE** EXPERT COMMENTARY 4:00 - 4:45

With looming personal and professional responsibilities, different life roles, and only 24 hours in a day, it can feel like you're always on the back foot, running on empty. In this invaluable expert-led session, Mel Brown will support you to unlearn traditional self-care techniques, bring the strength of your leadership to your well-being planning, and embrace your own 'imbalance' in a way that honours your authenticity, and supercharges the depth of your leadership of others.

**Mel Brown**  
CEO  
**Spirit Dreaming Australia**

## ACTION PLANNING FOR DAY TWO...

9:00 - 9:15

Welcome back for Day Two - there's a lot to digest from our amazing speakers and action modules so far!

Our expert facilitator Julie Alexander, will recap the key learnings and takeaways from Day One, and help you prep an action plan to maximise your event experience over our jam-packed second day!

## THE 'REAL DEAL' - VALUES, AUTHENTICITY AND ETHICAL LEADERSHIP

KEYNOTE

9:15 - 10:00

There's a clear difference between being just a boss, and being a leader. Where a boss orders, a leader guides; a boss manages, a leader inspires. The difference lies in how you make your employees feel and how you view your relationship with them. A good leader sees it as their responsibility to inspire, guide and nurture their employees to help them improve; they lead by example - both inside and outside the office. Ethical leaders demonstrate good values through their words and actions, showing integrity and doing what's right. Hear from NSW Privacy Commissioner and CEO, Elizabeth Tydd as she reflects on her own career and provides insight into ethical leadership in the NSW Public Sector.

**Elizabeth Tydd**

NSW Information Commissioner and CEO  
Information and Privacy Commission NSW



## PIVOTING ON A PINHEAD - GOVERNING AND LEADING UNDER PRESSURE

CASE STUDY

10:05 - 11:00

To become an effective leader, there are several core capabilities you should have - from the ability to influence and inspire others, to knowing how to act decisively. While these traits are important in your daily role as a leader, they are especially critical during times of stress. The demanding situations and crises you face over the course of your career are likely to be the moments that define who you are as a leader and, potentially, as a person. 2020 was by no means an easy year, but for Assistant Commissioner, Leeanne Chau, it was career defining. Join Leeanne as she shares insight from her own career - touching on the ATO's implementation of the Government's Cash Flow Boost Stimulus - and provides you with practical tips and tools for leading in times of uncertainty!

**Leeanne Chau** Assistant Commissioner,  
Visual Analytics & Transformation  
Australian Taxation Office

## MORNING TEA

11:00 - 11:15

## COMMUNICATE WITH IMPACT AND INFLUENCE

EXPERT COMMENTARY

11:15 - 12:15

Leadership is the art of influencing and developing others to achieve their highest potential. Above all, there's perhaps nothing more important than the way a leader communicates. Your people will focus on it, try to interpret it and read between the lines. Transparent communication is key to building trust, but how much is too much and how can you do it effectively? In this interactive mini-workshop session, Communication Coach, Arabella, will provide you with the skills to make an impact and communicate confidently.

**Arabella Macpherson** Founder & Communications Coach  
Resonate Communications

## LUNCH

12:15 - 1:15

## WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY - THE EVOLUTION TO THE NEW NORMAL

PANEL

1:15 - 2:45

The NSW Public Sector has led the charge where flexible work is concerned - adopting an 'if not, why not' principle as early as 2016. But with COVID-19 obliterating the boundaries that conventionally separated work from the rest of our lives, and shifting the dynamics of workplace flexibility, it's left us questioning the old concept of "work-life balance". So what does this evolution to the new world of work really look like, and what are the opportunities and potential new pressures? This interactive panel discussion will explore the concept of work-life integration in our new working environments, discuss tools for managing competing priorities and expectations, and look towards embracing the new normal and how you can make this work for you.

**Joann Wilkie**

Deputy Secretary, Economic & Financial Management Group

NSW Treasury



**Kathleen Mackay**

Chief Digital Officer

Revenue NSW



**Trish Davidson**

Executive Director, Medical Services

Hunter New England Local Health District



**Karen Patterson**

Director, Capability & Culture,  
Clinical Excellence Commission

NSW Health



## AFTERNOON TEA

2:45 - 3:00

## CHANGE THE CULTURE, CHANGE THE GAME

CASE STUDY

3:00 - 3:55

Culture is like the wind; it's invisible, yet its effect can be seen and felt across an organisation. For most organisations seeking to become more adaptive and innovative, culture change is often the most challenging part of the transformation. Innovation demands new behaviors from leaders and employees that put shared values and culture as its focus, as opposed to operation excellence and efficiency. Innovation and community culture are at the heart of Alex's role, and representing this in her department, as well as the community she serves, is critical. Join Alex as she shares personal insight from her own career, and provides you with tips and tricks for creating cultural beliefs that work to establish a new framework for your organisation's culture.

**Alex O'Mara**

Group Deputy Secretary,  
Place, Design & Public Places

Department of Planning,  
Industry and Environment



## CHALLENGE YOURSELF - TODAY AND TOMORROW...

ROUNDTABLE

4:00 - 4:30

In this closing, interactive roundtable session you will connect with others in the room, reflect on your journey so far and create an action plan to carry you forward.

**Julie Alexander**

CEO

Changing Change International (CCI)

## PLUS TWO WORKSHOPS!

Plus two separately bookable interactive workshops before & after the event



# POST-SUMMIT WORKSHOP

18 JUNE

## RESULTS THROUGH PEOPLE - LEADING HIGH-PERFORMING TEAMS

Join Former NSW Government Deputy Secretary and expert facilitator, Maree Walk, for this high-impact, interactive workshop, as you develop the fundamentals of people leadership, and build strategies for creating a leading high-performing teams.

### Master successful change and strategic management

- ▶ Lead in a world of constant change and uncertainty
- ▶ Understand problem identification processes and develop problem-solving strategies
- ▶ Develop strategies for driving effective transformation through people not process
- ▶ Engage, support and influence key stakeholders through times of change

### Develop resilience to thrive in times of change

- ▶ Identify and monitor changes that impact your work environment
- ▶ Respond to constant uncertainty and ambiguity in the workplace
- ▶ Discover tools for managing stress and burn-out in high pressure situations
- ▶ Develop strategies for supporting your team, organisation and stakeholders.

### Build effective stakeholder engagement and management tools

- ▶ Identify and meet stakeholder needs and expectations
- ▶ Discover tools for building effective and rewarding relationships with stakeholders
- ▶ Develop strategies for negotiating with integrity and confidence
- ▶ Manage stakeholder relationships to achieve key organisation goals

### Lead and manage productive and engaged teams

- ▶ Capitalise on your technical skills to help develop your leadership competencies
- ▶ Leverage your leadership skill to better motivate and engage your team
- ▶ Maintain team cohesion, activate engagement and build productive relationships
- ▶ Build team capacity through coaching and performance feedback feedback

## EXPERT FACILITATOR

**Maree Walk**  
Founder & Principal Consultant  
Storyroad

## WHAT OUR DELEGATES ARE SAYING



“ Very engaging and informative. Good use of breakout rooms - nice to still be able to engage with others and work through things in a virtual environment. ”



“ Liquid Learning is more than just another conference - they create an experience of growth and inspiration through real human connection. With a breadth of delegates, interesting session styles and quality content, these events are a professional and personal investment with true reward. ”



“ Very worthwhile and incredibly valuable. Liquid Learning is excellent. Really flawless, thank you. ”



“ I really enjoyed the content, as well as the breakout activities. It was good to reflect on how those frameworks and tools relate to me and just hearing the experiences of others. Enjoyed the online experience! ”



