

# REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT SOUTH AUSTRALIA

# ANNUAL SUMMIT

## EVENT PROGRAM



## POPULATION & PROSPERITY

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: GEOFF BRAILEY**

*Keynote Speaker Partner - nbn*

Friday September 22nd | 8:00 am to 4:30 pm  
The Terrace Function Centre – Barnet Road, Evanston SA

# Population & Prosperity



Laying the groundwork for Population Growth in Regional South Australia

## SESSION 1

8am - 11:00am

8:00am	Registration	
8:30am	Conference start: Welcome & Housekeeping	<b>Mike Smithson</b>
8:40am	Welcome to Country	<b>Garth Agius</b> - Karna representative
8:50am	Welcome to Gawler and Introduce Minister	<b>Mayor Karen Redman</b> - Town of Gawler
9:00am	Welcome Message	<b>Minister Kristy McBain MP</b> - Minister for Regional Development, Local Government & Territories *live link
9:10am	Welcome Minister	<b>Hon Rob Kerin</b> - Executive Chair of RDSA
9:15am	Opening & Welcome – Minister Clare Scriven MLC	<b>Hon. Clare Scriven MLC</b> - Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Minister for Forest Industries
9:25am	Population Projection for Regional SA- what is possible and how <b>Keynote Speaker Partner -</b> 	<b>Keynote Speaker - Geoff Brailey</b> Demographer, trends analyst, social researcher and Lead Solution Designer at McCrindle Advisory
10:25am	NBN - network advancements for population growth	<b>Naomi Read</b> - Head of NBN Local SA/NT, Regional Development & Engagement <b>Ric Matto</b> - Senior Account Manager SA, New Developments
10:45am	How do we support population growth in South Australia	<b>Emily Perry</b> - General Manager Community and Corporate Affairs (RAA)
11:00am	Innovation Precincts and how they can benefit Regional SA	<b>Dr Tim Mahlberg</b> - Director, SA Ecosystems Stone & Chalk
11:15am	Morning Tea	

# Population & Prosperity



Focus on Place- Based Growth & Our Provincial Cities

## SESSION 2

11:40am - 1:15pm

11:40am	What does the new Commonwealth Regional Investment Framework mean for communities and how does SA seize the opportunity	<b>Sarah Nattey</b> - Assistant Secretary, Local Government, Regional Intelligence and Data Branch, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
11:55am	How does increasing the regional population increase the viability of local government	<b>Clinton Jury</b> - CEO Local Government Association (SA)
12:10pm	Success Story - community that has grown and what was the key to success	<b>Mayor Mathew Dickerson</b> - Mayor, Dubbo Regional Council, Chair - Regional Cities NSW, Secretary - Regional Capitals of Australia
12:30pm	Facilitated Panel Discussion + Q&A Can local government deliver population growth  Facilitator: MC Mike Smithson	<b>Andrew Stuart</b> - Mount Barker District Council, Chief Executive Officer <b>Clinton Jury</b> - CEO Local Government Association (SA) <b>Mayor Mathew Dickerson</b> - Mayor, Dubbo Regional Council, Chair - Regional Cities NSW, Secretary - Regional Capitals of Australia <b>Kristen Manson</b> - General Manager Community Development, Rural City of Murray Bridge
1:15pm	Lunch	

# Population & Prosperity



Focus on Complex Problems- Housing, Workforce,  
Migration & Planning

## SESSION 3

1:45pm- 4:30pm

1:45pm	Regional Ambition 2023 - A framework to Rebalance the Nation and how this national policy will influence the South Australia	<b>Liz Ritchie</b> - CEO Regional Australian Institute *live link
2:00pm	What does Regional Population Growth in South Australia look like, and what is the impact of Regional Migration on our future	<b>Alison Lloyd-Wright</b> - Deputy Chief Executive (Community, Culture & Place) - Department of Premier & Cabinet
2:20pm	Facilitated Panel Discussion + Q&A Are we ready for Regional Population Growth  Facilitator: MC Mike Smithson	<b>Alison Lloyd-Wright</b> - Deputy Chief Executive (Community, Culture & Place) - Department of Premier & Cabinet <b>Matt Hunt</b> - Director, Office of Regional Housing <b>Louisa Newstead</b> - Director Strategic Policy and Migration, Department for Industry, Innovation and Science <b>Peta Crewe</b> - General Manager, Regions, Department for Primary Industries & Regions
3:10pm	Is population growth in Regional SA really possible?	<b>Professor Göran Roos</b> - founder of Intellectual Capital Services Ltd and former SA Thinker in Residence *video message
3:25pm	What industry growth is possible- RDA forward investment pipeline, what does it tell us	<b>Kelly-Anne Saffin</b> - Chief Executive Officer, RDA Adelaide.
3:40pm	Closing remarks	<b>Mike Smithson</b>
Approx. 3:55pm	Networking drinks	



## Your Speakers:

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### MIKE SMITHSON

*Emcee*

Mike Smithson is one of the most experienced reporters and presenters in the Seven Network, having worked as a television journalist and newsreader for 42 years. He was awarded the prestigious Journalist of the Year in South Australia plus numerous other awards for his work on television and in newspapers for his political commentary and critique, where he's influenced public opinion.

For 25 years Mike was the senior political reporter in Adelaide having covered many changes of government. During his long journalistic career, he's also interviewed every Prime Minister: from Gough Whitlam to Albo – 11 in all.

Mike is currently Chief Reporter and weekend news presenter. He is a regular political commentator on FIVEaa and ABC Radio.



## Session One:

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### GARTH AGIUS

*Kurna Elder - Welcome to Country*

Garth Agius is a Kurna Elder with a rich tapestry of life experiences, and a diverse and impactful career to date. He has been deeply involved in preserving and promoting Indigenous culture, serving as a Kurna Language and Cultural Instructor, contributing to the recovery and reburials of ancestral remains, and advocating for Aboriginal education.

His achievements span national leadership and foundational roles in First Nations languages, Indigenous television and filmmaking and participation in an international cultural exchange to inform First Nations school curriculum.

Garth's life story is a testament to dedication, leadership, and a passion for storytelling.



### MAYOR KAREN REDMAN

*Town of Gawler*

In 2010, with a growing desire to become more involved with her community of Gawler, Karen decided to stand for Council as an Elected Member. With a respected background in health, and strong links in the community, Karen was subsequently elected as an area councillor. When the incumbent Mayor announced their retirement in 2014, Karen took a chance and ran for Mayor. A hard-fought campaign, (with the occasional stoush), set her up for the many challenges Gawler has faced since 2014. Now in her third term, Karen is a strong advocate for her growing community.

Key leadership roles include:

Chair: Greater Adelaide Regions of Councils

Board Director: Local Government Association SA

Board Member: Australian Local Government Association

Member: LGA Audit committee

Membership on a broad range of Town of Gawler Committees including previous Development Assessment Panel, and Chair of the Gawler Civic Centre committee.



# Session One:



## HON ROB KERIN

*Chair - Regional Development South Australia*



Rob has served as a director and adviser for many organisations and is currently chairman of Regional Development South Australia. He also chairs the S.A. Rock Lobster Advisory Council and S.A. Oyster Growers Association and until 2021 chaired Primary Producers S.A. Rob also chairs the South Australian National Football League (SANFL) and is Deputy chair of the Adelaide Oval Stadium Management Authority. During his 15-year political career, Rob held multiple portfolios including Primary Industries and Resources, Regional Development, Minerals and Energy, Forestry, State Development and Tourism and Multi-cultural Affairs.



## MINISTER KRISTY MCBAIN MP

*Minister for Regional Development, Local Government & Territories*



From her early days in Traralgon in Victoria, to moving to Merimbula on the NSW Far South Coast – Kristy McBain has dedicated herself to being a fierce advocate for regional communities. As Federal Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, Kristy is focused on collaborating with local leaders across our regions to harness opportunities and to build thriving regional economies. Kristy studied law at the University of Canberra – the first in her family to attend university, and is also the first woman to represent the seat of Eden-Monaro in NSW, following a by-election in 2020. As Mayor, she led her community through the devastating 2019-2020 Black Summer Bushfires, and this tireless commitment and leadership has continued in her role as Member for Eden-Monaro. From providing more skills and employment opportunities, enhancing access to key services, improving infrastructure and connectivity, and ensuring communities are better prepared for natural disasters – Kristy is a strong voice in Canberra for the issues impacting regional Australia.

*\*Via live link*



## HON CLARE SCRIVEN MLC

*Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and Minister for Forest Industries*



Clare Scriven was raised in Mount Gambier and returned to the region with her family after living and working in Adelaide for some years. Clare is committed to regional development, improving educational opportunities, supporting small business, and promoting the importance of primary industries sectors. Prior to entering Parliament in 2018, Clare's career spanned forest industries, human resources, government policy and service delivery. Clare's post-graduate studies in management and business have complemented her diverse working background. Clare is passionate about regional communities. As a member of the Legislative Council, she represents all South Australians. She and her husband, Gerard, have six children.

# Session One:



## GEOFF BRAILEY

*Demographer, trends analyst, social researcher and Lead Solution Designer at McCrindle Advisory*



Geoff Brailey is a social researcher, strategic advisor and Director of Solutions at the internationally recognised McCrindle. As an experienced researcher, Geoff understands how evidence-based insights can inform strategy and help organisations to thrive amidst change.



## NAOMI READ

*Head of nbn Local SA/NT Regional Development & Engagement - NBN Co.*



Naomi Read is the Head of nbn Local SA/NT, a team with a dedicated focus on building relationships and delivering engagement programs to enable the benefits of infrastructure upgrades, increase digital capability and participation within communities and business across regional South Australia and the Northern Territory. Naomi's telecommunications career of 25+ years has included customer engagement and senior leadership roles within AAPT, Internode and more than 10 years at nbn. As passionate advocates for innovation and growth in Regional SA, Naomi and the nbn team are pleased to support the Annual Summit.



## RIC MATTO

*Senior Account Manager SA, New Developments - NBN Co.*



Over 25 years of sales history within IT&T across multiple industry verticals and have built extensive knowledge and experience within the Health, Government, FSI and Natural Resources sectors. During the past 12 years I have built and led multi-domain teams across Australia for success in both metro and regional areas to sell and deliver complex ICT solutions to allow customers to achieve their future IT roadmap and outcomes. I recently joined NBN to head up New Developments for South Australia where we are concentrating on the growth sectors of our state to lift digital capacity and deliver, fast, reliable, and secure networks. I am also a recent joint Guinness World Record holder for dancing to the Nut Bush City Limits with 7,000 people in the desert in Silverton NSW



## EMILY PERRY

*General Manager Community and Corporate Affairs BA (Journalism), GradDipMgt*



Joining the Executive team in late 2020, Emily Perry leads Community and Corporate Affairs at RAA. With a passion for social value and community impact, she has a broad range of communications, media and business management experience, most recently at BHP. She's also worked extensively in the motoring sector, with almost a decade under her belt at General Motors. Emily oversees RAA's Public Policy, Government, Corporate Communications and Creative Services, Education, and Community work.

## Session Two:



### **DR TIM MAHLBERG**

*Director, SA Ecosystems Stone & Chalk*

With a curiosity for people and culture, a passion for community, and a dedication to creating impact, Tim has had a diverse career spanning large organisations, non-profit, higher education, startups, and service industries. Qualified as an organisational psychologist, he's been developing individuals and organisations for nearly 20 years. He has a doctorate from The University of Sydney which explored new ways of working with purpose to drive innovation in large institutions. At Stone & Chalk, Tim is the Director of Ecosystems for South Australia, where he supports the end-to-end journey for startup founders and is working to grow the innovation ecosystem in South Australia.



### **SARAH NATTEY**

*Assistant Secretary, Local Government, Regional Intelligence and Data Branch - Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications*

Sarah Nattey has more than 20 years' experience as an Australian Public Servant, across a variety of portfolios including workplace relations, Indigenous affairs, gender equality, infrastructure investment, regional development and local government. Engaging with stakeholders to understand the challenges and opportunities they face, combining it with credible data and using that intelligence to inform future actions of government, is something she enthusiastically and energetically embraces. She utilises these experiences to respond to policy and program priorities, including those relating to resilience and recovery in regional Australia. Earlier this year, Sarah completed her Master of Leadership and uses her lived experience and knowledge to mentor colleagues, build quality stakeholder relationships and foster a culture of inclusion in the workplace.



### **CLINTON JURY**

*CEO Local Government Association (SA)*

Clinton is currently the CEO of the Local Government Association of SA. He has extensive leadership experience in with some of the country's largest membership organisations including the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Australian Red Cross. Holding senior Director and Management roles for more than 30 years Clinton has worked across many organisations in the Healthcare, Education and Humanitarian Services.

Clinton is passionate about the creation of vibrant communities which bring people together and is currently a Director of the Local Government Finance Authority, LGASA Mutual Services, LG Procurement, the Cure 4 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Ambassador for the CEO sleepout and member of the Commercial Advisory Committee for St Vincent de Paul SA and the Advisory Committee of Austrian Association of SA.





## Session Two:

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### **MAYOR MATTHEW DICKERSON**

*Mayor - Dubbo Regional Council  
Chair - Regional Cities NSW  
Secretary- Regional Capitals of Australia*



Mathew is a self-made award-winning businessman having started six successful small businesses over a thirty-year period. Mathew's background has a technological slant and, in addition to his business success in this field, he also communicates widely on the topic. In addition to his business success, which has seen him collect local; state, national and international awards, Mathew believes in giving back to his local community.



### **ANDREW STUART**

*Mount Barker District Council- Chief Executive Officer*



Andrew's career in local government has also included 7 years as Deputy CEO at Port Adelaide as well as senior management positions at City of Adelaide and City of Onkaparinga. He has also held senior management roles in the construction sector, legal practice and chartered accounting.

He is a Fellow of the Certified Practising Accountants of Australia.



### **KRISTEN MANSON**

*Rural City of Murray Bridge - General Manager  
Community Development*



As the General Manager Community Development for the Rural City of Murray Bridge, Kristen is responsible for delivering the Council's community services, its development and regulation services and has responsibility for Lerwin, the Council's 75 bed residential aged care facility, together with major projects within this portfolio. She works with the Executive Leadership Team to help build a proactive organisational culture to deliver a "Proud, Safe and Progressive Murray Bridge".

As an experienced Local Government professional, Kristen has established a reputation as a strategic change leader, with the ability to work collaboratively to deliver community and organisational transformation. Kristen has proven experience in managing diverse portfolios, developing strategic community focus, as well as a demonstrated commitment to leading people and delivering community outcomes.

## Session Three:



### LIZ RITCHIE

*CEO, Regional Australia Institute*



As the CEO of the Regional Australia Institute, Liz is driving a new national conversation about the future of this country that recognises regional Australia in a new light. For over 20 years, Liz has worked across the nation with corporates, government and the not-for-profit sector, and she specialises in leading business transformation to build a sustainable future. Liz is a purpose-led leader who leans into bold ideas. She is a change agent, an innovator, a researcher, an influencer and an extremely passionate advocate for regional Australia, heralding from Deniliquin, in NSW. In 2022, Liz was selected to join 23 CEOs to complete the first Social Impact Leadership Australia (SILA) program. Liz is a founding Director of the Australian Gender Equality Council (AGEC), advocating to ensure women can have equal access and opportunity. She is also a graduate of Australian Institute Company Directors and holds a Master of Applied Science (Organisational Dynamics) from RMIT.



### ALISON LLOYDD-WRIGHT

*Department for Premier and Cabinet's Deputy Chief Executive for Community, Culture and Place*



Alison Lloyd-Wright is currently Interim Deputy Chief Executive in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet however substantively is the Executive Director for Cabinet and Population Strategy, leading a whole of government approach to growing South Australia's population through attraction and retention of young global talent. Alison is passionate about helping South Australia to unleash its potential and reclaim its identity and confidence as a place for people who want to live with purpose.



### MATT HUNT

*Director, Office of Regional Housing*



Matt is the inaugural director of the newly formed Office of Regional Housing within Renewal SA and charged with delivering the Regional Key Worker Housing Scheme. Hailing from the Limestone Coast, previous to his new appointment he was the Director, Riverbank & Strategic Projects with Renewal SA as well as SA Health's Director, Commercial & Assurance for the new RAH. He has extensive private sector experience including as an Associate Director at EY.



### LOUISA NEWSTEAD

*Director Strategic Policy and Migration, Department for Industry, Innovation and Science*



As the Director Strategic Policy and Migration Louisa leads the development and delivery of strategic policy across the DIIS portfolio and in support of broader government initiatives and managing the policy relationship with other government agencies and the Commonwealth Government. The role also leads the development of all migration policy for the SA Government and the delivery of the state's skilled and business migration programs.

## Session Three:

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### **PETA CREWE**

*General Manager, Regions - Department of Primary Industries and Regions*



Peta has worked all of her professional career in regional South Australia and is currently based in Mount Gambier in her current role as PIRSA's General Manager Regions. In this role Peta is responsible for leading and directing the delivery of program initiatives that support the Government of South Australia's regional development policy priorities.

Peta works closely with the eight Regional Development Australia organisations in South Australia, colleagues across local, state and Commonwealth Government, key regional stakeholder group, and with regional development think-tanks such as the Regional Australia Institute. Peta's background in agriculture, forestry and regional development has involved working one-on-one with farmers and business owners; developing and implementing projects; membership of multiple program steering committees; economic diversification, drought response, bushfire recovery and coordinating regional workforce and regional leadership programs.



### **PROFESSOR GÖRAN ROOS**



Goran Roos is a Swedish academic, technologist, author and businessman. He is a specialist in the field of intellectual capital and an expert in innovation management and strategy. He was appointed Thinker in Residence on industry development by the Government of South Australia in 2011, and subsequently moved to the state's Economic Development Board. Göran has worked as a consultant in more than 50 countries and presently works extensively with the transformation to a digital and low environmental footprint world on both corporate and national levels. Göran is the author and co-author of over three hundred books, book chapters, papers and articles and has more than 17,000 Google Scholar citations.



### **KELLY-ANNE SAFFIN**

*CEO, Regional Development Australia Adelaide*



Kelly-Anne Saffin joined RDA Adelaide late 2022 after spending the previous 10 years as CEO of Regional Development Australia Yorke and Mid North where she was responsible for the leadership and management of the board and the delivery of its key strategic goals and strategies. Her achievements are many having assisted with the facilitation of over \$322 million worth of investment in the region and over \$41 million in infrastructure, hosting business workshops and dinners for thousands of participants, establishing the Mid North Knowledge Partnership with key partner Flinders University, assisting local councils, and delivering through hundreds of thousands of hours of training and thousands of employment outcomes through her Workforce Team. Her background also encompasses State Government (DTED) and other Regional Development roles in the Limestone Coast, Barossa & Light and Mid North and Eyre Peninsula. She is truly an economic development specialist.