



2026 **WOMEN'S**
FORUM & DINNER

THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER | PARK HYATT MELBOURNE

**REGISTER
NOW**

**Join your sector peers and collaborate
on the challenges and opportunities
facing women in local government.**

From council leaders to early career professionals of all ages, the 2026 Women's Forum and Women's Network Dinner are your opportunities to invest in your personal and professional self.

Receive the support you need to grow into your best self and learn how you can lend this support to your teams and colleagues to nurture the talent in your organisation.

McArthur

Best people fit. Making a difference.

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FEATURING



LUCY BLOOM

A change maker and business fixer with the best mohawk in the business. This rule-breaker and momentum creator led an advertising agency for 20 years before taking the CEO role at leading international aid organisations and becoming a four-time author.



SHARINA LADHARAM

A proud Wiradjuri woman who is passionate about bringing people together through events, building strong relationships and supporting a more inclusive city as Melbourne City Council's Aboriginal Community Engagement and Events Officer. Sharina's work spans major First Nations events through to truth-telling initiatives.



AILEEN DAY

CX Advisor meets Clinical Psychotherapist, Aileen brings her 25+ years of leadership, PR, therapy and business experience to the stage to help us connect the dots on how we can become our own trusted, value-driven brand.



PHU NGUYEN

An accomplished public sector leader spanning local governments in three states with a reputation for leading complex organisations through change, building high-performing cultures and delivering outcomes that create lasting value for communities.



TRACY HALL

This global marketing executive became the final known victim of Australia's most prolific conman and has transformed this devastating personal experience into a mission to help others navigate an increasingly complex world of scams, fraud, cybercrime and deception.



TILLA BUDEN

CEO of one of Victoria's fastest-growing peri-urban councils with an executive history spanning Baw Baw and Bayside to Greater Dandenong and the Yarra Ranges. Known for her collaborative style, Tilla brings deep experience in service design, major project delivery and community-centred innovation to her leadership.

AND MANY MORE...

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SEE THE FULL PROGRAM

Thursday 22 October



9:00 AM

WELCOME

Setting the scene for a day of personal and professional growth

9:15 AM

FROM COMPLIANCE TO CULTURE

What the data tells us about gender equality in Victorian local government

9:45 AM

DOING BUSINESS DIFFERENTLY

Explore how mindset, courage, curiosity and kindness can help individuals and teams thrive through challenges and setbacks

10:30 AM

FIND YOUR WHY

Make more deliberate choices about your working life by exploring what matters most to you

11:15 AM

THE BURNOUT PARADOX: ROOT CAUSES, REAL FIXES

Unpack the three root causes of burnout and learn practical, evidence-based micro-fixes you can start using immediately

NETWORKING

1 PM

TASTE OF POLITICAL ACUMEN

Strengthen the soft skills and practical tools essential for effective career progression

1 PM

THINK LIKE A PRO: THE AI SKILL THAT MAKES EVERY TOOL BETTER

Learn the practical decision-making framework behind any AI task by following an AI practitioner in real-time

1 PM

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

Be prepared to navigate the conversations people avoid with approaches you can immediately apply at work

2 PM

POWERFUL PRESENTING

Strengthen your impact with clarity, confidence and credibility when presenting business cases, briefing councillors and engaging the community

2 PM

BE SEEN, HEARD AND SOUGHT AFTER: BUILDING A PERSONAL BRAND WITHOUT THE NOISE

Learn the practical, low-effort system for building trust, credibility and reputation inside your organisation and across the sector

2 PM

RESILIENCE UNDER PRESSURE: READING THE SIGNS, BUILDING THE STRATEGIES

Learn to recognise the early signs of overwhelm before it affects decision-making and wellbeing at both the personal and team level

NETWORKING

3:15 PM

CEO PANEL

Insights directly from executive leaders in conversation

4:15 PM

THE INSIGHTS HOUR: REAL TALK ON CAREERS, LEADERSHIP AND LIFE

Connect with experienced mentors in a facilitated networking session spanning career progression through to leadership

6:30 PM

WOMEN'S NETWORK DINNER

The unmissable celebration of the achievements of women and non-binary professionals from across Victorian local government.

The most anticipated networking dinner of the year, join your peers and allies for special guest speaker Tracy Hall and the celebration of the Sally Isaac Award and the ALGWA Vic Bursary.

TICKETS



FORUM TICKETS



Members

\$595

Non-members

\$795

(comes with a complimentary
WebinarHQ membership for 12 months)

DINNER TICKETS



Single tickets

\$295

Table booking (10)

\$2,950

REGISTER NOW

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 13 OCTOBER

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