

annual conference

13-14 September 2023

Navigating the Waters: Adapting to Economic Challenges in the Water Sector

In light of the current economic landscape, we are confronted with significant challenges that demand our immediate attention and collaborative efforts. How do we maintain the high levels of service expected by our customers while continuing to achieve business efficiencies? How do we maximise the ripple effect of our investments for the benefit of our communities?

The 2023 Annual Conference will explore the current economic state and how it is impacting the water sector, bringing together the leaders of the Victorian water industry as well as external experts to share their experiences and provide insight into how we navigate the waters of these uncertain economic times.

Conference Overview

Tuesday 12 September	WWDN Event - Enhancing Board Diversity and Traditional Owner Engagement	Flinders Room	4:30pm
	Welcome Drinks	Aria Bar	6:00pm
Wednesday 13 September	Conference Day 1 Program	Ballroom	8:30am
	Annual Conference Dinner	Ballroom	6:30pm
Thursday 14 September	Conference Day 2 Program	Ballroom	8:30am

The 2023 Annual Conference will run in hybrid format, to allow delegates to register for an in-person or online registration. The onsite venue for 2023 will be The Langham Melbourne. All delegates will receive access to the recordings of the presentations after the event.

Venue

The Langham, Melbourne
1 Southgate Ave, Southbank

Accommodation

[Book here](#)

Registration

[Register here](#)

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Day 1 - Program

Registration	8:30am
Welcome - Jo Lim, VicWater CEO	9:00am
Welcome to Country - Stacie Piper, Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation	9:05am
Official Welcome - David Middleton, VicWater Chair	9:15am
Opening Address - The Hon. Harriet Shing, Minister for Water, Victorian Government	9:25am
Keynote Presentation - Nicki Hutley, Economist	9:40am
Morning Tea Break	10:40am
Regulators Panel - Freya Marsden, Kate Symons and Lee Miezis	11:00am
Developments in Sustainable Finance - Michael Larkin, Managing Director, TCV	12:00pm
Climates & Markets - Michael Wyrsh, Chief Investment Officer, Vision Super	12:25pm
Lunch Break	12:45pm
Customer Affordability Panel - James Garriock, Ciara Sterling, Dona Tantirimudalige, Tony Kelly and Emma Youill	1:30pm
Current Challenges with Capital Projects Panel - Tim White, Andrew Pitney, Craig Dixon, Cameron FitzGerald and Jyoti Wardhen	2:30pm
Echo MS Principal Sponsor's Address - Tony Kelly, Director, Aptumo Australia	3:30pm
Afternoon Tea Break	3:40pm
NCS Technology Sponsor's Address - Steve Avery, Head of Smart Cities and Digital Twin Program, NCS	4:00pm
Water Digitisation - Jason Cotton, Paul Sewell, Brett Chilton, Mark Lee, Kale Needham and Ash Yap	4:05pm
Close - conference sessions conclude for Day 1	5:00pm
Annual Conference Dinner (Inc. pre dinner drinks) Dinner Speaker - Stephane Roman, Salesforce	6:30pm

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Day 2 - Program

Coffee & networking	8:30am
Welcome Back - Jo Lim, VicWater CEO	8:50am
Keynote Presentation - Mick Liubinskas, Climate tech activator and investor	9:00am
Morning Tea Break	10:00am
Non-regulated Revenue Initiatives Panel - Dan Sullivan, Shaun Cumming, Simon Aquilina, Natalie Foeng and Peter Dennis	10:20am
Supporting Economic Growth in the Regions Panel - Tranquillity Clinton, Charmaine Quick, Katie Warner and Grant Sutherland	11:20am
Interactive Wrap up session - David Middleton, VicWater Chair, and Jo Lim, VicWater CEO	12:20pm
Conference wrap up - Jo Lim, VicWater CEO	12:50pm
Close - conference sessions conclude for Day 2	12:55pm
Lunch and depart	1:00pm