

# HR STRATEGY SUMMIT VIC

THE LEADING COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY FOR HR EXECUTIVES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025

MELBOURNE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTRE (MCEC)  
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA



## SPEAKERS



**ADOREBEAUTY**  
GROUP

NICOLE SPEERS

Chief People Officer



SARA VAN VLIET

General Manager, Talent & Culture



LAUREN BARLOW

Vice President, People & Culture



CHAD BURKE

General Manager, Learning & Development



NINA AZZOPARDI

Head of People & Culture



MARISSA ALLEY

Chief People Officer

## KEY TOPICS

- Exploring the role of HR as a strategic partner
- Driving business success through people performance
- Prioritising leadership development & fostering a culture of learning
- Exploring the skills and capabilities required to thrive into the future
- Creating a meaningful work environment for the next generation of talent

## WHO WILL ATTEND?

- Chief People Officers
- Heads of Human Resources
- Heads of People & Culture
- Heads of Learning & Development
- Heads of Employee Experience
- Heads of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

#FOREFRONTEVENTS

# HR Strategy Summit VIC

## AGENDA

### 8:30AM REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS

### 9:00AM WELCOME REMARKS

Chairperson: **Greg Sellar**, Dynamic Leadership Programs Australia

### 9:10AM OPENING KEYNOTE

Leadership, Team Building & Resilience: Lessons from 537 days stranded in the Antarctic

**David Knoff**, Antarctic Expedition Leader

### 9:50AM PANEL DISCUSSION

Exploring the Role of HR as a Strategic Partner: Driving Business Success Through People Performance

- The commercial acumen of HR & its role in enabling business outcomes
- Exploring how HR can transition from a support function to a strategic partner
- Aligning people performance with organisational objectives
- Removing barriers to growth for a diversified & global workforce

**Nicole Speers**, Chief People Officer, Adore Beauty Group

**Lauren Barlow**, Vice President, People & Culture, BP

**Marissa Alley**, Chief People Officer, CPA Australia

Moderator: **Emma Alit-Graham**, Enterprise Sales - APJ, Workforce Software

### 10:30AM CASE STUDY

Key People Strategies For 2026: How To Thrive (Not Just Survive)

**Penelope Cottrill**, Principal Consultant, Bendelta

### 11:00AM MORNING TEA & NETWORKING

### 11:30AM AUDIENCE INTERACTIVE

Discuss current challenges & evolving workforce dynamics impacting employee engagement in 2025

### 11:50AM PANEL DISCUSSION

Prioritising Leadership Development & Fostering a Culture of Learning

- Meeting the evolving needs of employees and the business with impactful learning and development programs
- Embedding critical thinking & emotional intelligence as key leadership capabilities
- Creating a learning culture for competitive edge in a dynamic market

**Nina Azzopardi**, Head of People & Culture, Beyond Blue

**Chad Burke**, General Manager, Learning & Development, Metro Trains

**Jessie McIntyre**, Director of Organisational Development, Eastern Health

Moderator: **Tania Le Page**, Lead Facilitator, time2talk Leadership

### 12:30PM CASE STUDY

Building the Business Case for Leadership to Unlock Productivity Gains

**Alex Bond**, Director, Peter Berry Consultancy

### 1:00PM LUNCH & NETWORKING

### 1:50PM INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

- Embedding leadership behaviours that drive daily performance
- Redefining employee experience: The role of total rewards and mental health
- Succession planning in action: Challenges, approaches, and best practices
- Supporting leaders to effectively address psychosocial risks & build workplace trust
- Enhancing Leadership Impact: Simple yet highly effective methods
- Menopause at work: Breaking the silence & building a supportive workplace

### 2:30PM PANEL DISCUSSION

The Future of Work & The Workforce: Exploring the Skills & Capabilities Required to Thrive

- Uplifting tech competencies & digital literacy skills for an adaptable and resilient workforce
- Harnessing the power of AI & tech to drive individual efficiencies & productivity
- Creating a meaningful work environment for the next generation of talent

**Sara Van Vliet**, General Manager, Talent & Culture, ANZ

**Jessica Murphy**, Director, Organisational Development, University of Melbourne

**Julie Watkins**, Chief People Officer, UniSuper

**Bonnie Richards**, Director, Capability & Organisational Efficiency, Treasury Wine Estates

Moderator: **Karlle Cremin**, Chief Executive Officer, Dynamic Leadership Programs Australia

### 3:10PM AFTERNOON TEA & NETWORKING

### 3:30PM CLOSING KEYNOTE

Exploring Talent Marketplace Excellence at Schneider Electric

**Dean Summlar**, VP Talent Management & Learning, Schneider Electric

### 4:00PM CLOSING REMARKS

### 4:10PM NETWORKING DRINKS

### 5:00PM EVENT CONCLUDES