

Members Newsletter

December 2010



BUREAU NEWS

CEO UPDATE



Firstly I would like to thank you all for being part of what has been a very successful 2010. Reflecting back on the past 12 months we have witnessed some very busy periods at the Bureau and on some occasions our requests to members have exceeded the usual requirement for bids.

More involvement from our members, whether it be time or information, is in some part due to the increasing complexity of the bids we are now receiving through RALIG members. We welcome the opportunity to work on these bids and thank you all for being part of the THINK CANBERRA journey. The complex nature of the bids we receive and the commitment from you, our members, is testament to the success of this approach.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy Christmas and hope that you enjoy a break over the festive season. For many, this time of year allows us to take a well earned rest with fewer business events in the city.

The Bureau will be closed during Christmas/New Year. Our last day is Friday 24th December and we will re-open on Monday 10th January.

STAFF UPDATE



New Business Development Manager

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Emelia Vimalasiri to the position of Business Development Manager. Emilia commenced at the Bureau on Monday 6th December.

Emelia has a Bachelor of Business Administration Majoring in Accounting and Marketing from the University of Canberra (2002 - 2006). Emilia's previous experience includes Events and Operations with the Internet Industry Association (IIA), Events Coordinator with The Brassey of Canberra Hotel and Trainee Accountant with Walter Turnbull Chartered Accountants.

Emelia's experience within an industry association will bring a slightly different perspective to the existing Sales Team and we welcome this insight.



Learning from Kuala Lumpur

As we start to look further in to the international business event market, through the Research and Learning Institutes Group (RALIG), we are beginning to see the benefits of learning from some of our highly successful Asia-Pacific counterparts.

As part of the Bureau's international professional development our Business Development Executive, Akbar Muliono, has been invited to spend valuable time with the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), Kuala Lumpur Convention Bureau, Serawak Convention Bureau and the ICCA Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur.

In 2009 the KLCC was awarded the "Best Conference Centre in Asia" by CEI and continues to produce outstanding results in conference bid wins.

Invited by Peter Brokenshire, former GM of the NCCC and now based in Kuala Lumpur, Akbar will be able to obtain a greater insight into how Kuala Lumpur has gained significant results in the international market in such a short period of time.

EVENTS

Here is a snapshot of some of the business events on this month

Start	End	Meeting	Primary Venue
30 th Nov	3 rd Dec	Solar 2010 (Australian Solar Energy Society)	Australian National University
1 st Dec	2 nd Dec	Department of Human Services December 2010	Australian Institute of Sport
2 nd Dec	3 rd Dec	Department of Defence Conference Dec 2010	Manuka Oval
6 th Dec	10 th Dec	Department of Health and Ageing Training Dec 2010	Hyatt Hotel Canberra
6 th Dec	10 th Dec	ISO/TC 211 Meetings (International Conference)	Hotel Realm
10 th Dec	12 th Dec	AIDA Board Meeting December 2010	Hotel Realm
15 th Dec	15 th Dec	Australian Bureau of Statistic Seminar December 2010	Pavilion on Northbourne
17 th Dec	17 th Dec	ASC Executive Workshop December 2010	Crowne Plaza Canberra



RALIG Networking Night

The RALIG (Research and Learning Institutes Group) Networking Night was held on Tuesday, 23rd November at the Hyatt Hotel Canberra.

The evening was attended by members of the RALIG committee, their colleagues and Bureau Board Members. The Networking Night provided an opportunity for exchange between RALIG member organisations and researchers. It also provided the opportunity for us to formally acknowledge the contribution of each of the committee members and present them with certificates for their participation.



Networking Night & Christmas Party

Date: 15th December
Venue: Forrest Hotel & Apartments
30 National Circuit
Forrest
Time: 5:30pm – 7:00pm
RSVP: [CLICK HERE](#)

INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT NEWS



Bureau opposes Tralee Development

Last month the Canberra Convention Bureau wrote to NSW Minister for Planning, the Hon. Tony Kelly, in opposition of residential development in Tralee (Southern NSW).

The Bureau believes this development will have adverse effects on Canberra Airport development and overall business in the Canberra region.

[Letter to NSW Minister for Planning](#)



Business Events in Australia: Latest Industry Performance

This report from the Department of Resources, Energy & Tourism features the Business Event industries performance during the Global Financial Crisis in 2009 and the economic recovery period shortly after from January to June 2010.

[Read the report](#)



Minister Welcomes Canberra Airport Milestone Press Release

The Southern Concourse terminal was opened on Sunday 14 November and Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation, Andrew Barr, congratulated the Airport for reaching this significant milestone.

The \$350 million project is one of the largest private developments in the ACT and will greatly improve the experience of the business event delegates when visiting our region.

[Read the full release](#)



Australian Government
Department of Immigration
and Citizenship

Biometrics in Offshore Visa Processing

The Biometrics in Offshore Visa Processing Program (the program) is an Australian Government initiative that introduces biometric collection into the offshore visa application process.

The program has commenced this month and is expected to be further rolled out in the new year to more locations. This program will impact business (conference) visa application processing in areas where evisa applications are not available.

Visa applicants will need to present at a visa lodgment office in person to apply for a visa.

[Read more.](#)

Identity Security Strengthened Through Biometrics

[Press Release](#)

Chris Bowen – Minister for Immigration and Citizenship



Australian Government
Department of Immigration
and Citizenship

Employing Overseas Chefs & Cooks

If you are finding it difficult to find Chefs and Cooks within Australia the Department of Immigration has just released an information brochure featuring the steps to take when hiring from overseas.

[Read the brochure](#)



Australian Government
Department of Resources
Energy and Tourism

State of the Industry

Released by the Department of Energy, Resources and Tourism and compiled by Tourism Research Australia (TRA) the following report details the state of the tourism industry in Australia for 2010.

The report identifies some of the clear drivers that have contributed to the current state of the tourism industry and Australia's performance post GFC.

[Read the full report](#)

Please [click here](#) for a list of papers from the Tourism Directions Conference 2010 including Professor Ian Harper's *Where to Now?*



New Public Holiday for Christmas 2010

The ACT Government has announced that it has declared an additional public holiday to be observed on 25 December 2010.

A total of four Public Holidays will now apply in the Australian Capital Territory during the Christmas and New Year period:

- Saturday 25 December 2010;
- Monday 27 December 2010;
- Tuesday 28 December 2010; and
- Monday 03 January 2011.



ACT Taxi Industry Review Update

After submissions were taken for the ACT Government's Taxi Industry Review there has now been a Draft cabinet submission which is to be circulated to government agencies in early December. It is proposed that the Chief Minister will take the Taxi Review submission to Cabinet in mid December.

It is expected that the Chief Minister will announce the Government decision(s) before Christmas.

MEMBERS AND INDUSTRY



Members Latest News

[Want to upgrade your skills or considering a career in events?](#)

[Wine, Women, Song – Forrest Hotel & Apartments](#)

[Qantas to recommence A380 Services](#)

[More Members news](#)

If you would like your industry news included in this monthly update, please forward your information to [Penny Calvert](#).