

# Members Newsletter

January 2011



## BUREAU NEWS

### CEO UPDATE



Happy New Year to all who have recently returned from leave. I am pleased to report the Bureau team all had an enjoyable break during the office closure and public holiday period and as a result are refreshed and ready for the next twelve months of activity.

Naturally, our thoughts and wishes go out to all family members, friends and colleagues who have been affected by the floods in QLD and VIC.

We start this year's program of events in February with the distribution of the new Meeting Planners Guide to meeting managers in Canberra, Australia and Internationally. February also includes a two day niche medical familiarisation of the city, participation with members at the AIME Trade Show in Melbourne, a sales mission to Sydney next week and an Australia Association Project committee meeting here in Canberra as part of the projects Federal Government engagement.

### STAFF UPDATE



#### Michelle wins scholarship to YWCA Summit in Zurich

In conjunction with her volunteer work and membership of the YWCA of Canberra, Michelle Lauder has been awarded a grant to attend the YWCA World Council and International Women's Summit in Zurich from 10 – 16 July 2011.

The theme is "Women Creating a Safe World". 1,000 participants including YWCA delegates, women's rights activists, youth organisations, media, governmental representatives and other stakeholders will be meeting to network and share experiences and best practices with women from every region of the world.

Michelle will be involved in the preparation of workshops for the event, as well as participating in the conference. This is a fantastic opportunity to develop leadership skills and learn about the cutting-edge issues in the lives of women around the world.



#### Kazuko Sakamoto (nee Manny)

After four years with the Bureau our events extraordinaire Kazuko Sakamoto is bidding farewell to the Bureau to take up a position at the Japanese Embassy.

Kaz has been instrumental in preparing, coordinating and running Bureau events, familiarisations and networking nights. Her exceptional attention to detail and events experience have ensured that Bureau events under her guardianship have been a success.

Kaz's last day will be Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February and we wish her all the very best.

## EVENTS

Here is a snapshot of some of the business events on in January and February

Start	End	Meeting	Primary Venue
6 Jan	18 Jan	IOM - Registration and Voting for South Sudanese Referendum 2011	Australian National University
15 Jan	22 Jan	Subud Australia National Congress 2011	University of Canberra Village (Campus Summer Stays)
7 Feb	11 Feb	AMAS Symposium 2011	Australian National University
23 Feb	24 Feb	Incapacitated Servicemen & Women's Association of Australia	Australian War Memorial

## INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT NEWS



### ACT Government Responds to PWC Tax Review

Earlier this month Chief Minister Jon Stanhope released the ACT Government's response to the PWC tax review. The key measures to be implemented include:

- The release of at least 25 new standard taxi plates and four new wheelchair taxi plates in 2011;
- Annual increases in taxi licence numbers to ensure that taxi supply meets demand;
- The introduction of a centralised booking service for wheelchair-accessible taxis to improve reliability and service quality;
- Improving taxi driver training standards; and
- Enhancing compliance activity to ensure high standards of service to taxi users.

[Read Taxi Changes Media Release](#)

[Read the Government's Position on Taxi Report](#)



### Regional Tourism Profiles 2009/2010 ACT

Tourism Research Australia (TRA) has released a State and Region tourism summary of the ACT. The report covers a summary of domestic and international visitors to the ACT and their regional expenditure.

[Read the report](#)

## MEMBERS AND INDUSTRY



### Members Latest News

[Homestead Café offers 10% discount off your bill](#)

[Another record year for National Convention Centre](#)

[Qantas prepares to resume A380 flying on USA routes](#)

[Doma Group to open new 4.5 star Burbury Hotel in August 2011](#)

[Qantas to codeshare with Finnair](#)

[More Members news](#)

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