



24-25 AUGUST 2023
BENDIGO, VIC

DIGITAL SUMMIT

Walking Tour & Pre-Summit Dinner

Thursday 24 August 2023
Mackenzie Quarters, Bendigo

Digital Summit

Friday 25 August 2023
The Capital, Bendigo

Agenda



**Driving growth and innovation
in regions and beyond**



An Australian Government Initiative



Regional
Development
Australia
LODDON MALLEE



Agenda at a glance

Digital technology is a catalyst for growth, driving new economic and employment opportunities across Australia.

Collaboration that works to build digital connectivity and capability is crucial to regions reaping the benefits of digital, now and into the future.

Regional Development Australia Loddon Mallee is committed to advancing digital growth and innovation by rallying partners across Australia towards a common goal at this Digital Summit.

The Digital Summit will bring together digital leaders from Victoria and beyond, to celebrate, learn and shape our digital landscape over the next decade.

The Summit will culminate in a Policy Paper to drive policy and action for the future of digital and innovative regions.



Opportunities

Leverage high-value audience consisting of Chief and Executive heads from government and industry

Network with 300 + peers from federal, state and local government, and key solution providers

Learn from industry leaders as they discuss how innovative new digital technologies and infrastructures are transforming industries

Hear from high profile government speakers on future action and investment for building a digital economy in regions across Australia

Who you'll meet

Federal and State Ministers, Chief, Executives and Directors from both Government and Industry sectors:

- Technology and Innovation
- Digital and Customer Experience
- ICT Systems and Infrastructure
- Telecommunications
- Manufacturing and industry
- Data and Analytics
- Cybersecurity
- Education

Speakers

Hear from digital and innovation leaders across government, industry, and academia.



Lisa Chesters MP
Federal Member
for Bendigo



The Hon. Harriet Shing
Minister for Regional
Development, Minister for
Water, and Minister for
Equality



**Hon. Maree Edwards
MP**
Speaker of the Victorian
Legislative Assembly,
Member for Bendigo West



Cr. Andrea Metcalf
Mayor, City of Greater
Bendigo



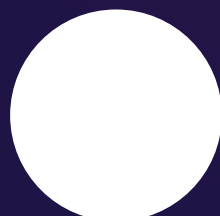
Victor Dominello
Director, UNSW-UTS
Trustworthy Digital Society
Hub, Board Member, Tech
Council Australia



Leonie Burrows
Chair, Regional Development
Australian Loddon Mallee



Dr Adam Mowlam
Smart Cities Manager,
City of Greater Geelong



Alistair Finlay
Editor, Times News Group



Andrew Hammond
General Manager, KJR



Dr Antony Peloso
Corporate Educator, Queensland
University of Technology



Brook Dixon

Group CEO and Managing
Director, Delos Delta



Bruce Marshall

President, Australian Smart
Communities Association



Carys Evans

Director, Digital Twin Victoria



Christy Ditchburn

Sustainability Principal, Telstra



Chris Laughlin

Program Lead, Innovation
Acceleration Program, University
of Melbourne



Chris Stoltz

Director, Central Victoria
Advanced Manufacturing,
La Trobe University



Craig Hunter

Director of Government
Engagement, Clear Dynamics



Corey Gray

Global CEO, Smart Cities Council



Deanne Drage

Ovens Murray Regional
Partnership Coordinator, Regional
Development Victoria



Darren Pauli

Senior Project Specialist, Telstra



Dave Richardson

Chair Loddon Campaspe
Regional Partnership, Head of
Campus, Bendigo TAFE



David Gunn

Executive Director, Bendigo and
District Aboriginal Co-operative



Dr Gjoko Muratovski

Director Digital Futures, Deakin
University



Jannat Maqbool

Co-chair Trusted Technology and
Data Steering Panel, IoT Alliance
Australia



Jason Kerr

Djaara Traditional Owner



Jim Castles

Digital Agriculture Product
Manager, Sensand



Kathryn Arndt

CEO, Victorian Local Governance
Association



Kylie Ovenden

Regional Innovation Hub
Manager, Bendigo Health



**Associate Professor
Leanne Ngo**

Coordinator, Online Programs
Computer Sciences & IT, La Trobe
University



Leanne Rosewall

Regional Director Loddon Mallee,
Regional Development Victoria



Louise Dalton

A/Director Tech Schools Branch,
Department of Education



Matthew Schultz

Partner and Company Director,
Gravelroad Group



**Professor Naveen
Chilamkurti**

Director, La Trobe Cybersecurity
Research Hub



Peter Prevos

Manager Data Science,
Coliban Water



Rebecca Wells

CEO, Mallee Regional Innovation
Centre



Ryan Brosnahan

Chief Transformation Officer,
Bendigo & Adelaide Bank



Sarah Lambert

Student Equity Advisor, RMIT



Dr Tim Harrison

CEO, Ararat Rural City Council



Tony Caccaviello

Chief Operating Officer,
Yarriambiack Shire Council



Dr. Hamza Katranji

Director, Health Informatics and
Performance Reporting, Echuca
Regional Health

Program

Showcase, Explore, Collaborate

The Digital Summit will be a forum to showcase successful digital and innovation initiatives, to explore critical digital transformations in our jobs and industries, and to collaborate, leveraging audience expertise to solve key digital and innovation challenges. A Policy Paper outlining Summit outcomes and next steps for driving growth and innovation will be presented to relevant ministers and government officials.

Partner Event, Thursday 24 August



**Safer Care
Victoria**



9:30am - 2:30pm Safer Care Victoria Design Challenge Workshop: Digital Health & Medical Technology

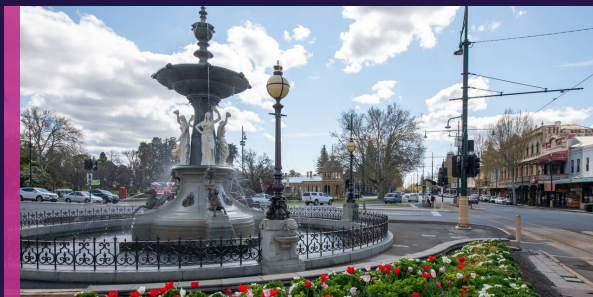
A co-design challenge focused on solutions to increase safety and efficiency in the healthcare system or support the delivery of better health outcomes. To register your interest, email bhx@bendigohealth.org.au

Hosted by Bendigo Health and the University of Melbourne, supported by Safer Care Victoria and the Australian Medtech Manufacturing Centre – a Victorian Government initiative.

Walking Tour, Thursday 24 August

3:00pm - 4:30pm Bendigo Digital Innovation Walking Tour

The tour will provide information about the history of Bendigo including its recent leadership in digital projects and innovation, with stops exploring Bendigo Arts Precinct, Djaara Lights, the Bendigo 100GIG project, Bendigo Startup Ecosystem, Emporium Hub, and Digital Health.



Pre-Summit Dinner - MacKenzie Quarters, Thursday 24 August

5:30pm

Welcome Drinks

Guest arrival and check in at registration desk.

6:15pm

Acknowledgement of Country

Cr. Andrea Metcalf, Mayor of City of Greater Bendigo

6:20pm

Welcome to Bendigo

Craig Niemann, CEO of City of Greater Bendigo

7:00pm

Keynote Address: Partnering for the Win - The Nexus of Policymakers, Researchers, and Practitioners

Achieving digital transformation and innovation at scale often requires overcoming low-risk appetites, and fostering agility in culture and mindset. Collaboration at the nexus of government, academia, and technology providers, is essential to shape the change culture necessary for driving successful digital policy.



*Victor Dominello,
Tech Council Australia*

9:00pm

Dinner Concludes



Digital Summit, Friday 25 August	
8:00am	Registration opens, Tea and Coffee
9:00am	Welcome to Country <i>Jason Kerr, Djaara Traditional Owner</i>
9:20am	Welcome Address <i>Cr. Andrea Metcalf, Mayor of City of Greater Bendigo</i>
9:25am	Victorian Government Ministerial Address: Official Welcome and Industry 4.0 Policy Launch <i>The Hon. Harriet Shing, Minister for Regional Development</i>
9:40am	Committee Chair Address: Towards our Digital Future: Digital Growth in Loddon Mallee and Beyond <i>Leonie Burrows, RDA VIC Loddon Mallee</i> <i>Digital is a catalyst for growth in the Loddon Mallee, driving new employment and industry. This Summit will not only be a chance to celebrate success of the region in implementing digital and innovation initiatives, but to build a Policy Communique to inform digital policy context around Victoria and Australia.</i>
9:50am	Keynote Address: Digital Leadership – Driving National Transformation Through Policy and Reform <i>Victor Dominello, Tech Council Australia</i> <i>What does it take to be a digital leader? What policy, partnerships, coordination, and reform are required to ensure meaningful, trustworthy, and enduring digital leadership? What does this look like for a state, region, city, local government?</i> <i>In his current role leading the UNSW-UTS Trustworthy Digital Society Hub, Victor Dominello coordinates partnerships between researchers, technologists, and policymakers to develop new digital technologies and practices that build a trustworthy digital society.</i> <i>As board member for Tech Council Australia, Dominello will continue to advocate for digital reform, working with governments and the broader business community to encourage growth, investment and jobs in the Australian tech ecosystem.</i>
10:10am	Regional Showcase: Digital Connectivity and Capability – Unlocking 100GIG <i>Leanne Rosewall, Regional Development Victoria</i> <i>Matt Schultz, Gravelroad Partner</i> <i>The Loddon Campaspe Region is committed to targeted accelerated intervention and investment to improve capability, capacity, and connectivity. The 100GIG initiative responds to identified unmet digital needs and proposes to overcome core capability challenges, enabling a more socially connected and economically competitive community.</i>

Digital Summit, Friday 25 August

10:25am Group Activity 1: Where Are We Now? Opportunities and Challenges for A Digital Future

Brook Dixon, Delos Delta

What are the gaps in regional digital policy? What are our regional digital priorities moving forward? How will we harness the intellectual power of this group to shape future digital policies and programs in the Communique?

10:30am Morning Tea and Networking

11:15am Panel Discussion: The Customer Experience - How Digital Technology is Reshaping Services

Digital technology has become a vital part of modern, accessible services, improving the ability to deliver services in regions across Australia and creating innovative, personalised customer experiences. In what ways is digital technology enabling innovation, efficiency, and agility in organisations that allows them to deliver improved services and experiences to customers? How is digital technology enabling people to become more informed and empowered in decisions relating to their health, education, and finances?

Ryan Brosnahan, Bendigo & Adelaide Bank

Dr Antony Peloso, Queensland University of Technology

Peter Prevos, Coliban Water

11:40am Breakout Group Session 1

GROUP 1

1 in 4 Left Behind: Why Australia Needs to Do More to Bridge the Digital Divide

1 in 4 people in Australia are digitally excluded, with those living regionally at particular risk of being left behind. How can we extend digital inclusion, equality and accessibility across our regions? How will investment in baseline infrastructure and new innovations in connectivity networks help to close the digital divide? How can digital inclusion foster community resilience and economic development in our regions?

PANELLISTS

Dr Tim Harrison, Ararat Rural City Council

Dr Gjoko Muratovski, Deakin University

David Gunn, BDAC

MODERATOR

Christy Ditchburn, Telstra

GROUP 2

Innovation in Agriculture: AgTech and the Internet of Things

The agriculture industry is becoming increasingly fundamental in supporting global food supply chains. In what ways are tech and agriculture converging to transform agricultural practices, driving efficiency, sustainability, and profitability? How is the Loddon Mallee, Victoria's largest and most diverse agribusiness region, leading the way in innovative farming practices?

PANELLISTS

*Rebecca Wells, Mallee Regional Innovation Centre
im Castles, Sensand*

MODERATOR

Chris Stoltz, La Trobe University

GROUP 3

Future Digital: A New Era of Risk

Digital environments provide many social and economic benefits, but can endanger privacy. What risks and challenges come with enhanced data access and sharing? What cybersecurity and data privacy frameworks, policies, and practices are needed to build trust and public confidence in critical digital technologies?

PANELLISTS

Jannat Maqbool, IoTAA

Darren Pauli, Telstra

*Professor Naveen Chilamkurti, La Trobe
Cybersecurity Research Hub*

MODERATOR

Bruce Marshall, President, ASCA

Digital Summit, Friday 25 August

12:25pm **Victorian Government Ministerial Address**
The Hon. Maree Edwards MP, Speaker of the Victorian Legislative Assembly

12:40pm **Lunch and Networking**

1:35pm **Event Partner Address: Deakin University - Official Launch of the Digital Futures Network**
Dr Gjoko Muratovski, Deakin University

1:40pm **Australian Government Ministerial Video Address**
The Hon. Kristy McBain MP, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories

1:45pm **Australian Government Keynote Address: Critical Connections - Improving Regional Connectivity Across Australia**
The Australian Government is committed to positioning Australia as a leading digital economy, backing critical and emerging technologies to strengthen Australia's future through the Regional Connectivity Program (RCP).
Lisa Chesters MP, Federal Member for Bendigo

2:00pm Breakout Group Session 2

GROUP 1

Beyond Borders: Promoting a Regional Digital Economy

A digital economy is creating opportunities for regional businesses, encouraging innovation, and unlocking competitive advantage through big data, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet of Things. How can government support our industries to digitise, adopt new technologies, up-skill, and attract investment, to remain competitive in a global marketplace?

PANELLISTS

Tony Caccaviello, Yarriambiack Shire Council
Craig Hunter, Clear Dynamics
Andrew Hammond, KJR

MODERATOR

Corey Gray, Smart Cities Council

GROUP 2

Learn, Unlearn, and Relearn: A Toolkit for the Future Workforce

Digital transformation is changing the workforce. Advancements in Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things and big data, among others, are reshaping the nature of the link between technology and employment. New skills are in demand, including digital literacy, STEM, Industry 4.0, and enterprise and entrepreneurial skills. What new approaches to education, skill-building, and training are needed to prepare for the future workforce?

PANELLISTS

Sarah Lambert, RMIT
Leanne Ngo, La Trobe University
Louise Dalton, Department of Education

MODERATOR

Dave Richardson, Bendigo TAFE

GROUP 3

Digital in Health: How Advances in Medical Technology are Revolutionising our Healthcare System

Digital health technologies are improving efficiency of information sharing across the health system, creating greater interconnectedness of data across and between services. In what ways are digital health technologies improving the efficacy and interoperability of the broader health system? How does this translate to improved community health and individual patient outcomes?

PANELLISTS

Kylie Ovenden, Bendigo Health
Dr. Hamza Katranji, Echuca Regional Health
Deanne Drage, Regional Development Victoria

MODERATOR

Chris Laughlin, University of Melbourne

Digital Summit, Friday 25 August

2:45pm

Insights from Victorian Government: **Digital Twin - Leveraging the Power of Digital Twins for a Future-Ready Victoria**

Carys Evans, Digital Twin Victoria

Digital twin technology is emerging as a key software tool revolutionising modern engineering, driving innovation and improved performance. The Victorian Government is laying the foundations for a future-ready Victoria with significant investment through the Digital Twin Victoria program. There are opportunities to partner across government, industry, and research, and leverage digital twin technology to fast-track digital transformation and deliver benefits to communities.

3:00pm

Panel Discussion: **Communications and Democracy in the Digital Age**

The digital age brings with it new challenges requiring new approaches: preventing the spread of disinformation, enhancing internet governance, ensuring digital platforms are secure through robust cybersecurity, and developing societal resilience and information literacy.

PANELLISTS

Kathryn Arndt, Victorian Local Governance Association

Dr Adam Mowlam, City of Greater Geelong

Alistair Finlay, Times News Group

3:25pm

Group Activity 2: **Where We Are Heading: Aligning Partners to Common Goals**

Brook Dixon, Delos Delta

What themes and outcomes from the Summit help us to address future challenges and opportunities of digital? What are our regional digital goals and priorities moving forward? How will these priorities be reflected in future policies, leadership, and governance, outlined in the Communique?

3:35pm

Afternoon Tea and Post Event Networking

Post-Summit



Digital Policy, Partnerships and Reform: Outcomes from the Digital Summit

Policy Paper



Governance for Ongoing Progress: Digital Summit Seminar Series

Webinar Series with Guest Speakers

Digital Summit Sponsors



Contact

Event Organisers

Public Sector Network

Leeann Aldana

Operations Director

P: 0413564635

E: leeann@publicsectornetwork.com.au

Lewis Symons

Sponsorship Director

P: 0404738742

E: lewis@publicsectornetwork.com.au

Delos Delta

Brook Dixon

Managing Director

P: 0432034967

E: brookdixon@delosdelta.com

Anna Wilson

General Manager

P: 0432784930

E: annawilson@delosdelta.com

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AUSTRALIAN
smart communities
association



IoT Alliance Australia

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TECHNOLOGY



Digital Innovation
Futures Victoria



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