

# FastTrack 2021

## RAISING THE BAR, REACHING NEW HEIGHTS VLGA Councillor Leadership Program

**FRIDAY 5 MARCH 2021, 9:30AM TO 6:30PM**

**RACV CLUB, 501 BOURKE STREET, MELBOURNE VIC 3000**

**9:30AM Welcome and Q&A**

VLGA President Cr Lambros Tapinos  
Hon Shaun Leane MP, Minister for Local Government

**10:30AM Morning Tea**

**10:45AM Leadership: What does it mean?**

**The Role of the Mayor - Working with People, Culture & Conflict**

Noelene Duff (former CEO & Administrator, Casey City Council)  
Tony Raunic (former Mayor & Managing Principal, Hunt & Hunt Lawyers)  
Sarah Rey (Managing Partner, Justitia Lawyers)

**12:30PM Lunch**

**1:15PM Code of Conduct**

Melissa Scadden (Partner, Justitia Lawyers)  
David Wolf (Deputy Commissioner, IBAC)  
Peter Stephenson (former Municipal Monitor)

**2:45PM Afternoon Tea**

**3:00PM The Next 290 Days & Engaging With Your Community**

Joe Carbone (former CEO & Consultant)  
Kate Redwood AM (former Mayor)  
Nicola Wass (Director Communications & Engagement, RPS Group)

**4:15PM Reflection & Consolidation**

Melbourne Playback Theatre will round out FastTrack by bringing to life perspectives, ideas and events from the day in a way that is entertaining, surprising and illuminating. This lively, fun session will broaden awareness around the complexity and emotional impacts of the issues raised.

**5:30PM Closing Address**

VLGA Chief Executive Officer, Kathryn Arndt

**6:00PM Refreshments & Networking**

**7:00PM** Please join us for informal drinks and canapes at the end of the day.

Moderated by Steve Cooper (Chief of Staff, VLGA).

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided.

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### **Cr Lambros Tapinos | VLGA President, Moreland City Councillor**

Councillor Lambros Tapinos has served three terms as Mayor of Moreland City Council since he was first elected as a councillor in 2008.

As President of the VLGA, Cr Tapinos is a leader and advocate for the local government sector at the state government level.

As a councillor, Cr Tapinos is passionate about providing quality services for young families and seniors, as well as urban redevelopment and building better places, spaces and community facilities.



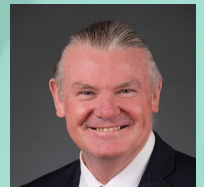
### **Hon Shaun Leane MP | Minister for Local Government**

Shaun was first elected to the Victorian Parliament as the Member for Eastern Metropolitan Region in November 2006.

An electrician by trade, Shaun has worked for a variety of organisations in this capacity and later with the Electrical Trades Union.

From 2014-18 Shaun served in the Andrews Labor Government as Parliamentary Secretary to the Special Minister of State and Parliamentary Secretary for Infrastructure.

Shaun was elected as the President of the Legislative Council on Wednesday 19 December 2018, a position he occupied until he was promoted to the Andrews Government Ministry in 2020. He is now Minister for Local Government, Minister for Suburban Development and Minister for Veterans.



### **Steve Cooper | Moderator | Chief of Staff, VLGA**

Steve is an experienced and engaging trainer and facilitator. He has supported councillor induction programs, strategic work with councillors and senior staff, as well as culture and values projects. As a consultant specialising in ethics and governance Steve has worked across metropolitan and rural councils, as well as at state government level.

Steve's career as a local government practitioner started in Swan Hill and he has also worked at Whitehorse, Port Phillip and Hobsons Bay Councils. His management roles include governance, media & communication, risk and OHS, corporate planning and reporting and contract management. He can lay claim to extensive insight as to the inner workings of local government.



### **Noelene Duff | Administrator, Casey City Council**

Noelene Duff is a recognised leader with decades of experience with the governance and management of large and complex organizations. Noelene is currently Chair of the Panel of Administrators for the City of Casey, a growth council in Melbourne's south eastern suburbs. Prior to this, she was CEO of the City of Whitehorse.

As an executive and board member of state, national and international bodies, she has developed a sophisticated understanding of long term strategic planning, the key fundamentals of governance, fiduciary responsibility, audit, regulation and compliance, risk management and digital strategy required in high performing organisations that value and display good governance.

In recognition of her enduring leadership in the local government sector and for the promotion of women, she was awarded a Public Service Medal in the 2020 Australia Day Honours.



### **Tony Raunic | Managing Partner, Hunt & Hunt Lawyers**



Tony Raunic has 20 years' experience with government clients and acts for over 20 Victorian municipalities providing advice on commercial, property and governance matters. Tony has run new councillor induction sessions and training sessions for council staff in relation to conflict of interest issues. He also brings the benefit of his own experience as a two-term elected councillor, including roles of Mayor, Deputy Mayor, chair of the Statutory Planning and Building Committee and numerous other council committees.

Tony holds degrees in both law and in commerce from the University of Melbourne. He also has a Masters in Business Administration from LaTrobe University. Tony sits on the editorial panel for the National Local Government Reporter and edited several chapters of the current edition in the Victorian Local Government context.

### **Sarah Rey | Managing Partner, Justitia Lawyers**



As the leader of an award-winning legal practice, Sarah, along with her colleagues, has created a unique professional organisation that is values-based and leads by example. Justitia's lawyers know that to help clients create an exceptional workplace, a multidisciplinary team representing diverse perspectives is often required. In addition to providing legal advice, Justitia and Sarah seek to offer creative and workable solutions with a view to avoiding the costs of litigating protracted disputes.

Sarah's principal practice areas span human resources law, employment and discrimination advice and litigation, arbitrating Code of Conduct breaches, workplace legal training and investigations into employee misconduct and bullying. Her clients are in the government, professional/legal services, education and retail sectors. As a trained mediator, Sarah has a particular interest in early intervention to resolve conflict.

### **Melissa Scadden | Partner, Justitia Lawyers**



Melissa Scadden is an employment lawyer with extensive experience supporting organisations, including those in the local government sector, with their complex workplace issues. She is passionate about effective dispute resolution and early intervention, and works with employers to find practical, sustainable solutions. Melissa is an experienced workplace educator who has delivered a wide variety of training programs to audiences in the local government, legal, education, corporate and not-for-profit sectors. Melissa has been involved in numerous disputes involving councillors, as a mediator, arbitrator or advisor and therefore has a unique perspective to share.

### **David Wolf | Deputy Commissioner, IBAC**



IBAC's Deputy Commissioners assist the Commissioner, performing duties and functions under the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Act 2011.

David Wolf joined IBAC in January 2020 as Deputy Commissioner focused on independent oversight of Victoria's public sector.

Deputy Commissioner Wolf has a broad range of skills, expertise and deep understanding of regulatory, integrity, communication, public sector and council administration matters. Mr Wolf was formerly Victoria's Chief Municipal Inspector and head of the Local Government Inspectorate. He previously held positions as Director at the Victorian Building Authority and Deputy Director of Communications at the Department of Planning and Community Development.

### **Peter Stephenson | Former Municipal Monitor and Consultant**



Peter is a former Darebin Mayor and Councillor elected in 1998. Serving until the election of 2008, he was Mayor in 2003-4 and 2007-8.

He has maintained a continued professional and personal interest in local government including leading a year-long research partnership between MAV and DEECD in 2012-13; mentor for participants of the LGPro Executive Leadership program (XLP); working with various Victorian Councils on governance issues; and professional development and mentoring for Victorian councillors.

More recently he was the government appointed Monitor at the South Gippsland Shire Council, a role he also performed in 2013 at the Rural City of Wangaratta. Professionally, Peter has worked as a youth worker, held senior roles in health and community services and academia and was a ministerial adviser in the first Andrews' government. For more than 25 years he served on numerous not-for-profit boards. Now semi-retired, Peter undertakes the occasional consultancy.

### **Joe Carbone | Former CEO and Consultant**

Joe has valuable insights on innovation leadership and diverse stakeholder engagement. His diverse strategic leadership experience has been directed to the visionary development of multi-faceted service organisations, enabling them to deal effectively with socio-economic, political, industrial and technological change drivers.

Joe's leadership career in both the public and private sectors across a span of over 36 years has been dominated by eras of industry reform, requiring a constancy of future thinking and building of capability in teams to deal with ambiguity and embrace change.

Joe's diverse experience has been highly transferable to board governance and senior advisory roles for organisations navigating strategic redevelopment to remain sustainable and valuable to their stakeholders.



### **Kate Redwood OA AM | Former Mayor**

Kate Redwood has the unique distinction of having served two terms at each of Melbourne City and Hepburn Shire councils. She was Deputy Mayor at Hepburn in 2014 and 2019 and Mayor in 2015.

As a councillor with a strong commitment to diversity and social justice, Kate's proudest moment on Hepburn Shire came in 2018 when the community working with Council – won changes to caravan park regulations so that the 11 long term residents were able to stay where they had lived for years and were given the dignity of making their own decisions as to where they lived.

Kate is a champion for leadership – not grandstanding about what needs to be done, but seeing a need and getting people involved in helping to solve it within a frame of public policy and public accountability.



### **Nicola Wass | Director Engagement, RPS**

Nicola is an engagement practitioner and facilitator with a specialisation in the design and delivery of the full spectrum of engagement processes, from traditional methods such as focus groups to deliberative processes, such as citizens' juries. Nicola has over 30 years' experience in the private sector, government and consultancy, including 15 years' experience in strategy planning and stakeholder liaison. She has worked with all levels of government and has designed and delivered engagement processes for local government clients here in Victoria, and in NSW, across a diverse range of topics. These include strategic land use planning, environmental management and responding to climate change, and community visioning and the development of Council Plans, amongst others.

Nicola is a member of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Australasia and holds their Advanced Certificate in Engagement. She has been awarded the IAP2 Core Value Award Commendation for the Moorebank Intermodal Terminal Citizens Jury, and the IAP2 Core Values Planning Award for the Management of Wild Horses in Kosciuszko National Park engagement project.

Nicola is currently working with Wyndham City Council delivering a robust, deliberative community engagement process to support the development of its Community Vision and Council Plan, in-line with the new requirements of the Local Government Act, and with Glen Eira City Council on a major infrastructure project.



## **MELBOURNE PLAYBACK THEATRE COMPANY**

### **Melbourne Playback Theatre**

Melbourne Playback Theatre is a not-for-profit incorporated association that has been operating for over 35 years and works regularly with groups in the government, corporate, education and not-for-profit sectors.

They provide performances, workshops, role-play and training to those seeking ways to create connection and develop skills in communication, leadership, collaboration and storytelling. Melbourne Playback is employed by organisations to fulfil a variety of needs from training, teambuilding, focusing and planning to reflection and deliberation.

They have worked with hundreds of organisations including Qantas, National Australia Bank, Department of Human Services, Disability Professionals Victoria, City of Yarra, Melbourne Business School, Brentwood Secondary College, Methodist Ladies College, VISY and Ernst & Young.

