

# GRANTMAKING INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE 2021

We've come a long way, baby!  
What's next?

#grantnerds2021

Online and  
interactive,  
using the  
HopIn  
platform

March 18-19



Powered by:

**SmartyGrants**

Software, data science & grantmaking intelligence



An enterprise of:

**ourcommunity.com.au**

Where not-for-profits go for help

## Acknowledgement of country

The Grantmaking Intelligence Conference 2021 will be coming to you from the lands of the Wurundjeri people. We acknowledge the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

We pay our respects to their elders past and present.

*Voice, Treaty, Truth. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart.*

# Grantmaking Intelligence Conference

[smartygrants.com.au/conference-2021](https://smartygrants.com.au/conference-2021)

## Day One

**THURSDAY, MARCH 18**

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**Grantmaking  
Intelligence Conference**

**We've come a long way,  
baby! What's next?**

**8:30am – 4:30pm**

## Day Two

**FRIDAY, MARCH 19**

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**Musters for local,  
state and federal  
government  
grantmakers**

**9.00am – 1.00pm**

**SmartyGrants – behind  
the curtain**

**1.30pm Registration  
opens – 3.45pm**

# What last year's conference attendees liked the most

*"Understanding that grantmaking is a craft/industry that has colleagues, peers, professional development opportunities etc. I had never really considered that there is a community around it."*

*"Hearing from a range of different speakers. The SmartyGrants helpdesk was amazing and a great idea."*

*"Meeting other local government employees who are in the same grants space. We built a little network."*

*"Making connections with other local government grantmakers on the second day. Some very good learnings from speakers and colleagues. Some great presenters."*

*"A good chance to catch up with people and see what's happening, what we are doing right and what we need to improve on."*

# About the conference

Grantmaking has come a long way over the past 20 years, maturing over time into a sophisticated, complex, nuanced profession.

Grantmakers are better educated than ever before about the importance of process and governance. They know about and strive for collaboration and partnerships. They know more about how to evaluate and measure their impact. The tech has improved out of sight. But how did the profession reach this point, what has slipped through the cracks, and where do grantmakers go next?

**Join us on March 18 and 19 to connect with your peers, check the rear-view mirror and look at how far grantmakers have come, then shift your gaze forwards to make sure you're on the right road ahead.**

Participation will be rewarded this year, so come along ready to engage with other grantmakers and share your stories, your wins and your tragedies, and you'll be in with a chance to take home a prize!

## Day One

### THURSDAY, MARCH 18

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An interactive online conference drawing together grantmakers from all corners of the country (and beyond) and all types and sizes of organisations, providing an opportunity to connect and collaborate. A line-up of provocative speakers will invite you to lift your gaze from the everyday and be inspired in all areas of this multifaceted profession.

## Day Two

### FRIDAY, MARCH 19

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Spend the morning among your people, focusing on what really matters to you, in one of two "muster" groups – one for local government grantmakers, the other for state and federal government grantmakers. Together with your peers you'll collaborate, share war stories and celebrate successes. Sit back and take it all in or stand up and be heard.

After lunch, quiz the SmartyGrants brains trust on the latest developments in the southern hemisphere's leading grants management system.

# Who should attend?

If you care about grantmaking, if you consider yourself a “grantmaking nerd”, if you have many years of experience, or if you’re just starting out as a grantmaker, this conference is for you.

**Day one – Thursday, March 18** – is designed for grantmakers who are involved in delivering a local, state or federal government grants program, or a philanthropic, corporate or community grants program. It will be of interest to any grantmaker who wants to understand more about their profession, their industry and their impact.

**Day two – Friday, March 19** – is designed specifically for local, state and federal government grantmakers.

Most (though not all) attendees and presenters are SmartyGrants users, so you should expect lots of references to this software. Don't use SmartyGrants? Don't worry, everyone is welcome!

# What to expect

- Take the time to pause and reflect on the changes that have happened in grantmaking over the years. See how you measure up against your peers and other organisations in the evolutionary and revolutionary journey of the professionalisation of grantmaking.
- Take the opportunity to check your base. Make sure the foundations on which you build your grantmaking are as solid as they were when you started.
- Meet your peers; get access to expert advice.
- Contribute to the development of a community of collaborating grantmakers.
- Join with your grantmaking colleagues to try to nut out solutions to common grantmaking problems.
- Get the inside scoop on all the latest SmartyGrants news and take a peek behind the curtain at Australia's most loved grantmaking management tool and the people who developed it.

# Speakers



## Sarah Barker

Sarah is Our Community's director of innovation, heading up a team of data scientists who are working to help grantmakers and not-for-profits make the most of the data they collect. Sarah has extensive experience in consulting, systems architecture, training and management, working mainly on large-scale IT system replacements. Before joining SmartyGrants, Sarah spent two years working for an international NGO in London, first in its IT department and then as the coordinator of a multi-million-dollar livelihoods project funded through a corporate grant. She is particularly interested in poverty reduction, tech for development, and women's rights and empowerment.



## Chuck Berger

Chuck Berger is manager of Kimberley Community Legal Services, which provides legal and family support services in six towns and a dozen remote Aboriginal communities across the Kimberley region of Western Australia. He worked as a graphic designer and corporate lawyer before shifting gears in 2003 to join the Australian Conservation Foundation, where he worked for ten years as general counsel and director of strategic ideas. He has also led Outdoors Victoria, an industry group representing nature-based tourism, education and recreation.



## Teena Blewitt

Teena is the group manager of Communities Group, working in partnership with government and non-government organisations to improve the wellbeing of individuals and communities through the delivery of policies, programs and services. Teena has extensive experience across the public sector and not for profit sector, having worked in the disciplines of policy development, program management, service delivery, budget strategy and people management. Teena has occupied a range of Senior Executive positions in the APS including in the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, the Department of Finance, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Social Services. Teena has an Executive Masters in Public Administration (Hons) and is a recipient of the Public Service Medal for outstanding public service.



## Jahna Cedar OAM

Jahna Cedar is a Nyiyaparli/Yindjibarndi woman from the Pilbara region of Western Australia, with family connection to Bardi people of the Kimberleys, and is recognised as a strong Indigenous community leader. She has worked for over 20 years advocating for equal rights and reconciliation of Indigenous people and has represented Indigenous Australia at the United Nations in New York, on three occasions. In 2012, Jahna was the youngest person to be elected into the West Australian International Women's Day Hall of Fame and in 2017 proudly won Business news 40 under 40, First amongst equals. Jahna was also awarded Telstra Business Women Awards WA – For Purpose and Social Enterprise Winner in 2017 and enjoys speaking at various events on issues of social justice, Indigenous rights and business management.



## Fiona Dempster

Fiona is a grantmaking and social inclusion consultant. A former ministerial advisor with experience in program management and delivery, Fiona's key areas of interest are social inclusion, community development, organisational governance, carers, families and children's policy, and community consultation.



## Nicole Guyatt

Nicole Guyatt has been a grantmaker for over 13 years, working in state government. Nicole is currently the acting leader of the grants team at Heritage New South Wales, within the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet. The Heritage NSW grants program is designed to provide a wide range of support for customers and to respect the cultural safety of Aboriginal customers and staff. In 2019 the grants team was awarded the title Grantmaker of the Year in recognition of innovations such as providing a "champion team" of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal men and women from around the state rather than a generic grant enquiry contact number, and engaging a respected Aboriginal artist to develop an artwork to promote the grants.



## Anthea Hancocks

Anthea is the CEO of the Scanlon Foundation and CEO of the Scanlon Foundation Research Institute. The Scanlon Foundation is a private philanthropic organisation dedicated to social cohesion and the transition of migrants into Australian society. She has an extensive background in strategic planning, business development, community service, education, communications and relationship and services marketing through senior leadership experience in private, ASX listed, government, professional services, academia and not for profit organisations here and in the US. She is a Member of the Australian Multicultural Council, Chair of The NMFC's Huddle Advisory Committee, an accredited mediator, Chair of the Monash Migration and Inclusion Centre Advisory Board, a non-executive Director of YMCA Victoria, Chair of Welcoming Australia, Chair of the Ubuntu Project's Advisory Board and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



## Lars Jensen

Lars joined SmartyGrants in early 2016 after amassing nearly two decades of experience in digital and large enterprise IT as a software developer, architect and consultant. With a strong specialisation in Java EE, his expertise also encompasses a broad array of web and integration technologies, attained in a range of industries including banking, online retail, government and insurance. An advocate of open-source software, Lars is enthusiastic about delivering robust, scalable and secure systems that are a pleasure to use. Lars holds a Bachelor of Business Systems from Monash University.



## Jeremy Kelshaw

Jeremy Kelshaw is the Manager of Grants and Sponsorship for the City of Sydney, He is responsible for end-to-end leadership and oversight for one of Australia's largest local government grants programs working across the cultural, social, environmental and economic domains valued at \$20M annually.



## Robyn Koehler

Robyn Koehler is research manager at Community Trust South in New Zealand. Her professional experience ranges across the not-for-profit, sport, tertiary education and health sectors, and she has held roles with the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind, a sport franchise, the Southern Institute of Technology, and the New Zealand government's Accident Compensation Corporation. Robyn is passionate about continuous learning and working in partnership to enhance community resilience.



## Dr Craig Latham

Craig's experience stretches across business, government and academia in both Australia and New Zealand. He has specialist expertise in commercial and tax law, regulatory reform, and private sector/government collaboration. Craig has a passion to improve the commercial environment so that small and family businesses flourish, and has a particular focus on speedy and low cost dispute resolution for business disputes. Craig holds undergraduate degrees in economics and law, a Masters of Law and a Doctorate of Philosophy focussed on disruptive technology and regulatory systems. He ensures that he still has some time for long-distance trail running with his wolfhound.



## Dr Simon Longstaff AO

Simon Longstaff's distinguished career led to his being named as one of *Boss* magazine's True Leaders for the 21st century, with philanthropist Carol Schwartz noting, "I don't know one CEO or chairman in corporate Australia who has not worked with Simon Longstaff." Simon began his working life in the safety department of the Groote Eylandt Mining Company (GEMCO) in the Northern Territory, and he is proud of his kinship ties with members of the island's Indigenous community. Following a period studying law in Sydney and a brief career teaching in Tasmania, Simon undertook postgraduate studies in philosophy as a member of Magdalene College, Cambridge. Simon commenced his work as the first executive director of the Ethics Centre in 1991. Simon is a Fellow of CPA Australia, an honorary professor at the Australian National University, based at the National Centre for Indigenous Studies, and a former Fellow of the World Economic Forum. He was the inaugural president of the Australian Association for Professional & Applied Ethics and now serves on boards and committees across a broad spectrum of activities, including Our Community.



## Amanda Martin

Amanda Martin has worked in philanthropy for over 20 years, and believes that a key ingredient to making the world a better place is smart and strategic community groups working with smart and strategic philanthropy. With a background in biodiversity and protected area advocacy and management, Amanda has worked in both the public and community sectors. Her roles have included executive officer of the Victorian National Parks Association, head of policy and planning at Parks Victoria, and executive officer for the Poola Foundation. She helped to establish the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network in 2008 and has been the organisation's CEO since its inception.



## Tabitha McMullan

Tabitha McMullan is a cultural development manager, strategist and passionate visionary for arts and culture. With over 15 years of experience in the sector, she strongly believes in Western Australia's place as a cultural leader on the world stage. She holds a Master of Art History and Curatorial Studies degree from York University, Toronto. A Canadian citizen, Tabitha immigrated to Perth in 2010, where she has consistently worked to support place-making, community vibrancy and liveability through arts, culture, heritage and art history. She manages a diverse portfolio of cultural services in her role at the City of Perth, including the grants and sponsorships program.



## Kate Mocsay

Kate Mocsay is the community development project officer at Logan City Council in Queensland, where she gets to channel her passion for community by coordinating the Community Development grants program. Kate is driven to create opportunities that build capacity and respond to the needs of the community.



## Denis Moriarty

Denis is the founder and group managing director of Our Community. Denis has a strong background in executive management in the public and private sectors, having served as head of the Victorian Government's Information Service, managing director of Strategic Australia Pty Ltd (a boutique management consultancy), and commissioner and deputy CEO of the Victorian Tourism Commission. He is a graduate of the Vincent Fairfax Ethics in Leadership Program and the Williamson Leadership Program, and a member of several not-for-profit and private boards. He is passionate about change and is driven by a desire to improve the lives of the most disadvantaged in society in a way that assists individuals and communities to take charge of their own destiny.



## Gavin Murphy

Gavin has spent three years laying the policy groundwork for a stronger focus on outcomes at the City of Greater Dandenong, where he leads the community funding team. With a big grants budget and a diverse community to serve, he seeks a clear line of sight from policy to outcomes in all his grantmaking endeavours.



## Nina O'Brien

Nina leads the Disaster Resilience & Recovery team at FRRR who support remote, rural and regional communities across Australia to be vibrant, resilient and revitalised. FRRR believes that targeted, well-informed investment in people and organisations that are in and of their place will stimulate ideas that lead to actions, both big and small. Nina brings professional experience in not-for-profit management, community services, arts development and local government across South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria, in addition to volunteer roles across her community.



## Josh Presser

Josh joined Our Community in January 2020 as Director, Special Projects, SmartyGrants, where he spends his days building tools and resources to help drive best practice grantmaking. He has extensive experience leading the management and delivery of large-scale Commonwealth grant programs in the Settlement and Multicultural Affairs, Disability Employment and Families and Communities portfolios. Josh holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Management) and Arts (Media and Communications) from Deakin and Swinburne Universities.



## Kathy Richardson

Kathy has more than a decade's experience overseeing grantmaking knowledge development and dissemination. She is also an experienced grantmaker and grantseeker, having held a range of roles with a number of not-for-profit and grantmaking organisations and networks. A journalist by trade, Kathy oversees the Our Community Group's communications activities as well as helping to develop and embed technology reforms and new business directions. She was a founding team member for SmartyGrants. Kathy has a degree in journalism from RMIT and a long-standing interest in community and social justice issues. She was selected as an Eisenhower Fellow in 2014.



## Jessica Rutherford

Jess leads the SmartyGrants delivery team. She has more than 17 years' experience in the IT industry, from consulting with a niche software development company, to working with large-scale corporates. Starting her career as a Business Analyst, Jess has always been keen to understand customer requirements and ensure systems are built with users' experience at heart. Before joining SmartyGrants, she ran large scale IT projects in the banking sector. Her passion for community (in particular Scouting) makes Our Community a natural home.



## Jodie Shanks

Jodie is our Director of Platform Transformation at SmartyGrants. She has been with Our Community since 2012. In her current role, Jodie helps guide SmartyGrants' strategic direction, with a focus on product transformation. Jodie also heads up our training and support area, where she works on continual improvement of our interactions with clients and colleagues. Previously, Jodie worked in a variety of different roles, from marketing and communications to membership management to bank analyst to tour guide. Before joining SmartyGrants, Jodie was immersed in the grantmaking world whilst working within the research and planning area at beyondblue. Jodie has a Diploma in Business Management, train-the-trainer qualifications and is currently completing a Bachelor of Business (Information Systems).



## Barry Smith

Barry is a consultant and a former senior public servant with more than 30 years' experience in grantmaking, social policy research, policy and program development and management. His key areas of interest include program development and administration, and special policy training and education.



## Lavinia Tyrrell

Lavinia is the coordinator of community projects and grants for Western Downs Regional Council in Queensland, overseeing a small team to deliver grants to the local community as well as community projects such as the volunteering program. With over 20 years of experience in local government, Lavinia has a passion for ensuring that rural communities thrive and prosper.



## Michael van Uliet

Michael leads the grants team at Yarra City Council in Victoria, overseeing a \$3.2 million grants program. Yarra covers the diverse inner Melbourne suburbs of Collingwood, Richmond and Fitzroy and was one of the early adopters of SmartyGrants. Michael has a journalism degree and became involved in grants after writing speeches for the Victorian Government. He managed the grants program at the Victorian Multicultural Commission for eight years and is the current chair of Multicultural Arts Victoria.



## Chris Wheeler

Chris Wheeler is a former deputy New South Wales Ombudsman, and he served in this role with five successive administrations. A Public Service Medal recipient, he has extensive experience in investigations and reviews and has been widely published. Now a consultant, he specialises in advice and training on ethics, complaint handling, administrative law, public interest disclosures and whistleblowing. He is a commissioner on the NSW Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission.



## Vanessa Zanotti

Vanessa Zanotti is a qualified social worker with over 18 years of experience in community development, grants, child protection, youth work and disability at state and local levels. She currently works as a community development and grants officer at Sutherland Shire Council in New South Wales, where for the past three years she has administered an annual community grants and subsidies program that aims to support, empower and connect the local community. Vanessa is passionate about working with the community and protecting vulnerable populations.

# Conference program

## DAY 1 Thursday, March 18

**Facilitators:** **Kathy Richardson**, Our Community executive director, and Fiona Dempster, SmartyGrants strategic advisor

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**8.30 – 9.15am**      **Registration opens**  
Check your tech.

**9.00 – 9.15am**      **Welcome**

**9.15 – 10.00am**      **Grantmaking comes of age**

**KEYNOTE**

**Denis Moriarty**, founder and group managing director, Our Community

In order to understand where we are going, we need to look at how far we have come. Grantmaking is no longer the ad hoc administrative task it was two decades ago. Over time it's evolved to become a nuanced profession that requires passion, training, endless patience and a desire to change the world. Denis Moriarty has seen grants from all sides – from the vantage point of a senior public servant, a frustrated not-for-profit board member, and the founder of Australia's first grants database (EasyGrants) and first cloud-based grants management system (SmartyGrants). In this session he'll review the highs and lows of his experience and share his view of what will come next.

**10.00 – 10.45am**      **A bird's-eye view: funding flows and approval rates**

**Nathan Mifsud**, data scientist, Our Community

Where is your grant money going and who is missing out? How has the pandemic changed things? We can answer these questions and more by auto-labelling grant applications with who and what they would benefit. Nathan Mifsud will share some early findings and discuss the challenges and next steps of this analysis.

**10.45 – 11.30am**      **Artificial intelligence in grantmaking: how data can drive the dollars**

**Q&A**  
**KEYNOTE**

**Sarah Barker**, director of innovation, Our Community

Billions of dollars flow into the not-for-profit sector via government, philanthropic and corporate grants. New tools and techniques for working with data are creating opportunities and challenges when it comes to funding social change. Sarah Barker will explore how grantmakers can use artificial intelligence to decide who and what to fund, and how not-for-profits can use it to find funding. What does it all mean for your organisation?

**11.30 – 11.45am**      **Morning tea**

**11.45 – 12.30pm**  
**KEYNOTE**

### **Floods, fires and pandemic: what one big year taught us about grantmaking our way through a crisis**

**Dr Craig Latham, Deputy, Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman**

2020 saw lots of relief money going out to communities in need. In times of crisis, how do you manage risk and still get money out the door fast? A representative from the office of the Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman highlights tips and traps.

**12.30 – 1.00pm**

**Lunch**

**1.00 – 2.00pm**  
**PANEL**

### **Return to purpose: reconnecting with why we do what we do as grantmakers**

**Nina O'Brien, Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR)**

**Gavin Murphy, City of Greater Dandenong**

**Robyn Koehler, Community Trust South, New Zealand**

In order for you to ensure that the funds you administer are providing value for money, you need a clear line of sight from policy to outcomes. To put it another way, you need to put your mission at the core of everything you do as a grantmaker. In this session we'll hear how three very different grantmakers manage this task. Each will explain how they go about defining their goals, and what every grantmaker can do to ensure that clarity of purpose informs everything they do.

**2.00 – 2.30pm**

### **Dear Grantmaker: You've changed**

**Chuck Berger, Kimberley Community Legal Services**

Grantmakers have changed over time – but so too have grantees. How do we make sure we change together, rather than setting ourselves on a collision course or a path to divorce? In this session, Chuck Berger gives it to you straight about how your practices are affecting grantseekers, and what grantseekers want you to know about their evolving needs and wants.

**2.30 – 2.45pm**

**Afternoon tea**

**2.45 – 3.15pm**  
**Q&A**

### **Reflections from a former Grantmaker of the Year team member**

**Nicole Guyatt, Heritage NSW**

The leader of the team awarded Grantmaker of the Year in 2019 reflects on her experience of grantmaking.

**Launch of the Grantmaker of the Year 2022 Award**

Read more about the award at the end of the program.

3.15 – 4.15pm

Q&A

### Three big issues and a call to action: What every grantmaker needs to be doing NOW

Amanda Martin, Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network, on the climate crisis

Anthea Hancocks, CEO of the Scanlon Foundation, on diversity and inclusion

Jahna Cedar, management consultant and Indigenous community leader, on voice, treaty and truth

Grantmakers wield power and money, holding a position of great and grave privilege. This panel session puts the spotlight on three of the biggest issues facing Australia and the world today, and reveals what grantmakers can do to help.

4.15 – 4.30pm

Wrap up, networking, prizes

# DAY 2 Friday, March 19 (Morning)

## State and federal government grantmaker muster

Concurrent with local government grantmaker muster

This event is designed to give state and federal government grantmakers the opportunity to hear from and speak with their peers. Facilitated but informal, this half-day session covers three major topics, with lots of opportunity for exploration. Come along to learn about solutions to common challenges, swap war stories, and uncover opportunities to collaborate.

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9.00 – 9.15am	<b>Registration opens</b> Check your tech.
9.15 – 9.30am	<b>Introduction</b>
9.30 – 10.30am	<b>Why it's so damned hard to move from an outputs to an outcomes focus (and how you can make the shift)</b>
<b>KEYNOTE</b>	<b>Teena Blewitt, PSM Group Manager, Communities group, Department of Social Services</b>  Defining and measuring outcomes ensures our programs represent value for money and improve people's lives. Moving to an outcomes focus requires cultural change by both grantmakers and grant recipients. We have more in common with service providers than we might think, and partnering with them helps to overcome the practical and historical barriers standing in the way of outcomes driven grants administration.
10.30 – 10.45am	<b>Morning tea</b>
10.45 – 11.45am	<b>If the auditor comes knocking, how will you respond?</b> <b>Chris Wheeler, consultant and former deputy NSW ombudsman</b>  Grant programs – particularly government grant programs – are subject to high levels of scrutiny, and it could be only a matter of time before you too are the target of an investigation. Chris Wheeler is a former deputy NSW ombudsman, a solicitor, a seasoned investigator and a Public Service Medal recipient, and he's seen it all. In this discussion he shares what you can expect if you personally, your organisation or a particular program becomes the subject of scrutiny by an integrity body. Best practice, he says, requires an ethical culture, a well-managed complaints and whistleblower process, and a willingness to learn from others' mistakes.
11.45 – 12.45pm	<b>Grantmaking in a fishbowl</b> <b>Dr Simon Longstaff, The Ethics Centre</b>  As grantmaking becomes more high-profile, it becomes more fraught. How do you keep your ethics front of mind and your grants program off the front page?
12.45 – 1.00pm	<b>Wrap up</b>

# DAY 2 Friday, March 19 (Morning)

## Local government grantmaker muster

Concurrent with state and federal government grantmaker muster

This event is designed to give local government grantmakers the opportunity to hear from and speak with their peers. Facilitated but informal, this half-day session covers three major topics, with lots of opportunity for exploration. Come along to learn about solutions to common challenges, swap war stories, and uncover opportunities to collaborate.

9.00 – 9.15am

### Registration opens

Check your tech.

9.15 – 9.30am

### Introduction

9.30 – 10.30am

### Reporting: how, what, when, where, why?

Jeremy Kelshaw, City of Sydney

Power BI data visualisations and phone apps are just two of the methods the City of Sydney is using to enhance its grants reporting. What can you learn from the experience of this large local government grantmaker?

10.30 – 10.45am

### Morning tea

10.45 – 11.45am

PANEL

### Quick-fire grants: How has COVID-19 changed grantmaking for you and what will you take into a COVID normal world?

Kate Mocsay, City of Logan, Queensland

Michael van Vliet, City of Yarra, Victoria

Tabitha McMullan, City of Perth

During the COVID-19 crisis, local government was forced to act fast. Some councils moved grant processing times from 12 weeks to four weeks or less, even while dealing with unprecedented volumes of applications. How did they manage the load and the risks, what are the lessons from the experience, and will “business as usual” ever be the same again?

11.45 – 12.15pm

### Assessment without a panel: what to do when conflict-of-interest rules put your assessment team out of action

Lavinia Tyrrell, Western Downs Regional Council

Many regional councils face problems getting money out the door because their assessment panel members have conflicts of interests with applicants – but community-led assessments offer a way forward. Hear how Western Downs Regional Council changed its ways during the COVID crisis, and what it learned from the experience.

12.15 – 12.45pm

### Let the sunshine in; how to ensure transparency in your grants program

Vanessa Zanotti, Sutherland Shire Council

Do you run lots of small grant programs throughout the year or one to rule them all? How are they assessed and how do you ensure that your community has a clear view of proceedings from start to finish? Join the conversation as Vanessa Zanotti shares the experience of Sutherland Shire Council.

12.45 – 1.00pm

Wrap up

## DAY 2 Friday, March 19 (Afternoon)

### SmartyGrants behind the curtain

Let's pop the hood on SmartyGrants and see how this baby hums. In this panel session we'll fling open the curtains, lift the lid, spill the beans (and mix our metaphors) and meet the team behind the SmartyGrants machine.

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1.30 – 1.45pm

#### Registration opens

Check your tech.

1.45 – 3.45pm

#### SmartyGrants behind the curtain

Kathy Richardson, executive director, Our Community

Jessica Rutherford, director of delivery, SmartyGrants

Sarah Barker, director of innovation, Our Community

Jodie Shanks, director of platform transformation, SmartyGrants

Lars Jensen, director of technology architecture, Our Community

This panel discussion features exclusive previews, news, tips and tricks for SmartyGrants users and would-be users. The team will showcase the yet-to-be-released revolutionary Outcomes Engine and SmartyFile, with plenty of opportunities for questions from the floor. Don't miss it.

**A large contingent of SmartyGrants personnel, from IT developers to sales staff to service and training personnel, will be on hand to answer your questions throughout the two-day conference. Ask them anything!**

# Conference information

## DATE AND TIME

**Grantmaking Intelligence Conference 2021, powered by SmartyGrants:**  
Thursday, March 18, 8.30am–4.30pm AEST

**State and federal government grantmakers muster, concurrent with local government grantmakers muster:** Friday, March 19, 9.30am–1.00pm AEST

**SmartyGrants behind the curtain:** Friday, March 19, 1.30–3.45pm AEST

## VENUE

Online and interactive using Hopin.com

## PRICE

**Day one conference only:** \$620 (SmartyGrants users: \$560)

**State and federal government grantmakers muster:** \$320 (SmartyGrants users: \$280)

**Local government grantmakers muster:** \$320 (SmartyGrants users: \$280)

**SmartyGrants behind the curtain:** \$130

**Book your ticket here:**

[www.smartygrants.com.au/conference-2021](http://www.smartygrants.com.au/conference-2021)

# Could you be the 2022 Grantmaker of the Year?

At this year's conference we're starting our search for the 2022 SmartyGrants Grantmaker of the Year. Conference delegates will be the first to hear details of how to enter, for the chance to win \$5000.

So why are we hosting the award?

Grants are a key element in the Australian economy. Good grants work by driving innovation, finding solutions to age-old problems, encouraging good practice, empowering the enthusiastic and rewarding the effective. Bad grants are poorly thought out, poorly evaluated, and a waste of millions of dollars.

Good grants don't make themselves. They need good grantmakers.

Bad grants mostly come about through people not listening to the good grantmakers.

We need to give good grantmakers more clout. We want them to have more status. We need professional grantmakers to have a voice that can't be ignored.

SmartyGrants is leading the movement seeking greater respect for what grantmakers do. We want to start you thinking. And we want to know what you think.

The Grantmaker of the Year Award is designed to unearth those grantmakers who are leading and pushing forward the field of grantmaking.

We want to identify the people who can lead the way and reward their innovation. We want to hear your ideas on how to get professional grantmaking to the next level.

**The winner of the 2022 SmartyGrants Grantmaker of the Year Award will receive \$5,000 to spend on personal development. Details about how to enter will also be emailed to delegates and posted on the SmartyGrants website after the conference.**

[www.smartygrants.com.au./grantmakeroftheyear](http://www.smartygrants.com.au./grantmakeroftheyear)

# About the conference organisers

This conference is an initiative of SmartyGrants, the best-practice network for philanthropic, corporate, and local, state and federal government grantmakers, and the owner of Australia's most loved grants management system, [SmartyGrants](#).

SmartyGrants works to help grantmakers improve their grants programs, keep abreast of best practices within Australia and internationally, and ensure they are up-to-date on all the news and views in the sector – both locally and from around the world.

SmartyGrants is an enterprise of Our Community, a world-leading social enterprise that provides advice, tools and training for Australia's 600,000 community groups and schools, and practical linkages between the community sector and the general public, business and government.

Our Community's major offerings for grantmakers include:

- **SmartyGrants** The most-used and best-loved online grantmaking system in Australia and New Zealand: [www.smartygrants.com.au](http://www.smartygrants.com.au)
- **Grants Management Intelligence** Our free, plain-language publication emailed to SmartyGrants Users and other grantmakers with the news, tools, resources and knowledge they need: [smartygrants.com.au/grants-management-intelligence](http://smartygrants.com.au/grants-management-intelligence)
- **Tools and resources** Hundreds of grantmaking tools and resources covering all stages of the grants program lifecycle and offering guidance and expert advice to all grantmakers: [smartygrants.com.au/tools-resources/home](http://smartygrants.com.au/tools-resources/home)
- **Health Check** How healthy is your grants program? Find out here: [smartygrants.com.au/help-sheets/grants-health-check](http://smartygrants.com.au/help-sheets/grants-health-check)
- **Research** Studies include the results of the Grants in Australia survey of grantseekers, studies into grantmakers, and SmartyGrants data analysis by the Innovation Lab to better understand grantmaking: [smartygrants.com.au/research](http://smartygrants.com.au/research)
- **Grantmaking Manifesto** Our stated values and codes of practice for professional grantmakers and grantmaking organisations: [smartygrants.com.au/about/our-values](http://smartygrants.com.au/about/our-values)







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Where not-for-profits go for help