1 December 2025 | Melbourne Precincts Discovery Day

2 – 3 December 2025 | Melbourne Connect, Melbourne

#### MINISTERIAL KEYNOTE:



The Hon. Danny Pearson MP, Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs, Minister for Finance

#### MARKET LEADING SPEAKERS:



Rod Bristow, Chief Executive Officer, Breakthrough Victoria



Bronwyn Le Grice, CEO & Managing Director, ANDHealth



Paul Kelly, Founding Partner, OneVentures & Advisory Board Member, Australia's Economic Accelerator (AEA)



Prof Alastair Sloan, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Collaborations), University of Melbourne



Professor Shonali Krishnaswamy, Associate Dean (Innovation) and Director, Monash Al Institute, Monash University



Damien Augustinus, *Group Head of Infrastructure*, **Plenary** 



Professor Sharath Sriram, Chief Scientist of Western Australia, Professor, RMIT University, Co-Founder, lubdub.ai and Fragment BioTech



John Ferraro, Chief Operating Officer, Western Health



Hediyeh Vahdat, CEO and Co-Founder, Linéaire Projects

#### INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE:





Jodie Eastwood, CEO, The Knowledge Quarter, London



Petra Andren, Chief Executive Officer, Quantum Australia



Ingrid Marsh, Group Executive - Commercial, Cicada innovations



Dr Jane Leong, Director Development, Australian Centre for Al in Medical Innovation (ACAMI), La Trobe University



Dr Felicia Pradera, Director, Regional Research Centre and Strategic Alliances, Moderna, Australia



Diane Dixon, State Project Lead, Lot Fourteen, State Innovation Places Lead Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Government of SA



JiaYee Lee, Director Strategy & Alliance, **BioNTech Australia** 



Tom Bentley, Vice President, Strategy and Community Impact, RMIT University



Dean Breckenridge, Chief Policy Officer, Ramsay



A/Prof Elizabeth Koff, Managing Director, Telstra Health, Chair, Randwick Health & Innovation Precinct Council

#### **MONDAY 1 DECEMBER**



Melbourne Precincts Discovery Day | Site Tours

- Monash Technology Precinct RMIT Advanced Manufacturing Precinct
- Melbourne Connect & Melbourne Biomedical Precinct

Welcome Reception @ Jumar Bioincubator. Hosted by Cicada Innovations

#### **TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER**



Networking Dinner Science Gallery Melbourne

PRECINCT PARTNERS











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WELCOME RECEPTION HOST & SPONSOR





#### MELBOURNE PRECINCTS DISCOVERY DAY

#### Monday 1 December 2025 | Engage - Explore - Experience | 9am - 6:30pm

An exclusive, behind-the-scenes look at Melbourne's leading health and innovation ecosystems.

For 2025, we're proud to partner with the University of Melbourne, RMIT University and Monash University to shine a spotlight on Melbourne's precinct story – a powerful narrative of collaboration, cutting-edge research, and translation that is transforming lives through healthcare innovation, new knowledge, and next-generation technologies.

During the walking site tours, delegates will visit some of Melbourne's most exciting facilities and connect with key leaders.

#### Part 1: Monash Technology Precinct

A bus will take delegates out to the Monash Technology Precinct for this site tour. Site tour will include:

- Chancellery Building, Monash University
- Monash Innovation Labs
- Victorian Heart Hospital / Victorian Heart Institute
- The Australian Synchrotron



# Part 2: RMIT Advanced Manufacturing Precinct & ACMD

The bus will bring delegates back from Monash and drop them at the ACMD. Site tour will include:

- The Aikenhead Centre for Medical Discovery
- RMIT's Discovery to Device Facility
- The Advanced Manufacturing Facility



#### Part 3: Melbourne Biomedical Precinct

Delegates will walk to Melbourne Connect to begin the site tour. Site tour will include:

- Melbourne Connect
- Doherty Institute
- VCCC (Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre)
- CSL and Jumar Bioincubator



# Welcome Reception | 5:30pm, Jumar Bioincubator

Hosted by



The Site Tour of Melbourne Biomedical Precinct culminates at the Jumar Bioincubator.

Delegates have the chance to network with the Melbourne's precinct champions involved in today's site visit and other delegates attending the conference.







#### DAY ONE: Tuesday 2 December 2025



#### REGIONAL & EMERGING PRECINCTS BREAKFAST SHOWCASE | 8am - 9am

#### PRECINCT CASE STUDY 1: The Arden Precinct

Hayden Welsh, Senior Investment Manager - Precincts,

Department of Transport and Planning - Victorian Government

#### PRECINCT CASE STUDY 2: Murrumbidgee Health & Knowledge Precinct

Maya De Mattia, Project Lead, Murrumbidgee Health and Knowledge Precinct

#### PRECINCT CASE STUDY 3: Sydney North HealthCARE Innovation Precinct

Simon Radmore, Executive Director, Strategy & Office of the Chief Executive, Northern Sydney Local Health District



#### PLENARY KEYNOTE SESSION | 9AM - 12:20PM

9:00 Welcome to Country

9:05 Welcome to Melbourne Connect

#### 9:10 MINISTERIAL KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Hon. Danny Pearson MP, Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs, Minister for Finance



CHAIR: Councillor Andrew Rowse, Portfolio head for Innovation and Education and portfolio deputy for City Economy and Business, City of Melbourne

#### 9:20 PANEL | Melbourne's collaborative precincts: Driving innovation ecosystems

- Strategic Investment Attraction: Securing transformative funding partnerships
- Ecosystem Activation: Fostering vibrant innovation communities
- Industry Development: Strengthening Australia's sovereign capabilities
- Infrastructure to Impact: Connecting physical assets to human capital

Tom Bentley, Vice President, Strategy and Community Impact, RMIT University

Ben Vivekanandan, Senior Director, Government Relations, Precincts and Policy, Monash University

Prof Alastair Sloan, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Collaborations), University of Melbourne

#### 10:05 INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE | Inclusive Growth in Action: Building Talent Pipelines and Collaborative Governance

Jodie Eastwood, CEO, The Knowledge Quarter, London

**10:35** Networking break

#### 11:05 PANEL | Bridging research to market: Commercialisation, investment & industry partnerships

- Navigating Australia's VC landscape and funding pathways
- Navigating the complete development pipeline and building strategic innovation platforms
- Precinct roles in catalyzing partnerships and supporting scale-ups
- Positioning Australia competitively in the global life-science ecosystem

Moderator: Dr Alastair Hick, Chief Commercialisation Officer, Monash University

Rod Bristow, Chief Executive Officer, Breakthrough Victoria

Bronwyn Le Grice, CEO & Managing Director, ANDHealth

Paul Kelly, Founding Partner, OneVentures & Advisory Board Member, Australia's Economic Accelerator (AEA)

Dr Heather St John, Associate Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research Partnerships and Translation, RMIT University

#### 11:50 FIRESIDE CHAT | Investing in Innovation: The Capital Strategy Behind World-Class Health Precincts

- Beyond buildings: What is the true purpose of health innovation precincts?
- How are funding models evolving to, and what approaches ensure Australia attracts optimal capital?
- How do infrastructure models de-risk investments while maximizing innovation outcomes?
- What is the optimal balance between public and private ownership?

Damien Augustinus, Group Head of Infrastructure, Plenary

Moderator: Hediyeh Vahdat, CEO and Co-Founder, Linéaire Projects

**12:20** Networking Lunch

#### DAY ONE: Tuesday 2 December 2025 | Afternoon Tracks

#### TRACK 1

INNOVATION, ENGAGEMENT & ECOSYSTEM ACTIVATION | 1:20PM - 3:15PM

Chair:

#### 1:20 The SA Innovation Places Framework Journey

- Building cohesive partnerships: A strategic approach to fostering cross-sector collaboration
- Implementation progress & key milestones: Current status, achievements, and impact metrics
- Critical learnings & adaptation strategies: Insights gained and framework refinements

Diane Dixon, State Project Lead, Lot Fourteen, State Innovation Places Lead Department of the Premier and Cabinet,

Government of SA

# 1:45 PANEL | Innovation pipelines & navigating the commercialization journey

- How can precincts support the development of emerging ventures via incubators, accelerators and pitch competitions?
- Bridging the gap: How can we help ventures survive the "valley of death"?
- What non-traditional funding sources can emerging ventures access?
- Accelerating Translation: What drives successful research-tomarket transitions?
- Sustainable Innovation: How can support programs thrive when government funding ends?

Professor Sharath Sriram, Chief Scientist of Western Australia, Professor, RMIT University, Co-Founder, lubdub.ai and Fragment BioTech

Professor Kevin Pfleger, *Director, Biomedical and Health Innovation,* **The University of Western Australia** *and WA Life Sciences Innovation Hub, Chair,* **Biodesign Australia and Perth Biodesign** 

# 2:30 PANEL | Building strength in spin-outs and scale-ups: The Australian innovation journey

- Scale-up Success Stories: Insights from Australian scale-ups on critical growth enablers and precinct support needs
- Key inflection points including patents, funding, accelerators, and regulatory approval
- The Missing Middle: Addressing Australia's shortage of R&D-engaged medium-sized businesses
- Balanced Growth: Attracting international companies without cannibalizing homegrown innovation
- Precinct Ecosystems: Curating communities

Ingrid Marsh, Group Executive – Commercial,

#### Cicada innovations

Tim O'Meara, Director Government and Research Strategy, **4DMedical** 

David Kneen, CEO & Head of Commercial, Celleo

# TRACK 2 PLACE, PLANNING & PARTNERSHIPS 1:20PM - 3:15PM

Chair: Hediyeh Vahdat, CEO and Co-Founder, Linéaire Projects

# 1:20 PANEL | REIT perspectives on precincts and current market realities

- Where are REITs positioning their portfolios in today's market?
- Current headwinds and market realities
- Impact of government policy shifts on investment strategies
- Factors driving capital allocation to high-quality precincts
- Creating value through connected spaces beyond traditional buildings

Alex Belcastro, Senior Vice President, Development and Precincts, NorthWest

Chris Smith, General Manager – Healthcare Property, Australian Unity

# 2:05 CASE STUDY | New Footscray Hospital: Precinct development through effective PPP Leadership

- PPP advantages for precinct outcomes and operational efficiency
- Strategic investment perspective and Victoria University collaboration
- Design principles: functional flows, community integration and the village green concept
- How will the \$1.5 billion New Footscray Hospital transform healthcare delivery in Melbourne's west

Clare Shiell, Executive Director, Portfolio Delivery, Plenary John Ferraro, Chief Operating Officer, Western Health

# 2:30 PANEL | Future proofing health precincts - Effective master planning

- How will evolving care models (home/community-based) reshape facility requirements?
- How do we create adaptable, specialized facilities and develop environments that encourage partnership and community?
- What research advances should inform precinct design?
- Which facilities and capabilities will future-ready precincts require?
- How can outdated infrastructure be effectively repurposed?
- Human-centered design approaches that improve patient outcomes and staff experiences

Prof Trent Munro, *General Manager, Boggo Road Innovation Precinct & Industry Professor,* **University of Queensland** 

Eleni Naude, Lead Heath Advisory and Infrastructure,

#### **Lineaire Projects**

Tam Nguyen, *Director Research and Innovation,* **Monash Health** 

**3:15** Afternoon Tea





#### DAY ONE: Tuesday 2 December 2025 | Industry Roundtables

#### **INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLES: 4:10 - 5:00PM**

#### **INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE 1**

#### Strategic investment attraction

- How do we measure success in precincts and use that to attract funding, better programming etc?
- How can we attract government funding to precincts when governments seek alignment and niche capabilities?
- What are the trade-offs between organic market-driven growth versus dedicated investment attraction strategies?
- Why is land tax so cost prohibitive and how can we identify and remove these barriers?
- How can federal, state and local government approaches be coordinated for effective place-based investment?

Craig Rowsell, Director, Gold Coast Health & Knowledge Precinct

Simone Laity, *Director of Innovation Partnerships, Investment Management,* **Lendlease**, *GM*, **Melbourne Connect Innovation Precinct** 

#### **INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE 2**

# Value networks, not just land parcels - building integrated asset precincts for tomorrow

- How do we move from a land subdivision/investment exercise, to a networked asset precinct?
- Getting the programming piece right what pathways and support programs do we put around the companies and partners in our precinct?
- What does it mean to build places/facilities which are based on partner capability, not just the physical aspects of the precinct?
- How can we measure and enhance the experience quality for all precinct stakeholders?
- When government capital is unavailable, what alternative approaches can maintain momentum?
- How do we shift the narrative from "buildings and infrastructure" to "collaborations and services" with precincts as enablers?

Vanessa Campbell, *Director Innovation Precincts*, **The University of Melbourne**Melanie Schmidke, *Director*, **Northern Adelaide Health & Wellbeing Partnership** 

#### **INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE 3**

#### Leveraging precincts to build world-class, future-proof talent pipelines

- How do we balance immediate workforce needs with long-term capability building?
- How can precincts help develop and attract talent for Australia's sovereign capabilities?
- What strategies can address the critical GMP talent shortfall?

Claire Borg, Associate Director, R&D Partnerships, Moderna Australia

- How can facilities serve dual purposes as operational centers and training hubs?
- What industry-education-government partnerships would build sustainable talent ecosystems?

Tim O'Meara, *Director Government and Research Strategy,* **4DMedical**Marita Walmsley, *Acting Executive Director for Innovation & Enterprise,* **University of Melbourne** 

**5:00** Networking Drinks

6:30 Networking Dinner





#### SUPERFLOOR BREAKOUT

#### Creating impact at the coal face

Discover how targeted precinct-based initiatives are delivering tangible results for health services and local communities through streamlined, high-impact projects. These focused innovations demonstrate how strategic local implementation can create meaningful change where it matters most.

# **CASE STUDY 1:** Embedding early-stage talent into precincts

Vanessa Rebgetz, *Principal,* **Queensland Academy for Health Sciences** 

Dion Obst, Head of Department Global Connect, Queensland Academy for Health Sciences

**CASE STUDY 2:** The rise of SportsTech

CASE STUDY 3: Equity and Indigenous Health

**CASE STUDY 4:** Specialist hubs

#### DAY TWO: Wednesday 3 December 2025

#### PLENARY KEYNOTE SESSION | 9AM - 12:35PM

#### 9:30 Welcome to Day 2!

CHAIR: Hediyeh Vahdat, CEO and Co-Founder, Linéaire Projects

#### 9:50 PANEL | The regenerative medicine & cell and gene therapy opportunity in Australia: Building a national ecosystem

- What are the opportunities for research and biomedical companies in Australia?
- How can we create a clear "front door" that connects partners, places, and people in Australia's regenerative medicine sector?
- Which investment approaches—capital, talent acquisition, or tenant attraction—yield the greatest ecosystem benefits?
- Strategies to attract specialized talent from competitive global markets
- What role can innovation precincts play in cultivating Australia's regenerative medicine ecosystem?

Dr Felicia Pradera, Director, Regional Research Centre and Strategic Alliances, Moderna, Australia

JiaYee Lee, Director Strategy & Alliance, BioNTech Australia

10:35 Networking Break & Morning Tea

#### 11:05 PANEL | Enabling convergence: Emerging technologies in innovation precincts

- How can precincts strategically integrate enabling technologies like AI, quantum computing, and semiconductors to accelerate cross-disciplinary breakthroughs?
- What infrastructure and ecosystem designs best support the convergence of traditionally separate fields like data science, engineering, and life sciences?
- How are talent needs evolving with these emerging technologies, and what strategies can precincts implement to attract, develop, and retain this specialized workforce?
- Which Australian precincts are successfully implementing interdisciplinary models, and what can we learn from examples?

Professor Shonali Krishnaswamy, Associate Dean (Innovation) and Director, Monash Al Institute, Monash University

Dr Jane Leong, Director Development, Australian Centre for AI in Medical Innovation (ACAMI), La Trobe University

Petra Andren, Chief Executive Officer, Quantum Australia

#### 11:50 PANEL | Health impact in action: Improving patient outcomes and bringing healthcare innovations to Australians

- What can we learn from successful health translation initiatives within precincts?
- What specific partnership models between researchers and industry are successfully accelerating translation?
- How can precincts better support researchers to think about translation from day one?
- How can we better measure and enhance community benefits from innovation precincts?
- Accelerating breakthrough treatments: What barriers remain between research and clinical application?
- How can precinct ecosystems be optimized to maximize community health benefits?

Grant McArthur AO, Chief Executive Officer, VCCC Alliance

Carmela Sergi, CEO, Care Economy CRC

Simone Proft, CEO, Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research

#### 12:35 Networking lunch









#### DAY TWO: Wednesday 3 December 2025 | Afternoon Tracks

# TRACK 1 KEY OPPORTUNITIES FOR AUSTRALIA'S PRECINCTS

Chair: Tam Nguyen, Director Research and Innovation, Monash Health

# 1:35 IN CONVERSATION CASE STUDY | Randwick Health & Innovation Precinct: Transforming Vision into Impact

- Evolution of a Health Innovation Ecosystem: RHIP's journey from concept to thriving precinct
- Governance Architecture: Partnership frameworks enabling effective multi-sector collaboration
- Implementation: Critical decisions and pivots that shaped RHIP's development
- Strategic Horizons: Preview of RHIP's future direction under new leadership

Stephen Palmer, Acting Executive Director,

#### Randwick Health & Innovation Precinct

A/Prof Elizabeth Koff, Managing Director, Telstra Health, Chair, Randwick Health & Innovation Precinct Council

# 2:00 Building Australia's advanced therapy manufacturing ecosystem

- How can we create authentic innovation ecosystems in manufacturing?
- How can strategic cross-sector partnerships create collaborative manufacturing ecosystems for cell and gene therapies?
- What strategies will keep innovative therapies onshore through research-industry-government collaboration?
- How can we accelerate commercialization pathways within innovation precincts?

Dr Bev Menner, CEO, Cell Therapies

# 2:25 CASE STUDY | The VVED Journey and Australia's Digital Health Potential

- The VVED journey: From concept to Australia's first statewide Virtual Emergency Department
- Critical insights and unexpected learnings from implementation
- Strategic partnerships: How research institutions, industry, and healthcare providers collaborated for success
- Leveraging precinct ecosystems: Creating specialized infrastructure for virtual care solutions
- Scaling nationwide: Strategic opportunities at the intersection of digital health and emerging technologies

Dr Loren Sher, *Director of Victorian Virtual ED, Paediatric Emergency Physician*, **The Northern Hospital** 

# TRACK 2 CONNECT CREATE COLLABORATE

Chair: Hediyeh Vahdat, CEO and Co-Founder, Linéaire Projects

# 1:35 Australia's private healthcare sector: Current landscape and future growth trajectories

- What is the current state of Australia's private healthcare market?
- How are health funds adapting to the changing macro environment?
- Which areas are experiencing expansion and growth in the private healthcare sector?
- Are providers investing in new facilities or optimizing existing assets?
- What implications do these trends have for healthcare innovation and investment?

Dean Breckenridge, Chief Policy Officer, Ramsay

#### 2:00 CASE STUDY | Getting mixed use precincts right

- Learning from successes and failures
- How does it generate business for other local businesses?
- How can hospitals commercialise their retail offerings?

Sam Shepherd, Founder & Director, BellRinger
Tara Veldman, Managing Director, Billard Leece Partnership

# 2:25 IN CONVERSATION | Curating communities and co-locating industry

- Learnings from a non-health precinct- Defence and security
- Facilitating better partnerships between academic and industry
- Effective industry co-location and innovation ecosystem activation

2:50 Networking Break

#### DAY TWO: Wednesday 3 December 2025 | Roundtables

#### INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLES: 3:20PM - 4:15PM

#### **ROUNDTABLE 1**

#### How can Australia build interconnected innovation precincts for national competitive advantage?

- When will precincts be meaningfully integrated into national productivity conversations?
- How are emerging precinct constellations driving Australia's competitive edge in the global innovation landscape?
- What strategies ensure alignment between spatial planning, economic development, and innovation priorities?
- Why is comprehensive stakeholder mapping essential for successful precinct development?
- How can we ensure infrastructure assets within precincts are effectively networked?

A/Prof Shona Blair, Director, St Vincent's Sydney Health Innovation Precinct

Michelle Irving, Principal Policy Officer - Precincts, Office for Health and Medical Research, NSW Health

#### **ROUNDTABLE 2**

#### How can we create vibrant public spaces that enhance innovation district success?

- How do we design precincts that actively support staff health, wellbeing, and productivity?
- What key elements drive attraction, retention, and liveability in innovation districts?
- How can we address unique challenges across different precincts (congestion, connectivity, etc.)?
- What transportation solutions work best for sprawling innovation districts?
- How can thoughtful public space design foster collaboration and community within precincts?

#### **ROUNDTABLE 3**

#### Philanthropy and precincts

- How do you establish collaborative relationships with philanthropists that deliver on a shared vision?
- What strategies help navigate compromise when philanthropic and precinct priorities differ?
- How can precincts develop diverse investment models that deliver meaningful returns for philanthropic partners?
- What role should philanthropy play in the long-term sustainability of innovation precincts?
- How can we measure and communicate the impact of philanthropic investments in precinct development?

Peta Magee, Executive Director Development (Health & Medical Sciences), The University of Sydney







#### NETWORKING ACTIVITIES AND ADDITIONAL EVENT FEATURES

#### MELBOURNE PRECINCT DISCOVERY DAY

**Monday 1 December** 

Where: Monash, RMIT & Parkville, Melbourne

Kick off your National Health & Innovation Precincts Summit experience with an exclusive, behind-the-scenes look at Melbourne's leading health and innovation ecosystems.

These curated tours provide delegates with the rare opportunity to explore Melbourne's precincts in action and understand how place-based innovation is being embedded across infrastructure, education, research, and commercialisation.



# WELCOME RECEPTION

Monday 1 December

Where: Jumar Bioincubator, 655 Elizabeth St, Melbourne

Join your industry colleagues for drinks and networking at the Welcome Reception hosted by Cicada Innovations, operators of Jumar Bioincubator – the impressive final stop on our Melbourne Biomedical Precinct tour.



# REGIONAL & EMERGING PRECINCTS BREAKFAST SHOWCASE

Tuesday 2 December | 8am-9:00am

A series of short, dynamic presentations by executives representing emerging and regional precincts from across the country.



# The state of the s

#### **NETWORKING DINNER**

Tuesday 2 December | 7pm - 9pm Where: Science Gallery Melbourne

The networking dinner is a highlight every year and always a great opportunity to continue discussions of the day and meet new people in this interactive space where science, art, and technology inspire and engage visitors.

#### **CONFERENCE NETWORKING DRINKS**

Tuesday 2 December | 5:30pm - 7pm

The official networking drinks will take place at the end of day one, providing an ideal opportunity for delegates, sponsors and speakers to network and discuss the day's learnings over drinks.







**DISCOVERY DAY:** 1 December 2025 | Melbourne Precincts **CONFERENCE:** 2-3 December 2025 | Melbourne Connect, Melbourne

# **Easy Ways to Register**



#### Web

healthprecinctssummit.com.au



#### Telephone

+61 (0)2 9080 4307 – Quoting P25A13



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Register Early & Save	Early Bird Rate Book & pay by 30 September 2025				Standard Rate Book & pay from 1 October 2025		
Conference Package	PRICE	GST	TOTAL	SAVE	PRICE	GST	TOTAL
Standard 2 Day Conference Pass	\$2,495	\$249.50	\$2,744.50	\$400	\$2,895	\$289.50	\$3,184.50
Universities/Public Hospital/ Govt/NFP	\$1,795	\$179.50	\$1,974.50	\$400	\$2,195	\$219.50	\$2,414.50
Networking Dinner					\$260	\$26	\$286
Discovery Day Site Tours  - Monash Technology Precinct  - RMIT precinct & ACMD  - Melbourne Biomedical Precinct							

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