

Communities in Control Conference 2007

From Advocacy to Policy – Communities Driving Change

Melbourne

Monday & Tuesday 4-5 June 2007

Plus Pre-Conference Skills Day

Marketing, Media & Advocacy

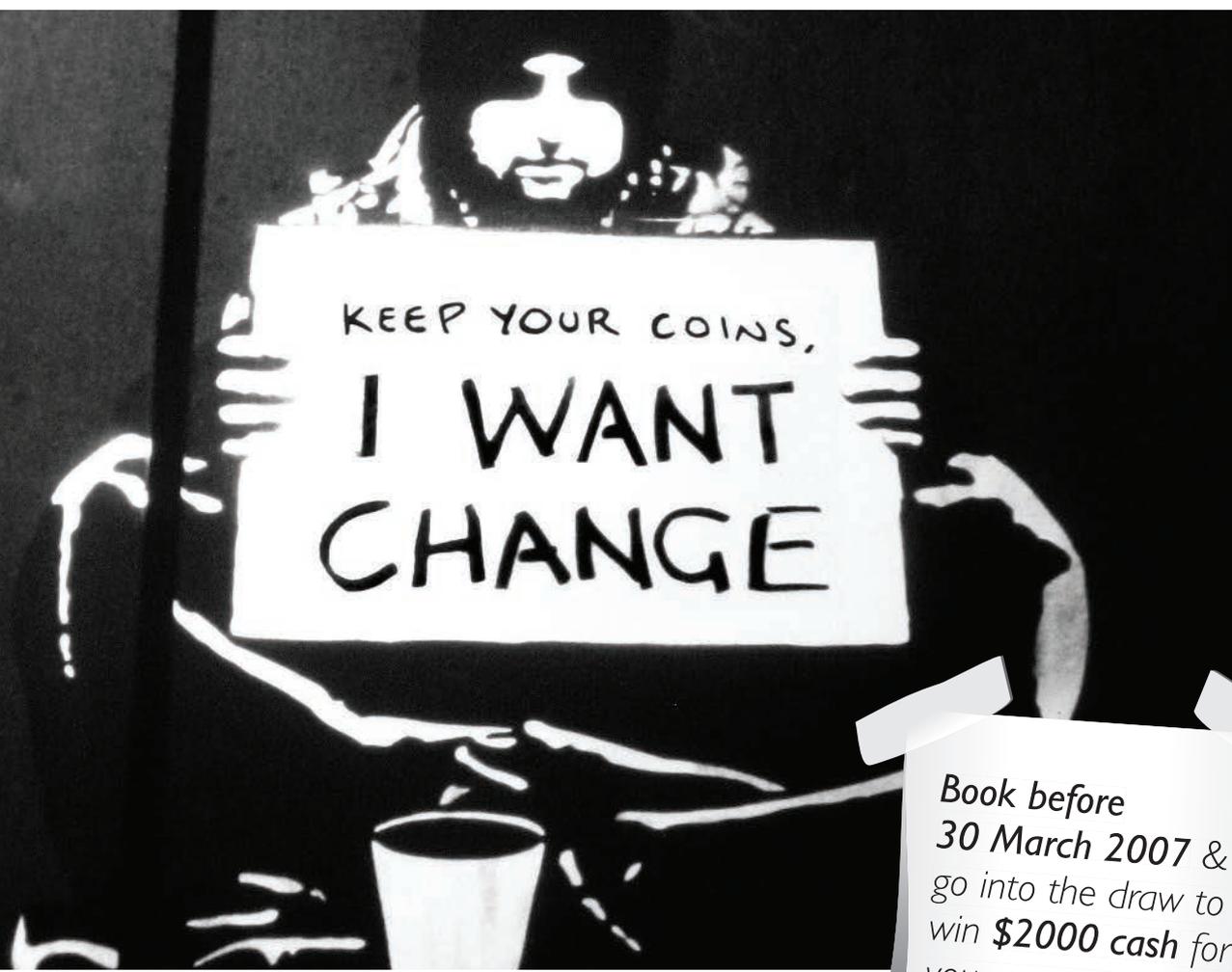
Using Your Story to Unleash Money, Members & Support

Sunday 3 June 2007

Proudly Supported by



Photo by Broken Simulacra Original artwork by Meek



*Book before
30 March 2007 &
go into the draw to
win \$2000 cash for
you or your favorite
community group!*



ourcommunity.com.au



Communities in Control

As the national conversation about community priorities continues to evolve, leaders of the nation's community groups will come together with local, state and federal government officials and business leaders for **Communities in Control 2007**.

This year's conference will focus on the need for community organisations to become central to the search for policy solutions. Ensure your voice is heard as we together address the **top issues** around enabling community to have a major impact on policy development for all levels of government in Australia:

1

The vital role community groups play in creating and developing new approaches.

They trial different ways of community building and they learn what works, what doesn't and why. Community organisations also deliver services on behalf of government and learn when service design works, when it doesn't and why.

2

The lack of a serious feedback loop from community wisdom and experience to government policy development.

At all levels – federal, state and local – voices are lost; opportunities to genuinely learn from community experience are squandered. What are the mechanisms for meaningful learnings transfer as opposed to the token co-option that wastes so much time and energy?

3

The need to acknowledge advocacy as a vital tool for ensuring that community knowledge becomes part of policy development.

Australian community organisations need to advocate for change at all levels, to promote projects and approaches that work, and to have a significant impact on the development of policy. And they need to be permitted – and encouraged – to do so.

4

The very practical reason why community voices should not only be tolerated but welcomed.

This is simply because the wisdom, knowledge, experience and leadership of community groups must be listened to and included in the design and development of policies if they are going to have any hope of working. Unless the voices of those for whom the policies are designed to assist are incorporated into policy design and development, policy will keep missing the mark and not achieve its goals.

5

The opportunities to strengthen democracy by fostering civic engagement, increasing advocacy, and reshaping the social compact.

Join more than 1500 community leaders, government, media and business leaders for vibrant exchanges about the opportunities offered by our communities for our country, and our world.

Who Should Attend?

The conference will benefit:

- Local governments – staff and councillors
- Rural and regional organisations
- Community resource organisations and media
- Community health centres
- Community legal centres
- Community newsletters, newspapers and broadcasting stations
- Suburban, regional and rural community and residents' associations
- Community centres, neighbourhood houses and adult learning centres
- Playgroups, children's groups and services
- Schools and school councils
- Indigenous networks, communities and groups
- Charities and community service organisations
- Public administrators seeking ways of enhancing effective community engagement and community control
- Sports groups at local, regional, state and national levels
- Ethnic and multicultural groups
- Arts and cultural groups
- Environmental groups and networks
- Consumer and self-help groups – people with disabilities, older people, young people, women, etc. – and their peaks
- Public health, community and primary health and health promotion organisations
- Psychology, public health, and health promotion professionals
- Academics working in areas of community development and engagement, social work, non-profit studies, etc.
- Philanthropic trusts and foundations
- Businesses wanting to enhance their community engagement
- Members of boards and committees of management
- Project officers, community development workers, managers, volunteers and CEOs

“A great, affirming event. I have gained marvellous inspiration, met some great people, had a lot of laughs. I feel energised and renewed. Thank you so much!”
2006 Conference attendee

The Speakers

Conveners:

Fr Joe Caddy, CEO, Centacare Catholic Family Services
Rhonda Galbally AO, Founding CEO, Our Community

The Best of the Best - Our Exciting List of Speakers:

The Honourable Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG, Judge, High Court of Australia and inspiring and courageous community leader

***Angela Glover Blackwell**, social change trailblazer, Founder & President of the US research, communications, capacity-building and advocacy organisation, PolicyLink, and former Senior Vice President of The Rockefeller Foundation

***Bernard Salt**, renowned social forecaster, Partner with KPMG Australia and author of best-selling book, The Big Shift

Heloise Waislitz, Pratt Foundation Chair and cutting-edge philanthropist

Jack Munday AO, revered grassroots organiser, union and environmental activist and architect of the “green bans” movement

Professor Dennis Altman, world famous political scientist, pioneer of the gay & human rights movement and HIV/AIDS policy expert. Professor of Politics, La Trobe University

Eva Cox AO, social critic, feisty feminist, advocate, and instigator of research into social capital in Australia

Tom Bentley, Former Director of the influential UK thinktank DEMOS, currently Executive Director for Policy and Cabinet for the Premier of Victoria

Sam Lipski AM, CEO of The Pratt Foundation, distinguished Australian thinker, writer, orator and media expert

Waleed Aly, leader on multicultural issues, spokesperson for the Islamic Council of Victoria

John Roskam, skilled policy analyst, Executive Director of Australia's leading free market thinktank, the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA)

The Honourable Joan Kirner AM, former Premier of Victoria, current Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Council for Victorian Communities, founder of EMILY's List Australia, a Victorian living treasure

Karyn Walsh, community sector stalwart and champion for the disadvantaged, currently president of the Queensland Council of Social Services (QCOSS)

Anne Dunn, Chair of the Australian Government's Regional Women's Advisory Council, beloved community advisor and community arts expert

Brett de Hoedt, Mayor of Hootville Communications – media trainer, consultant and showman

The Honourable Peter Batchelor MLA, Minister for Victorian Communities.

The Honourable Mal Brough MP, Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

* 2007 International Pratt Fellow

Keynote Speakers



**ANGELA GLOVER
BLACKWELL**

Angela Glover Blackwell is President of PolicyLink, a US research, communications, capacity-building and advocacy organisation that is guided by the belief that those closest to the nation's challenges are central to the search for solutions.

A pioneer of the community building approach to social change and a committed and skillful advocate, Angela founded PolicyLink in 1999 after serving as Senior Vice President for The Rockefeller Foundation.

A frequent and respected guest in the US media, Angela Glover Blackwell has also served on several high-profile US boards, including the Urban Institute, the James Irvine Foundation and the Foundation for Child Development.



BERNARD SALT

Bernard Salt is a partner at KPMG Australia and a leading commentator and advisor on consumer, cultural and demographic trends and their likely impacts.

A regular newspaper columnist, Bernard Salt is well known for his ability to articulate the motivational factors that have shaped, and continue to shape, the Australian community. He has made numerous appearances on TV programs including *Business Sunday*, *The Today Show* and *SBS Insight*, and is the author of the best-selling book *The Big Shift*, which charts the changes that have shaped Australia, and *The Big Picture*, which tackles the social and demographic questions facing the nation.



**JUSTICE
MICHAEL KIRBY AC**

Justice Michael Kirby is a justice of the High Court of Australia and an inspiring and courageous community leader.

Appointed to the court in February 1996, he was the first Chairperson of the Australian Law Reform Commission, becoming a judge of the Federal Court of Australia in 1983, and President of the NSW Court of Appeal from September 1984 until his appointment to the High Court.

A powerful orator, Justice Kirby is an ardent advocate for human rights generally and particularly for the rights for disadvantaged Australians. Justice Kirby has received numerous national honours in recognition of his services to law reform and the community.



EVA COX AO

For more than three decades Eva Cox has been at the forefront of social change movements that have had a profound impact on the way we live in Australia.

Having held senior positions in government, the community sector and academia, she is best known for her impact on the debate over the role of women in Australia – a passion that has seen her at the centre of important social changes such as the provision of government-funded childcare.

An author, advocate broadcaster, researcher and academic, Eva Cox gave the ABC Boyer Lectures in 1995, entitled *A Truly Civil Society* – these lectures introduced the social capital agenda to Australia.



JACK MUNDEY

Jack Munday is known as the father of the "green bans" put in place by building unions in the early 1970s – an extraordinary conservation movement that effectively halted the demolition and alteration of buildings and whole suburbs deemed to be of heritage or environmental significance. As the NSW branch secretary with the Builders Labourers Federation, through the green bans campaign Jack is widely credited with saving Sydney's historic rocks area from destruction.

He remains a revered grassroots campaigner and advocate, a man who is fuelled by a commitment to social justice and a strong belief in the power of ordinary people to bring about significant change.



FELLOW



FELLOW

The Program

Monday 4 June 2007

8.30-9.00	Registration, Tea and Coffee
9.00-9.15	Welcome & Setting the Scene Conference Co-convenors: Rhonda Galbally (Our Community) Fr Joe Caddy (Centacare Catholic Family Services)
9.15-9.30	Official Opening Heloise Waislitz , Chair, The Pratt Foundation
9.30-11.00	From Ratbags to Heroes: Creating social movements and making the world a better place Professor Dennis Altman , pioneer of the gay and rights movements, Professor of Politics, La Trobe University and Dr Jack Munday AO , grassroots advocate and father of the "green bans" movement
11.00-11.30	Morning Tea
11.30-12.30	Same Wine, New Bottles: What are the new agendas and methods for achieving social change? Eva Cox AO , author, social critic, advocate, broadcaster, researcher & academic
12.30-1.30	Lunch
1.30-2.15	The ways community can engage with government to develop policy and programs that work (TBC) The Honourable Mal Brough MP , Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (TBC)
2.15-3.15	Looking Back, Leaping Forward: the latest trends, facts and demographics you must know Pratt Fellow Bernard Salt , renowned social forecaster and Partner with KPMG Australia, author of <i>The Big Shift</i>
3.15-3.40	Afternoon Tea
3.40-4.00	The Smorgon Awards Smorgon Family
4.00-5.00	2007 Community Idol: Best Practice Community Groups and Experiences The three finalists of the Australian Community Idol competition present their claim on the title of "2007 Community Idol". Hear inspiring stories and insights from best practice community groups and vote on who will be the 2007 Community Idol. Also includes presentation of the Community Idol Special Commendation Awards. Brett de Hoedt , showman, media trainer specialising in not-for-profit media and communications, and Mayor, Hootville Communications
5.00-7.00	Community Networking Drinks - Proudly supported by Australia Post Launch of new "How-To" Letter-writing Essentials Guide Free copy of "How-To" book to each delegate courtesy of Australia Post <i>Celebration of community performers, artists and entertainers.</i> Drinks and function costs included as part of the conference fee

The Program

Tuesday 5 June 2007

8.30-9.00	Registration, Tea and Coffee
9.00-9.30	The Virtuous Circle: Community → Government → Policy → Action The Honourable Peter Batchelor MLA , Minister for Victorian Communities
9.30-10.30	Igniting Change: The real role of community in changing Government policy International Pratt Fellow Angela Glover Blackwell , founder & president of the US research, communications, capacity-building and advocacy organisation, PolicyLink
10.30-11.00	Morning Tea
11.00-11.50	Reform or Revolution: The UK experience of getting government to work to a community agenda Tom Bentley , former director of influential UK thinktank DEMOS, now Executive Director for Policy and Cabinet for the Premier of Victoria
11.50-12.45	Mastering the Media: How communities can use the media to shape policy Sam Lipski AM , CEO, The Pratt Foundation, distinguished thinker, writer, orator and media expert
12.45-1.30	Lunch
1.30-2.45	The Great Debate: “Elected governments – federal, state and local – should decide on community priorities because the only place to influence policy is through elections.” Adjudicator: The Honourable Joan Kirner AM , former Premier of Victoria, Chair, Ministerial Advisory Council for Victorian Communities <i>For:</i> Anne Dunn , Chair of the Australian Government’s Regional Women’s Advisory Council, community advisor and community arts expert Waleed Aly , leader on multicultural issues & spokesperson for the Islamic Council of Victoria <i>Against:</i> John Roskam , Executive Director, Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) Karyn Walsh , President, Queensland Council of Social Services (QCOSS)
2.45-3.15	Afternoon Tea
3.15-4.15	The 2007 Community Leadership Oration: The proper and just role for community in advocating for change in Australia The Honourable Justice Michael Kirby , AC CMG, Judge, High Court of Australia, inspiring and courageous community leader
4.15-5.00	Community Idol Presentation and Closing Remarks for CIC 2007 Special Guests to be Announced

Pre-Conference Skills Day

Marketing, Media, Advocacy: Using Your Story to Unleash Money, Members & Support

Sunday 3 June 2007

Does your community organisation or local government need more members, more money, more support? This is the 'must do' learning day for local government and community groups. Uncover the marketing, media and advocacy secrets that will help sustain your group and your community. Find solutions, discover new ideas and take away practical and effective answers.

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9.30-10.00	Coffee and Registration; Submission of questions for the Marketing Doctors
10.00-10.45	<i>The Essentials:</i> <i>What every community organisation must do to deliver your message and achieve your marketing dreams</i> Rhonda Galbally AO , CEO, Our Community
10.45 – 11.30	<i>Horror Stories and Happy Endings:</i> <i>Real life marketing, media and advocacy tales from the edge</i> Brett De Hoedt , Mayor, Hootville Communications, specialising in not-for-profit media and communications
11.30-12.45 & 1.30-2.45	Concurrent Sessions (You choose TWO) SESSION 1 <i>Using marketing to change minds and shape policy:</i> <i>The ten tips that work</i> Kara Wise , Marketing Consultant Roger Clifton , Managing Director, Shannon's Way advertising agency SESSION 2 <i>Using marketing to gain community support and get members:</i> <i>The ten tips that work</i> Aileen Berry , former Director of Corporate Affairs, News Ltd, currently publisher of In-paper Magazines, Herald & Weekly Times Brian Walsh , Corporate Affairs Manager, Australian Football League (AFL) SESSION 3 <i>Using marketing to raise money and attract business partnerships:</i> <i>The ten tips that work</i> Kylie Cirak , Community Partnerships Manager, Alcoa Foundation Patrick Moriarty , Director, Training and Learning, Our Community
12.45-1.30	Lunch and last chance to submit questions for the Marketing Doctors
1.30-2.45	Concurrent Sessions (see above)

Pre-Conference Skills Day

Continued...

2.45-3.00	Afternoon Tea
3.00-3.45	Laying the Foundations: Developing and delivering a practical marketing plan that guarantees results Jan Parkes , marketing expert, Director, Parkes & Parkes Management Consultants, former school principal
3.45-4.30	The Marketing Doctor Our panelists lend their wisdom to help cure some of the real-life marketing ills that threaten the health and wellbeing of community organisations. Come prepared with questions to submit at the start of the conference for the Marketing Doctors to tackle during this dynamic session. Facilitator: Brett De Hoedt Marketing Doctors: Jan Parkes, Roger Clifton, Patrick Moriarty, Aileen Berry
4.30	Close

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Youth in Control – The Youth in Communities Forum

Wednesday 6 June 2007 9.30 am – 12.00 pm

This special skills-based session is designed for young people (17–27) in communities. Those who have attended the two-day Communities in Control conference will join in a Wednesday morning session to consider the lessons of the last two days and plan a pathway for local action in their communities. The Youth in Communities Forum has been specially formulated and priced to allow each local government area in Australia to send a youth delegate. This session will be expertly facilitated and content will be shaped by participants themselves through a pre-conference survey.

Marketing, Media & Post Centre

www.ourcommunity.com.au/mmp



Need Marketing Answers?

How do community groups improve their marketing?

Increase media support?

Conduct effective mail campaigns?

Our Community and Australia Post have combined to provide community groups with the resources and tools to spread their message to an ever-growing audience. Australia's 700,000 community groups have such a good story to tell and the Marketing, Media & Post Centre has been developed to provide the skills and practical tools to build greater public awareness and support.

Australia Post services can help community groups and local governments. See the range of great postal services that can help your campaigns – go now to www.ourcommunity.com.au/mmp

Conference Information

Venue

Moonee Valley Racing Club, Members Gate I, Mc Pherson Street, Moonee Ponds VIC
Melways Ref: Map 29 A7. Parking: Moonee Valley Racing Club offers free all day parking

Price

- 1. Pre-Conference Skills Day** Sunday 3 June 2007 **Price:** \$230
Marketing, Media, Advocacy: Using Your Story to Unleash Money, Members & Support
- 2. Communities in Control Conference** Monday & Tuesday 4-5 June 2007 **Price:** \$292
From Advocacy to Policy – Communities Driving Change
- 3. Combined Pre-conference Skills Day + Communities in Control Conference**
Sunday, Monday & Tuesday 3-5 June 2007 **Price:** \$495
- 4. Youth in Control Forum** Wednesday 6 June 2007 **Price:** Add \$45 to option 2. or 3.

Public Transport (To Moonee Ponds from city)

Tram: Tram No 59, Airport West - City

1. You can catch this tram anywhere along Elizabeth St (from Flinders St Station to LaTrobe St)

2. Get off at stop 33 called Moonee Ponds Junction (Mt Alexander and Pascoe Vale Road)

3. Walk down Dean St, turn left into McPherson St; enter Members Gate I, Moonee Valley Race Course

Train: Broadmeadows Line

1. Catch the Broadmeadows train from any city loop station

2. Get off at the Moonee Ponds Station

3. Walk (about 500m) down Puckle Street (becomes Dean Street) and turn left at McPherson St; enter from Members Gate I Moonee Valley Race Course

Contact Metlink for info on timetables, ticket prices and maps www.viclink.com.au Phone 131 638

Inclusions

Cost includes lunch and refreshments on each day and drinks on Monday evening. GST Inclusive

Commitment to Access & Equity

The organisers and supporters of this conference are committed to access and equity and everything will be done to meet the needs of all delegates. Alan Matic of Our Community will be delighted to assist any individual or organisation that requires assistance. Contact Alan on (03) 9320 6805, or by email to alanm@ourcommunity.com.au

Handouts

In line with our sustainability objectives, presentations made available to us for distribution will not be printed but will instead be available on the Our Community website shortly after the conference at www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic

Cancellations & Refunds:

Cancellations received in writing by Our Community by 18 May 2007 will be accepted and fees refunded less a \$55 administration fee. Substitute participants are welcome but must be advised in writing.

Split Tickets:

Single day attendance & split tickets are not permitted, given the low cost of the program.

Pension Discounts

Pension discount is 25% OFF the total cost. Please supply evidence of pensioner status at time of booking.

General Enquiries

Please email service@ourcommunity.com.au or phone (03) 9320 6800.

Note

Preliminary program only. Speakers and timing may change without notice.

Registration

Ways To Register

- PH: (03) 9320 6818
 MAIL: Our Community
 PO Box 354
 North Melbourne VIC 3051
 ONLINE: www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic2007
 FAX: (03) 9326 6859
 EMAIL: service@ourcommunity.com.au

NOTE: Tax Invoice: Where a registration is for less than \$1000 (inc gst) this document becomes a Tax Invoice for GST purposes upon completion of payment. Our Community ABN is 24 094 608 705.

ALL PRICES ARE INCLUSIVE OF GST
 Our Community ABN
 24 094 608 705

Complete Registration Details

	No. Attendees	Price	Sub-total
1. Pre-Conference Skills Day only Sun 3 June 2007	<input type="text"/>	× \$230 =	<input type="text"/>
2. Communities in Control Conference Mon & Tues 4-5 June	<input type="text"/>	× \$292 =	<input type="text"/>
3. Combined Pre-conference Skills Day + Communities in Control Conference Sun, Mon & Tues, 3-5 June 2007	<input type="text"/>	× \$495 =	<input type="text"/>
4. Youth in Control Forum Wed 6 June 2007 <i>(must attend conference)</i>	<input type="text"/>	× \$45 =	<input type="text"/>
DVDs		No. Copies	Price (inc p&h) Sub-total
Pre-order 2007 Communities in Control DVD	<input type="text"/>	× \$130 =	<input type="text"/>
Purchase the 2006 Communities in Control DVD	<input type="text"/>	× \$130 =	<input type="text"/>
		TOTAL (GST Inc)	= <input type="text"/>

Please Complete Your Details

Attendee One		Attendee Two	
Name	<input type="text"/>	Name	<input type="text"/>
Job Title	<input type="text"/>	Job Title	<input type="text"/>
Org	<input type="text"/>	Org	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>	Address	<input type="text"/>
	Post Code <input type="text"/>		Post Code <input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>	Email	<input type="text"/>
Phone	<input type="text"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>
	Fax <input type="text"/>		Fax <input type="text"/>
Specify special needs (wheelchair access, dietary req'ts etc)	<input type="text"/>	Specify special needs (wheelchair access, dietary req'ts etc)	<input type="text"/>

Attendee One
 If attending the **Pre-Conference Skills Day** please tick your TWO preferred sessions:

Session 1
 Session 2
 Session 3

Attendee Two
 If attending the **Pre-Conference Skills Day** please tick your TWO preferred sessions:

Session 1
 Session 2
 Session 3

Credit Card Details

<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard	<input type="checkbox"/> AMEX	<input type="text"/>
			Cardholder's Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Card Number			
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Expiry Date		Date	Total Amount
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Signature
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Our Supporters

THE PRATT FOUNDATION

The Pratt Foundation was established in 1978 by Richard and Jeanne Pratt and is now one of the largest private sources of philanthropy in Australia. Under the leadership of Chair Heloise Waislitz and CEO Sam Lipski, the foundation is known for its visionary focus and cutting edge philanthropy.

ALCOA AUSTRALIA HESTA

A global leader in aluminium production, Alcoa's community partnerships aim to build on the existing strengths of the areas in which the company operates, leading to the development of stronger and more inclusive communities. Alcoa supports the Australian Institute of Community Practice and Governance (www.ourcommunity.com.au/aicpg), which is Australia's peak professional training organisation for staff and board/committee members of community organisations.

An industry superannuation fund for people in the health and community services sector, Hesta has a reputation for strong returns, good service and support for the health and community services industry. It is also a strong supporter of community boards and committees through its sponsorship of the Boards, Committees & Governance Centre (www.ourcommunity.com.au/boards).

WESTPAC

One of Australia's Big Five banks, Westpac's specially tailored Community Solutions suite of banking services (www.ourcommunity.com.au/communitysolutions) provides the best transaction and investment accounts available for Australian community organisations. In 2006, Westpac was ranked the world's most sustainable and responsible bank for the fifth consecutive year.

AUSTRALIA POST

Australia Post provides high-quality mail and parcel services to Australia. Through its community investment program, the company aims to further enrich the lives of Australians. One of the ways it does this is by supporting the Marketing, Media and Post Centre (www.ourcommunity.com.au/mmp), which provides community groups with the tools to spread their message more effectively.



australia's aluminium



Our Supporters

GIO (SUNCORP)

A leading insurance company, GIO is a principal provider of insurance solutions for the not-for-profit sector, particularly small community organisations, for whom the company has released a specially tailored insurance product (see www.ourcommunity.com.au/insurance). GIO, together with its parent company Suncorp, also support the community through live entertainment and sporting events, corporate sponsorship and donations.

LEADER COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

The Leader Community Newspaper Group comprises 33 titles spread throughout greater Melbourne. Reaching 1.9 million readers every week, Leader works to reflect the distinct nature of each individual community served by its newspapers. The company has grown to become one of the most respected and recognisable faces of suburban Melbourne.

THE DEPARTMENT FOR VICTORIAN COMMUNITIES

The Department for Victorian Communities works with local people throughout Victoria with the mutual goal of strengthening communities. Central to the department's work is its belief that successful community strengthening happens when government investments are linked to local knowledge and community decision-making.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS (FCSIA)

FaCSIA is responsible for social policies and support affecting Australian society and the living standards of Australian families. The department is the Government's principal source of advice on social policy issues and is responsible for about a quarter of the Government's budgetary outlays.



Feedback

"Keep up the stimulating, challenging and thought-provoking speakers that keep our head up looking 'over' instead of down at the daily grind."

"Just brilliant! Good nourishment for both hemispheres of the brain! I hope to attend this conference each year and from now on bring my colleagues."

"Thank you! The program has been really inspiring and has given me lots of new energy and ideas."

"This conference is going from strength to strength. Thanks to the organisers – great job!"

"Inspirational! I have never seen so many people in one room who were totally riveted on the speakers and the topics."

"Thanks again for an inspiring experience. I will return with affirmation that I am doing the right thing and renewed vigour."

"One of the best conferences I've been to. Very inspiring and motivating. The program was great for both days and held my interest for the entire days."

"It has been a great place to network and meet such a diverse group of people and organisations from all over Australia. Thanks a lot!"

"Well organised, top speakers. Enjoyed the debate."

"Thanks for a wonderful two days of thinking and challenge."

"Congratulations to all involved in another successful, thought-provoking conference."

"I wish I knew about this conference four years ago!!"

"Excellent – what else can I say. Stimulating, engaging, uplifting."

"Well done. Keep up the good work. It was a privilege to be here."

"It would have to be one of the best conferences I have ever attended and I look forward to attending next year. Thank you!"

"Well done again. I have attended every conference and as always the standard of information and presentations were excellent."

"This is my third conference. As a volunteer I have a great feeling of revitalising my passion for our community and look forward to the next one."

"An excellent conference as per usual ... I came because of the fantastic presenters this conference offers each year. I look forward to next year."

"A great, affirming event. I have gained marvellous inspiration, met some great people, had a lot of laughs. I feel energised and renewed. Thank you so much!"

"I really enjoyed my three days – I live in a small rural community and felt myself open up and embrace the diversity of opinions and challenges of my larger community of fellow human beings."

"A great opportunity to hear wonderful speakers/ presentations – and at an affordable price."

"I felt both personally and professionally challenged which is unusual and refreshing. Thank you."

"This is the first but it won't be the last I attend. The concept is brilliant, the topics relevant and the networking creates real opportunities."

"Thank you for the opportunity to attend! I gained some very useful information and am truly inspired to do more in my community!"

Westpac Community Idol

Visit www.ourcommunity.com.au/communityidol to nominate now!

Each year, the Communities in Control conference recognises the important social role played by Australia's 700,000 community groups.

As part of the 2007 Communities in Control conference, we want to find the community group in Australia that stands out from the pack.

We want to find the community group that is an innovative, vibrant, effective, representative and participative leader. **We want to find the 2007 Community Idol!**

How To Apply

It's simple. Nominate your own community group by answering the questions on the entry form, briefly explaining how and why your organisation is so special and why it stands as an inspiration to other community groups.

It is not about being the biggest or the best resourced or the most high profile group, it's about being a community group that does what it does well and stands out as a beacon of community leadership.

To be eligible for prize money of \$3000 and the mantle of "2007 Community Idol" you need to fill in the entry form and return it to Our Community by 4 May 2007.

Three community groups will be selected as finalists and a representative of each will present their case at this year's Communities in Control conference in Melbourne on 4 June, 2007. Ten additional "highly commended" groups will also be acknowledged and awarded during the conference.

Attendees at the conference (expected to be a crowd of 1500 from right across the community sector) will then vote on which of the three short-listed groups they believe is most deserving of the title of 2007 Community Idol. The prize will be announced at the end of day two of the conference on 5 June, 2007.

Prizes

The community group acclaimed as the 2007 Community Idol will receive \$3000 in cash. All three finalists will also receive all current books produced by Our Community, and 12-month subscriptions to all Our Community newsletters (valued at \$800). Accommodation and flights for a representative from each group to attend the Communities in Control conference will also be provided.

Judging

Entries will be judged by a panel of eminent community leaders. Representatives of the three community group finalists will be notified by telephone.

The three finalists will be interviewed at the conference with the winner decided on the day by the popular votes of conference attendees.

How To Enter

Enter online by going to www.ourcommunity.com.au/communityidol/signup and filling in the online form.

Alternatively, download a 2007 Community Idol entry form by visiting www.ourcommunity.com.au/communityidol. Fill in the form and post to Our Community, PO Box 354 North Melbourne 3051, or fax to (03) 9326 6859.

If you would like a hard copy entry form sent out to you, please contact Our Community by telephoning (03) 9320 6820 or email to lisar@ourcommunity.com.au.

Eligibility

The 2007 Community Idol must:

- Be a community organisation
- Be an incorporated association
- Have been in existence for a minimum of two years.

Closing Date

All entries must be with Our Community by 5pm on Friday 4 May, 2007.



Communities in Control Conference Conveners



OUR COMMUNITY

Our Community is a world-leading social enterprise that serves as the national gateway for Australia's 700,000 community groups and schools, providing a one-stop gateway for practical resources, support and linkages between community networks and the general public, business and government.



CENTACARE CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES

Centacare Catholic Family Services is a co-convenor of Communities in Control.

The organisation provides services across Melbourne and Geelong to help achieve the vision of "life to the full" for families, individuals and communities in all their diversity, but particularly those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged.

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