

PLA QLD

2024 REGIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Wednesday 29 May

8:00 - 9:00am **Registration - Arrival tea and coffee courtesy of Urban Play**

9:00 - 9:10am **Welcome to Country**
Welcome to the Conference

9:10 - 9:40am **Keynote Speaker, Dr Simone Natalu, Health and Wellbeing QLD**

Simone is the Director of Equity and Communities, under which Physical Activity initiatives sit for Health and Wellbeing QLD. She is currently writing her thesis on the physical activity patterns of Aboriginal mothers and the factors that influence participation. In addition to her leadership role with Health and Wellbeing QLD, Simone was also recently appointed head coach for the National Fijian U21 Netball team, previously a member of the National team that made it to the World Cup in 2007, as well as a former member of the Qld Firebirds team!

9:40 - 10:10am **Balancing the challenges and benefits of mountain biking in parks, Professor Catherine Pickering, Griffith University**

Back by popular demand, this session will explore the benefits and challenges with mountain biking in urban parks including national parks. Professor Pickering will share insights from the latest research examining the complexities around conserving natural environments whilst also providing opportunities for active recreation. Across cities in Australia mountain biking is increasingly popular including in urban parks. Research has demonstrated a range of negative environmental impacts from mountain biking particularly from informal trails but also important social and wellbeing benefits. The challenges for those managing such landscapes include balancing demand for more places to ride with the high conservation values of some natural areas in cities and the needs of other visitors. This presentation explores these benefits and challenges using the latest research, to help inform future decision-making.

10:10 - 10:30am **The role data plays in creating sustainable cycling trails, Rowan Lamont, Blue Sky Trails**

This presentation will explore ways data is being used to better manage trails as assets and to unearth and discover shifts in the ways people use cycling trails and the experiences they are seeking. It will showcase how data can be collected, analysed and implemented into the future of sustainable cycling trails. With examples of where data has created compelling stories that have underpinned positive conservation regeneration, climate resilient trail assets, economic growth, risk mitigation and most of all high quality user experiences.

10:30 - 10:45am **Facilitated Q & A with Professor Pickering and Rowan Lamont**

10:45 - 11:15am **Morning tea and trade expo**

11:15 - 11:45am **The role of parks in greening increasing urban density, Toni-Lea Hardy, Sunshine Coast Council**

With significant population increases and pressures for greenfield development, the role of parks in creating resilient, green and diverse open spaces amongst infill development plays a critical role in demonstrating that urban sprawl is not the best outcome from an environmental, social and economic standpoint. This session will provide examples of how open spaces of the future can contribute to planning for more infill /greater density development now, and in-turn protect the unique livability characteristics of the Sunshine Coast.

11:45 - 12:15pm **Using Golf to Activate your community, Luke Bates & Nicole Reeve, Golf Australia, Nigel Gibson, Maroochy Golf Club**

This presentation will provide insights into the current state of golf and the different ways the entire community can engage with and enjoy the sport. The presentation will highlight the recent story of Maroochy River Golf Club.

12:15 - 12:30pm **Facilitated Q & A with Toni-Lea, Sunshine Coast Council and representative from Golf Australia**

12:30 - 1:30pm **Lunch courtesy of ProMinent Networking and Trade Expo**

1:30 - 2:00pm **Remote sensing – how evolving technology can assist in sustainable decision making, Peter Frewin, Syngenta**

Urban sprawl has resulted in many open spaces now surrounded by residential dwellings. As technology continues to evolve at a rapid pace, use of drones for NDVI sensing of open space is becoming more limited and regulated due to privacy. Additionally, no fly zones are increasing as commercial aircraft fly over these newly developed areas. As such, the use of satellites for plant health monitoring is increasing. This session will introduce delegates to the newly introduced satellite monitoring developed specifically for a wide range of decision making processes. Key learnings from this session will be how this technology works and how to achieve benefits for individual facilities in practical terms.

2:00 - 2:45pm **Adjusting our infrastructure and policies for emerging sports, Adam Cheyne, Urbankind and Jarrod Hill, SportENG**

2:00 - 2:15pm **Adam Cheyne, Urbankind**

Sports are evolving from traditional formats and local governments will find themselves needing to adapt their planning to integrate emerging sports such as Pickleball, Padel, and NFL Flag Football, into local government infrastructure and land use planning. The presentation focuses on increasing participation, transitioning underperforming sporting infrastructure, assessing demand, and understanding multi-use management opportunities.

2:15 - 2:30pm **Jarrod Hill, SportENG**

With the changing landscape of sport the ability for sporting infrastructure to be multi-use and more flexible is increasing. An overview of the latest advances in sport field-of-play surfaces as well as design thinking will be provided. Jarrod will offer his insights into the design and construction of both elite and community level facilities and the opportunities local government have when considering what the community infrastructure legacies might be from events such as the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

2:30 - 2:45pm **Q & A with Adam Cheyne and Jarrod Hill**

2:45 - 3:15pm **Afternoon tea, Networking and Trade Expo**

3:15 - 3:45pm **Optimising Aquatic and Leisure Centres, Brooke Atkins, LARCAN**

Aquatic and Leisure Centres are vehicles for driving better health, social and wellbeing outcomes for individuals and communities, but they come at a high price to manage, operate and maintain. With many outdoor public pools built in the 1960's many Councils are struggling to afford to maintain or replace swimming pools. In this session we will take a deep dive into the barriers, effective strategies that can be implemented to reduce operating deficits, how to activate more of the community and explore a range of management and operating models that could support the future of our pools.

3:45 - 4:15pm **The Future of the 50M Pool**

Shane Vardy from Atlantis Liquid Dynamics will present the benefits of recreational splash parks for maximising community benefit followed by a presentation from Rob Woodhouse, CEO Swimming Australia on the importance of swimming and swimming pools in Australia from learn to swim to elite level competition.

4:15 - 4:30pm **Facilitated Q & A with Shane Vardy, Atlantis and Rob Woodhouse, CEO Swimming Australia**

4:30pm **Conference Close**

6:30 - 9:30pm **Awards of Excellence, Pavilion Mooloolaba (next to the Mantra)
Award of Excellence Drinks courtesy of Atlantis Liquid Dynamics**

Thursday 30 May

8:00 - 9am **Breakfast, Pavilion Mooloolaba sponsored by Green by Nature**

9:00 - 9:45am **Technical Tour 1 - Mooloolaba Foreshore presentation, Jamie Franklin**
9:45 - 10:30am **Technical Tour 1 - Mooloolaba Foreshore walk through, Jamie Franklin**

10:30 - 11am **Travel to Sunshine Coast Stadium**

11:00 - 11:45am **Technical Tour 2 - Sunshine Coast Stadium presentation, Grantley Switzer, Sunshine Coast Program Lead - Brisbane 2032**

11:45 - 12:30pm **Technical Tour 2 - Sunshine Coast Stadium walk through, Simon Ball, Venues Manager Major Sports Facilities**

12:30pm **Day 2 of the Conference close and delegates depart**

