

Australia & New Zealand Croatian Women in Leadership Summit 2022

Canberra 25-27th Feb 2022





WELCOME TO THE AUS-NZ CROATIAN WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2022

The AUS-NZ Croatian Women in Leadership organisation consists of a group of women of Croatian heritage whose common goal is to support, encourage and inspire each other as they progress through their working lives. The AUS-NZ Croatian Women in Leadership network represents a number of diverse groups and businesses across Australia and New Zealand, including: Croatian entrepreneurs, female professionals, small business owners, women in the workforce, students and recent graduates. We run regular meetings, workshops and events; facilitate business networking, idea-sharing and personal development with the aim of generating greater business success for our members.

At our first Summit in 2019, more than one hundred AUS-NZ Women of Croatian heritage, from a broad spectrum of fields, descended on Canberra to share their professional experiences and inspirational stories, to celebrate their heritage and to discuss opportunities for co-operation across Australia, New Zealand and Croatia. Since then, we developed an active and supportive professional network with international reach. The platform has proven to be a source of professional enrichment and encouragement during unprecedented times and has resulted in a number of joint initiatives across several fields.

Please continue to enjoy the journey with us and we look forward to many happy connections and opportunities with each of you.

OUR TWO CO-FOUNDERS



Her Excellency Betty Pavelich
Ambassador of The Republic of Croatia to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji



Sonja Palic
CHAIR OF AUS-NZ Croatian Women in Leadership

BOARD

Chair – Sonja Palic (NSW)
Deputy Chair – Maria Kovacic (NSW)
Secretary – Ana-Maria Cindric (NSW)
Treasurer – Antonia Razborsek (NSW)

Board member – Cindy Drake (VIC)
Board Member – Doris Bozin (ACT)
Board Member – Ema Saric (SA)
Board Member – Fran Roberts (WA)
Board Member – Tany Unkovich (NZ)

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



H.E. KOLINDA GRABAR-KITAROVIC
Former President of the Republic of Croatia

H.E. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic is the 4th and 1st female President of the Republic of Croatia (2015-2020) with broad national and international experience in politics, diplomacy and security. During her career as an elected official and in national and international civil service, she was elected a member of the Croatian Parliament (2003) and served as Croatia's first female Minister of Foreign Affairs (2003-2008) and Ambassador to the United States, Mexico, Panama and the Organisation of American States (2008-2011), as well as the first female Assistant Secretary General and member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) Senior Leadership (2011-2014). She is currently a member of the International Olympic Committee and Chair of the Future Hosts Commission for the Games of the Olympiad



Carmen Pavlovic
CEO and Co-owner of Global Creatures

Carmen Pavlovic is the CEO of Global Creatures, an Australian live entertainment company which she founded with Gerry Ryan OAM. Global Creatures creates original works and produces internationally. Moulin Rouge! The Musical was honoured with 10 Tony Awards including Best Musical, a history making result for an Australian company. Carmen is the first Australian producer and the only Australian female to win Best Musical. Moulin Rouge! The Musical is now playing on Broadway, the West End and in Melbourne, Australia. A North American tour will commence in 2022 and further productions have been announced for Cologne, Germany (2022) and Tokyo, Japan (2023).



PROGRAM

FRIDAY 25TH

Welcome Reception Parliament House - Members Hall , Canberra

7 – 9pm	Ambassador Betty Pavelich & Sonja Palic	Welcome
	Senator The Hon. Zed Seselja	Minister for the International Development and the Pacific
	H.E. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic - Former President of the Republic of Croatia	Greetings

SATURDAY 26TH

Summit Conference at The Realm Hotel

9am	Sonja Palic	Welcome
9:10am	H.E Ambassador Betty Pavelich of Croatia	Welcome Address
	KEYNOTE SPEAKER	
9:20am	H.E. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic	Former President of the Republic of Croatia
9:45am	Q & A with H.E. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic	
10am	Panel 1 - Foundations for the Future	
10.05am	Angela Jeffery	Project Director- Western Sydney Airport (NSW)
10.15am	Dr Jasna Novak- Milic	Director, Macquarie University-Croatian Studies Centre (NSW)
10.25am	Katarina Veljaca	BHP Engineering (SA)
10.35am	Tania Tandora	Head of Digital Strategy - Tennis Australia (VIC)
10.45am	Q & A with panelists	
10.57am	Video Message from the Croatian Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent Depaul in Buma, Solomon Islands	
11am	Morning Tea	
11.20am	Panel 2 -Leading in Challenging Times	
11.25am	Dr Betty Domazet	DOMA Croup - Co-Owner (ACT)
11.35am	Elizabeth McKinnon	Criminal Barrister (VIC)
11:45am	Marianne Perkovic	Non-Executive Director and Advisor (NSW)
11.55am	Mary Kovacevic	Drive to Survive Trucking - Business Owner (ACT)
12.05pm	Q & A's with panelists	
12.17pm	Video from Suzy Batkovich (QLD)	Basketball Olympian/Touwnsville Councillor
12.20pm	LUNCH	

1PM	KEYNOTE SPEAKER Carmen Pavlovic	CEO Global Creatures
1.20pm	Q & A with Carmen Pavlovic	
1.30PM	Panel 3 -Successful Creative Journeys	
1.35am	Julie Stevanja	Entrepreneur (NSW/SA)
1.45pm	Kristina Zanic	Kristina Zanic Interior Design Consultant (DUBAI/SA)
1.55pm	Mariana Rudan	MEDIA/PUBLIC RELATIONS (NSW)
2:05pm	Tanja Polegubic	Saltwater Nomads (Croatia/ACT)
2.15pm	Q & A with panelists	
2.30pm	Afternoon Tea	
2.50PM	Panel 4 -The Wellbeing of our Communities	
2.55pm	Anastasia McKinnon	United Workers Union (NT)
3.05pm	Dr Angela Rezo	Oncological Radiologist (ACT)
3.15pm	Dr Nevenka Tadic	Orthodontist (VIC)
3.25pm	Susy Vlahovic	Australian Olympic Committee - Project Manager (NSW)
3.35pm	Q & A with panelists	
3.50pm	Plenary session and wrap up	
4pm	Conclude	
7pm - 11pm	Enjoy a 3 course dinner whilst enjoying beautiful Croatian music from the band "Dobre Vibracije"	Celebration Dinner @ The Realm

SUNDAY 27TH

Sunday Brunch at the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia

10.30 am	Buffet Brunch
10.40 am	Welcome from Ambassador
10.50 am	Brief Closing Remarks by H.E. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic
10.55 am	Launch of Mentor Program – Doris Bozin (ACT)
11.10 am	Launch of Young Women’s Program – Ana-Maria Cindric (NSW) and Ema Saric (SA)
11.20 am	Launch of Education Program Cindy Drake (VIC)
12.30 pm	Conclude for 2022

PANEL 1

Foundations for the Future



ANGELA JEFFERY (NSW)
Project Director Western Sydney Airport

Angela is responsible for the delivery and construction of the multi-billion dollar city-shaping infrastructure project.



Dr JASNA NOVAK MILIC

Jasna Novak Milic, PhD is a linguist currently appointed as Lecturer and Director of Croatian Studies at Macquarie University.



KATARINA VELJACA (SA)
Head of Planning & Development at BHP

Katarina has worked in the mining/minerals processing industry since graduating with a double degree from the University of Adelaide.



TANIA TANDORA (VIC)
Digital Director - Tennis Australia

Tania has more than 13 years experience in developing sustainable growth for global and national high-profile brands.

PANEL 2

Leading in Challenging Times



Dr BETTY DOMAZET (ACT)
Family Business - Doma Group Senior Emergency Specialist Physician

Senior Emergency Specialist Physician working at the Canberra Hospital with a front line role in all aspects of medicine and trauma.



ELIZABETH MCKINNON (VIC)
Criminal Defence Lawyer

Elizabeth is a barrister who has specialised in criminal defence law for 16 years.



Marianne Perkovic (NSW)
Non-Executive Director and Advisor

Marianne has over 26 years experience as a Board Member and Executive across the Banking and Financial Services Industry.



MARY KOVACEVIC (ACT)
Drive To Survive

Drive To Survive 9 RTO 88199 was established in 1998 by Mary, a dedicated mother, local truck driver and road safety advocate.

PANEL 3

Successful Creative Journeys



JULIE STEVANJA (NSW/SA)
Entrepreneur

In 2012, Julie Stevanja co-founded cult online activewear destination Stylerunner, and in 2021 she launched a new venture - Her Black Book - with sister Sali Sasi.



KRISTINA ZANIC (DUBAI/SA)
Kristina Zanic Consultant

Kristina (originally from Adelaide) has spent the past 10 years working in the Middle East —Headquartered in Dubai, with offices in Bangkok and Riyadh.



MARIANA RUDAN (NSW)
Media/Public Relations

Mariana is a Storyteller with two decades of combined experience in Broadcast Journalism, Public Relations and Event Management.



TANJA POLEGUBIC (ACT/ CROATIA)
Saltwater Nomads

Tanja's first business, Saltwater, was founded in 2017 and has grown from a side-hustle coworking space in Split to now deliver major events with large tourist boards in Croatia.

PANEL 4

The Wellbeing of our Communities



ANASTASIA MCKINNON (NT)

United workers Union Anastasia helps workers obtain better pay and conditions, educates them about their rights, supports them in workplace disputes, and negotiates Enterprise Bargaining Agreements with employers.



Dr ANGELA REZO (ACT)
Radiation Oncologist

Angela is an experienced Radiation Oncologist currently based in Canberra who has studied and worked in Sydney, Melbourne, Edinburgh and Croatia.



Dr NEVENKA TADIC (VIC)
Orthodontics

Dr Nevenka Tadic received her Dental degree and then gained general dental practices in both Adelaide and Mildura, completed a Research Degree in dentistry and entered a Orthodontic programme.



SUSY VLAHOVIC (NSW)

Games Delivery for the Australian Olympic Committee, coordinating Australian Olympic and Youth Olympic Teams, whilst studying I.T. at La Trobe University.



AUS-NZ CROATIAN WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Special thank you to all our Sponsors



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