EMPA AUSTRALIA 2024
Australia's disaster and emergency communications conference

Day 1 - WEDNESDAY 5 JUNE 2024

08:00 - 16:30	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN
	Session chair: Phil Campbell, EMPA
09:00 - 09:10	Welcome to Country
09:10 - 09:50	**KEYNOTE: Joe Buffone,** Deputy Coordinator-General, National Emergency Management Agency
09:50 - 10:30	**KEYNOTE: Designing effective alerts, warnings, and emergency messages: Lessons from the United States** **Dr Jeannette Sutton,** Disaster and risk communication expert Lessons from the US can inform alerting system design in Australia, showing current innovations to increase message consistency, clarity, and completeness across all hazards.
10:30 - 11:00	MORNING TEA
	Session chair: Andy Oldroyd, Country Fire Authority
11:00 - 12:00	**PANEL DISCUSSION: First Nation learnings from the 2023 Canadian wildfires** **Peter Brick,** Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action **Ellisa Bourne,** Country Fire Authority **Heather Fehr** and **Jessica Mack,** BC Wildfire Service, Canada *(online)*
12:00 - 13:00	LUNCH
	Session chair: Barbara Ryan, University of Southern Queensland
13:00 - 13:10	SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
13:10 - 13:45	**Using culturally appropriate communication to reach diverse communities** **Dr Kate Delmo**, University of Technology Sydney
13:45 - 14:30	Fitzroy Crossing flood 2023 - recovery **Deputy Commissioner Melissa Pexton,** Department of Fire and Emergency Services, WA
14:30 - 15:00	AFTERNOON TEA
	Session chair: Jeremy Hillman, NSW Reconstruction Authority
15:00- 15:40	Introducing HowWeSurvive **Prof. David Sanderson** Leveraging systematic change in how community centred recovery is understood and enacted.
15:40 - 16:15	From research to practice - developing a child-centred approach to bushfire education **Neil Munro,** Country Fire Authority / Safer Together With quality bushfire education, children can make valuable contributions to risk management at home, school and in the community.
16:15- 16:45	The future of AI in emergency management **Philippe Borremans**, Vice President, International Association of Risk & Crisis Communication, *streaming live from Portugal* Risk, crisis and emergency communications at the crossroads of technology and AI.
16:45	Close
19:00 -22:00	CONFERENCE DINNER - QT CANBERRA

Program subject to change. Program current at 5 June 2024

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Day 2 - THURSDAY 6 JUNE 2024

08:00 - 16:30	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN

Session chair: Wendy Graham

09:00 - 09:40	**KEYNOTE:** Beyond Climate Grief **Dr Jonica Newby** A personal journey through Climate Grief and Disaster Brain: thoughts on communication, story telling, and how to navigate the overwhelming emotional realities of our new climate altered world.
09:40 - 10:20	Predictions in public **Dr Erica Kuligowski,** RMIT Univeristy and **A/Prof Paula Dootson,** Queensland University of Technology / NHRA Research to develop best-practice guidelines for bushfire maps that meet the needs of fire agencies as well as people facing a bushfire.
10:20 - 10:25	**Awards for Excellence in Emergency Communications 2024 Showcase - Response Category**

10:25 - 10:55	MORNING TEA

Session chair: Alison Martin, South Australia Police

10:55 - 11:30	Crisis communications for cyber-incidents **Tom McPherson,** Fire Rescue Victoria In December 2022, Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) experienced a cyber-attack from a malicious third party. Tom will discuss the strategic communication approach to responding to the cyber incident and ways to strengthen your communications toolkit to prepare for the unexpected.
11:30 - 12:10	**PANEL: Surviving or thriving? Primary carers juggling multiple roles** **Lucy Bell,** Emergency Management Victoria **Brad Irvin,** Victoria State Emergency Service **Claire Kinnear,** Triple Zero Victoria **Wendy Graham**
12:10 - 12:20	**Awards for Excellence in Emergency Communications 2024 Showcase - Readiness and Resilience Category and Recovery Category**

12:20 - 13:20	LUNCH

Session chair: Bronwen Sparkes, NEMA

13:20 - 13:30	**Awards for Excellence in Emergency Communications 2024 Showcase - Research Category and Community Engagement Category**
13:30 - 14:10	**PANEL: Australian Warning System - Community education and engagement** **Lucy Bell,** Emergency Management Victoria, **Deana Pullella,** Department of Fire and Emergency Services, **Dr Jeannette Sutton** **Dr Erica Kuligowski,** RMIT University
14:10 - 14:45	Cell Broadcast National Messaging System **Paul Terawsky,** National Emergency Management Agency The Australian Government's announcement through the 2023 Budget process to roll out a new telephony-based warning system – the National Messaging System (NMS). When complete, the NMS will utilise cell broadcast technology, a first for the nation, and will build on over 14 years of experience gained through the development and use of the existing Emergency Alert system.

14:45 - 15:15	AFTERNOON TEA

Session chair: Brad Irvin, Victoria State Emergency Service

15:15- 15:55	**MEDIA PANEL** **Ben Smyth,** Australian Community Media **Anna Vidot** and **Georgia Stynes,** ABC Radio Canberra
15:55 - 16:05	Closing address **Phil Campbell,** Conference Chair
16:05	Close

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Day 3 - FRIDAY 7 JUNE 2024

08:30 - 12:30	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN
09:00 - 10:45	**MASTERCLASS:** Social Capital and Social Infrastructure in Action: *How libraries and pubs can help us better connect and communicate* **Professor Daniel Aldrich,** streaming live from Boston USA **Renae Hanvin**, Resilient Ready and **Jo Garnett**, SAFECOM live at QT Canberra Social capital and social infrastructure are fundamental to building national resilience. But what do they really mean and look like in practice and policy when it comes to disaster-related communications and stakeholder engagement? Join global social capital expert Professor Daniel Aldrich, Resilient Ready CEO + Founder Renae Hanvin and SAFECOM's Program Manager of Disaster Resilience & Risk Reduction Johanna Garnett for a 3-hour interactive masterclass. These industry experts share findings from the South Australian Social Capital + Social Infrastructure Snapshot project including a collective view from government and non-government stakeholders. Showcasing practical examples from South Australia, this masterclass will put a spotlight on the many and varied benefits to come from measuring and investing in people connections and the places where people connect. It will inspire the audience to think differently about how community organisations such as libraries and museums and local small businesses including "the pub" or regional caravan parks can fill the gap in community-led resilience, trust building, collaboration and equity.
10:45 - 11:10	MORNING TEA
11:10 - 12:30	**Masterclass continued.**
12:30	Close

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