



Skills and Learning

CEA Annual Conference 2025

SYDNEY, 24-26 November

Foundations for a Changing World.

2025 CCA Annual Conference –
DAY 1 - TUESDAY 25 November 2025

8.30 am	Registration Opens			
9.00 am	Welcome /intro: MC: Chemène Sinson			
9.10 am	First Nations Performing Arts Group –Muggera			
9. 20am	Ministerial address: Hon. Andrew Giles MP, Federal Minister for Skills and Training			
9. 25 am	Opening Keynote: Trevor Gauld, Deputy Commissioner, Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA)			
9. 50am	From Evidence to Action: Foundations, Jobs and Skills: A panel discussion: Chair Chemène Sinson; Panelists: Ross Raeburn, Director of Engagement and Growth, Future Skills Organisation; Emma King, CEO, HumanAbility; Natalie Turmine, CEO, SaCSA, Trevor Gauld, Deputy Commissioner, JSA.			
10. 45 am	Sponsors presentations			
10.55 am	MORNING TEA BREAK			
11.20am	Keynote: Saxon Rice, CEO Australian Skills Quality Authority			
11.50 pm	Keynote: R is for Resilience Ali Flynn, CEO and Founder Tri Altitude Performance, podcast host-Challenges that Change us			
12.20 pm	Stream 1 Policy and Sector strategy	Stream 2 Governance, quality and risk	Stream 3: Responsive systems	Stream 4: Leading through complexity
	Thomas Keneally	Colleen McCullough	Amy Gibbs	level 3
	Exploring the logics involved in 'leveraging the benefits of Adult Community Education' Dr Don Zoellner, Charles Darwin University	Governance and Quality: Navigating Compliance in a Changing VET Environment Karen Kerr ASQA AD Policy and Education	Better Data, Better Decisions: NCVER Perspectives on VET Evidence and Policy John King, MD NCVER	Workshop: Leading to thrive, not just survive Ali Flynn, CEO, Cofounder Tri-Altitude Performance
1.00	Chemène Chemène and sponsors video 5 x 2mins each (Thomas Keneally)			
1.15	LUNCH			
2.00pm	First Nations Members Panel: Dr Belinda Russon, CEO Tranby, David Roberts Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council (AH&MRC), Julia McKenzie, Kimberley Medical Service (KAMS), Brenz Saunders, CEO Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute.			
3.00pm	Keynote: Managing Emergencies, Security, and Crises in Community Education: Practical and Solutions Jeff Walker, CEO JKG Global			
3.25 pm	AFTERNOON TEA BREAK			
3.40 pm	3 concurrent streams: Colleen McCullough, Amy Gibbs and level 3 1. FSO Workshop/roundtable: Skills Accelerator AI Siobhan O'Sullivan 2. BoostED: A Bold Initiative to Transform Early Childhood Training: Robyn Keenan, ACE Colleges 3. Practical and scalable emergency management approaches in community education: Jeff Walker, CEO JKG Global Group			
4.20pm	Conference close			
6.30pm	Gala Dinner and Awards			



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DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY 26 November 2025

8.30 am	Registration Opens			
8.55am	Welcome and recap: Chemène Sinson			
9.00am	School Leaders Panel: Leading learning in transition Host: John Liddicoat: Specialist assistance school leaders from across the sector - To be advised			
9.40am	Keynote: Adaptive leadership (working title, specific focus tbc) Adam Siegel, CEO Visage Partners			
10:05am	Panel: AI in Context: Ethical, Practical & Strategic Considerations AI can drive innovation or deliver mediocrity or worse if misapplied. This panel dives into the big questions: How can AI be implemented ethically, strategically, and in ways that keep people at the centre? Chaired by Chemène Sinson and featuring: Dan Bowen, Microsoft, Dr Kunal Luthra, McKinsey &Co, Dr Amy McHugh, Sydney University, FSO AI lead			
10.55am	MORNING TEA BREAK			
11.20am-12.10pm	Stream 1: Leaders & Implementers	Stream 2: Innovators	Stream 3: Explorers	Stream 4: Leading through complexity
	Thomas Keneally	Thomas Kenneally 2	Colleen McCullough	Level 3
	AI imperatives for Australian Industry-a pathway to immediate action Dinesh Poorun and Mohammed Sabsabi cofounders Rapid AI4Learning	AI and Literacy – Professors Bill Cope & Mary Kalantzis, University of Illinois.	Cultural competence and AI: Redefining artificial intelligence as a tool we can harness to improve our human intelligence Elif Sahin & Dr Amy McHugh NCCC, University of Sydney	Adaptive leadership: a workshop - will have specific focus tbc Adam Siegel, CEO Visage Growth Partners
12.15pm-1.00pm	AI for equity and inclusion in education Dan Bowen, Technology strategist and AI in education podcast host	Exploring No Wrong Doors in adult literacy and numeracy Testing the Evidence and practical approaches from the Reading Writing Hotline’s research project Lindy Cassidy, Community Engagement Coordinator Reading Writing Hotline	tbc	
1.00pm	LUNCH BREAK			
1.45pm	Under wraps: Special session to be revealed			
2.30 pm	Facilitated Conversation: Synthesis, reflections, Q&A integrating Community policy, AI, literacy, and practice – in development)			
3.30pm	Conference close			