



2024 CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SUMMIT

The Value of Co-operative Housing

PROGRAM

 Thursday October 17, 2024.

 Gilbert Suite,
Adelaide Convention
Centre

 9am to 5pm,



TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKER
8.45	Arrivals, tea, coffee and networking	
9.15	Summit opens	
9.20	Welcome to Country (Kurna)	Jess Davies-Huyhn
9.30	Welcome from our host Common Equity Housing SA	Heidi Claus , Chair, CEHSA
9.45	Opening remarks	Louise Miller-Frost , Federal Member for Boothby & Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Friends of Co-ops and Mutuals
10.00	INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE The Canadian Experience	Tim Ross , Executive Director, Co-operative Housing Federation (CHF) of Canada
10.45	Morning tea	
11.15	THE AUSTRALIAN EXPERIENCE The Value of Housing Cooperatives in Australia	Professor Wendy Stone , Swinburne University of Technology
11.45	Panel discussion & audience questions	Craig Brooke , CEO, KeyInvest Fiona Herman , Chair (CEHL) Sally Kingsborough , (SAHT) Professor Wendy Stone , Academic Leader of the Housing Futures Research Program and Director of the AHURI Swinburne Research Centre
12.15	Lunch	
1.15	WORKSHOP 1 Building a Co-op Housing Community From United Housing Victoria, a real-life case study of member engagement in placemaking.	Peter Sibly , CEO, United Housing Co-operative Ltd (UHC), Victoria Mea Locksley (UHC)
1.15	WORKSHOP 2 Co-op Principles in Practice A deep dive into how housing co-ops can effectively implement cooperative principles in their day-to-day operations.	Molly Kendall , Communications and Business Development, The Co-op Federation
1.15	WORKSHOP 3 ACHA's ESG Impact Framework Measuring the impact generated by the Australian co-operative housing sector through a shared ESG framework.	Amy Lees , General Manager Operations, Common Equity Housing Ltd (CEHL), Victoria
2.30	Afternoon break	
2.45	THE EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE ACHA BCCM European Study Tour and launch of the Study Tour Report	Dr Sidsel Grimstad , Senior Lecturer and Teaching & Learning Lead, Griffith Centre for Systems Innovation Melina Morrison , CEO, Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals (BCCM)
3.15	Panel discussion & audience questions	Melina Morrison , Liz Thomas , Craig Brooke
4.00	Co-op members - closing observations (facilitated discussion)	Heidi Claus (Facilitator) Virginia Barratt (CEHSA) Elsbeth Cameron (CENSW) Nasteha Mohamud (UHV) Beth Rundle (CEHL)
4.30	Closing remarks	Liz Thomas , Managing Director, Common Equity Housing Ltd and Chair of ACHA
5.00	Networking drinks	

SUMMIT HOSTS

COMMON EQUITY HOUSING SOUTH AUSTRALIA (CEHSA)



STEPHANIE MILLER, CEO, CEHSA

Stephanie has over 35 years' experience leading customer and member focussed arts, housing and health organisations in Australia and the UK. She is a highly experienced and well-regarded leader in the housing sector. Stephanie's housing experience, prior to joining Common Equity Housing SA in 2021, includes various leadership roles at Housing Choices Australia, and senior executive roles in cooperative housing and local government housing overseas. Further, Stephanie was the Executive Officer of the Community Housing Assistance Service of South Australia in the early 1990's, the peak body for 90 plus housing cooperatives providing advocacy and technical assistance for nearly two decades. As such she has a strong understanding of the important history of housing cooperatives in South Australia.

Stephanie has a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Adelaide, a master's degree in Management and Social Responsibility from Bristol University (UK), and a Graduate Certificate in Dialogue, Deliberation & Public Engagement, from Fielding Graduate University (USA).

Stephanie is currently the Deputy Chair of the Community Housing Industry Association SA.

Stephanie's vision is to grow cooperative and community led housing, in scale, diversity and impact.



HEIDI CLAUS – CHAIR CEHSA

Heidi Claus was able to complete her Master of Social Work as a mature age student because of the security afforded her when she was housed by Paris Flat Housing Co-operative (PFHC) in 2016. As a student, Heidi has served on student and academic council boards in roles as Treasurer, Policy Officer, Campus Chair, Student Representative, and as the National Queer Officer for the National Union of Students. In these roles Heidi was a fierce campaigner for social justice causes including refugee and international student rights, marriage equality, and against all forms of discrimination, and worked as a tireless advocate for student rights.

Since then, Heidi has worked as a social worker with Disability SA, Child and Family Health Services, and currently works as a counsellor in mental health. Heidi has also served PFHC as the Membership Convenor, Chairperson, Treasurer and currently serves as Maintenance Convenor. Cooperative housing has had a hugely positive impact on Heidi's health, wellbeing and prosperity and she is committed to supporting the growth of CEHSA, the wellbeing of Members and Member Organisations, with the aim of providing more secure, affordable, and quality housing to vulnerable South Australians.

OPENING REMARKS



**LOUISE MILLER-FROST,
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BOOTHBY & CO-CHAIR OF THE PARLIAMENTARY
FRIENDS OF CO-OPS AND MUTUALS**

Louise Miller-Frost, Federal Member for Boothby and co-chair of the Parliamentary Friends of Co-ops and Mutuals. Louise Miller-Frost MP was elected as the Member for Boothby at the last Federal election, winning the seat for the Australian Labour Party for the first time since 1949. Louise has had an extensive career as an executive in a range of organisations including SA Health, City of Port Adelaide Enfield, and City of Burnside. In 2017 she became chief executive of Catherine House Inc, a women's homelessness service. In her time at Catherine House. In March 2020, she became chief executive of St Vincent de Paul Society SA as the Covid-19 pandemic hit. As such Louise has an in depth understanding of housing delivery and housing policy.

CLOSING REMARKS & PANELIST



**LIZ THOMAS, MANAGING DIRECTOR COMMON EQUITY HOUSING LIMITED
(CEHL) AND CHAIR OF ACHA**

Liz Thomas is an experienced Board Director and CEO, recognised and acknowledged as a dynamic leader with a trademark style that combines a strong sense of social justice and sound commercial acumen. In 2021, Liz was appointed Managing Director of CEHL. Since then, she has driven a broad range of positive changes for CEHL's 100 rental housing co-operatives and their members. She has become a strong advocate for the national housing co-operative movement and currently chairs the Australian Co-operative Housing Alliance (ACHA) and is the Deputy Chair of Victoria's Community Housing Industry Association.

PANELISTS



CRAIG BROOKE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER KEYINVEST

Craig joined KeyInvest in October 2022. Craig has spent the past 26 years in senior leadership roles across the financial services industry in different parts of Australia as well as offshore within the Asia Pacific region. Before joining KeyInvest Craig's role was with Bendigo and Adelaide Bank as the Head of Enterprise Lending Strategy and Credit Transformation. Prior to this, he held Senior Executive roles with ANZ as well as the Commonwealth Bank. In his last role with ANZ he was the Head of Operations across Australia which included share investing, margin lending, private bank and financial advice. His teams were spread across Australia, India and the Philippines. Over the past 18 months, Craig and his team have successfully executed two strategic acquisitions and are now preparing to launch several innovative investment products across Australia.

SALLY KINGSBOROUGH, DIRECTOR, PARTNERSHIPS AND MARKET SOLUTIONS, SA HOUSING TRUST

PLENARY SPEAKERS

International Perspective – The Canadian Experience



TIM ROSS - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING FEDERATION (CHF) OF CANADA

Tim Ross is the Executive Director of the Co-operative Housing Federation (CHF) of Canada. CHF Canada is a national membership association of housing co-operatives, representing over one thousand members, and home to over a quarter of a million people.

Tim's is a nationally recognized non-profit, community, and co-operative housing policy advocate. Through his work with the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada, he's forged partnerships across the housing spectrum. He is also founding President of the Community Housing Transformation Centre, a \$68.6 million pan-Canadian initiative designed to drive transformation, sustainability and growth in the non-profit and co-operative housing sector.

Prior to moving to Ottawa, he served as the Executive Director of the New Brunswick Non-Profit Housing Association, and previously led the Community Action Group on Homelessness in Fredericton.

Australian Perspective – The Value of Housing Cooperatives in Australia



PROFESSOR WENDY STONE, SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Wendy Stone is Professor of Housing and Social Policy at Swinburne University of Technology, where her research focuses on the intersection of housing precarity and wellbeing, housing aspirations of diverse cohorts of people including children/young people, families and older people, and innovative housing solutions. Her recent research examines how the needs and aspirations of citizens can be included within policy making processes to create more equitable, healthy and sustainable future housing options in Australia.

Wendy was one of the lead investigators on the 'Articulating Value in Housing Co-operatives' research funded by the Australian Research Council; she recently led a national program of research examining the housing aspirations of people living with low-to-moderate incomes, funded by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute; and regularly partners with government and non-government organisations to build actionable housing and public policy evidence.

PLENARY SPEAKERS

The European Experience

– ACHA BCCM European Study Tour and launch of the Study Tour Report



MELINA MORRISON – BCCM CEO

Melina is an experienced co-operative leader working for more than two decades in the co-operative and mutual movement.

Melina was the driving force behind the formation of the Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals (BCCM) in 2013 after heading Australia's Secretariat for the International Year of Co-operatives. As chief executive officer of the BCCM she has led the movement to historic achievements.

Her campaign for access to capital resulted in new laws and more than \$350 million released into Australian co-operatives and mutuals since 2019.



SIDSEL GRIMSTAD - SENIOR LECTURER AT GRIFFITH CENTRE FOR SYSTEMS INNOVATION

Sidsel is a senior lecturer and Teaching and Learning Lead at the Griffith Centre for Systems Innovation (GCSI), (<https://www.griffith.edu.au/griffith-business-school/centre-for-systems-innovation>). The GCSI is a centre in the Griffith Business School, with the purpose to grow capabilities and infrastructures to respond to complex issues in ways that are better for people, place, and planet. In this way are supporting accelerated transitions towards regenerative and distributive economies. Sidsel's knowledge and passion for member-owned, cooperative and mutual enterprises or housing solutions complements and strengthens GCSI's overall purpose.

Sidsel has a BAgric (Agricultural University of Norway), Foundation studies in Philosophy and Ethics 1987 (University of Oslo), PG studies in Organisational Psychology, Leadership and Teambuilding 2001 (Norwegian School of Management), and in Master of Social Ecology (Western Sydney University). After an MBA with merit in 2005 she in 2013 was awarded a PhD in Management (University of Newcastle), examining and comparing environmental behaviour among small agriculture businesses in Australia and Norway. In 2020 she undertook The Foundations of Directorship for Cooperative and Mutual Enterprises at the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS & HOSTS

Building a Co-op Housing Community from **United Housing Victoria**, a real-life case study of member engagement in placemaking.



HOST

NASTEHA MOHAMUD – CHAIRPERSON/ MEMBER DIRECTOR

I am a dedicated community development professional with a deep passion for fostering community capacity and a sense of belonging. My family migrated to Australia in 2007, and we were housed by United Housing Co-operative (UHC) in 2008 when I was just 10 years old. Growing up in the UHC community, where my father was the member, I developed a strong connection to the co-operative model. As I grew older, I became interested in nominating for the Board of Directors and took over my father's role. In November 2023, I became Chairperson of the UHC Board during an exciting period of growth and transformation. Alongside my role in local government as a community development practitioner, where I work with our diverse communities, I am also pursuing a Master's degree. I take great pride in our Co-operative and have been actively supporting Peter and the team through the challenges of realising the Summerhill Co-op Village project.



PETER SIBLY - CEO

Peter has worked in and about community housing for half his long working life and has headed up the United Housing Co-operative for 9 years and currently holds the position of Chief Executive Officer. Peter has also worked as a community youth worker, secondary school teacher, community development role in Local Government, international aid in Timor Leste and private family horticultural business. Primarily, Peter has been committed to the provision of secure, affordable not for profit housing and to the survival of the Rental Housing Co-operative sector. He has been involved in a number of mergers to ensure smaller Victorian RHCs survive and are able to grow and remain sustainable. The Co-operative Village project is his first foray into the role of a not-for-profit housing developer and it has not been easy!



MEA LOCKSLEY - MEMBER

I have been a co-op member for 28 years and have and still am very active on various committees as well as having been a Director on the United Housing Co-operative several times over the years in the role of Property Maintenance Director and Tenancy Director. I and other older UHC members have been involved in past property development initiatives and currently with the design and policy development for the Co-operative Village and have been active in design and place making. I am looking forward to downsizing to the Co-op Village to free up my current co-op home to provide another family with the opportunity of a stable secure home in our wonderful Coop Model. I have never lived in a middle/high-density housing situation before and but am very keen to contribute to building a community at the Village that works for the occupants by the occupants.

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS & HOSTS

Co-op Principles in Practice

A deep dive into how housing co-ops can effectively implement cooperative principles in their day-to-day operations.



HOST

LISA DANKER - BOARD CHAIR CENSW

Lisa has 20 years experience in planning and property development. She has particular expertise in master-planning large communities and building governance frameworks to manage complex projects. Lisa has a passion for creating memorable places and believes that sustainability should be the foundation for everything we do.

Qualifications: Bachelor of Science (Architecture), Master of Urban and Regional Planning, Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD).



MOLLY KENDALL, COMMUNICATIONS AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, THE CO-OP FEDERATION

Molly Kendall holds an Honours degree in Anthropology from the University of Adelaide, where her thesis focused on the Intentional Community movement in Australia. She spent seven years as General Manager of Resource Work Co-operative, a worker-owned waste reduction co-op in Hobart, Tasmania, where she developed a passion for worker ownership and honed her governance and collaborative management skills. Since joining The Co-op Federation in 2021, Molly has worked with co-ops across Australia, advancing the Federation's board governance program through both group and individual sessions for directors. She believes that co-operative governance fosters valuable management skills and shared responsibility and provides solutions to many societal challenges.

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS & HOSTS

ACHA's ESG Impact Framework

Measuring the impact generated by the Australian co-operative housing sector through a shared ESG framework.



FIONA HERMAN, CHAIR CEHL

Fiona Herman holds a Bachelor of Health (Nursing) and a Master of Health and Human Services Management. With a background as a NFP Director, Fiona has been an integral CEHL co-operative member since 1999. She is also a valued member of Endeavour CERC. Fiona's dedication led to her election to the CEHL Board in 2015. Subsequently, she was chosen to serve as the Chair of the CEHL Board in December 2022.



AMY LEES - GENERAL MANAGER OPERATIONS, COMMON EQUITY HOUSING LTD (CEHL), VICTORIA

Amy has over 20 years of experience in the public and for purpose sectors and a proven track record of leading change and strategy in complex and dynamic environments. This includes leading and implementing significant projects across ICT, procurement, quality & compliance, and engagement.

Amy holds a Bachelor of International Politics and Asian Studies, a Diploma of Language, and ongoing professional development of governance and management skills.

CLOSING OBSERVATIONS

Thank you to the co-op members for their observations on the content of the summit

Heidi Claus (Facilitator) - Common Equity Housing South Australia

Virginia Barratt - Common Equity Housing South Australia

Elspeth Cameron - Common Equity New South Wales

Nasteha Mohamud - United Housing Victoria

Beth Rundle - Common Equity Housing Ltd (Victoria)

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