



QUEENSLAND AGRICULTURAL  
INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

**2024**

***BACK THE BUSH:  
OUR PEOPLE, OUR FUTURE***

TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER - WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER 2024

ROYAL INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE,  
BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND

**INTERIM PROGRAM**



# CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

## SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

- ◆ **Day one breakfast:** 7:00am - 8:00am
- ◆ **Day one conference proceedings:** 9:00am - 5:00pm
- ◆ **Day one pre-drinks and dinner:** 6:00pm - 10:00pm
- ◆ **Day two conference proceedings:** 8:45am - 4:30pm

## LOCATION

The Conference will be held at the Royal International Convention Centre in Brisbane, Queensland.

**Address:** 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills QLD 4006

## REGISTRATION

Early bird registration for the **AgForce Queensland Agricultural Industry Conference 2024** is now open.

Please note that all Conference Dinner tickets and Breakfast tickets are not included in the registration price and must be purchased separately.

You can register at the following link ([qldagindustryconference.com](http://qldagindustryconference.com)).

## SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITORS

Being a sponsor of the **Qld Agricultural Industry Conference 2024** provides an unmatched opportunity to work collaboratively with stakeholders across the agriculture industry supply chain, from politicians to producers.

You can view the Sponsorship Prospectus at the following link ([qldagindustryconference.com](http://qldagindustryconference.com)).

## EVENT MANAGERS

If you have any questions about the **AgForce Queensland Agricultural Industry Conference 2024** please contact the event managers:

**Jackie Poyser** ✉ [poyserj@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:poyserj@agforceqld.org.au) | ☎ 0410 994 410

**Danika Barnard** ✉ [barnardd@agforceqld.org.au](mailto:barnardd@agforceqld.org.au) | ☎ 0447 007 806

*Current as of 25 June 2024; please note the program is subject to change*

AGFORCE QUEENSLAND AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2024 - PROGRAM

# WELCOME

This year's **AgForce Queensland Agricultural Industry Conference 2024** will bring together stakeholders from across the Queensland agriculture supply chain to discuss the key issues impacting agriculture in the state and explore what opportunities are available to support growth.

The theme of this year's event is *'Back the bush: Our people, our future'*. What does this mean? Well, we know our AgForce members and industry partners already champion the bush and fight hard for their rural communities. We know that the agriculture industry plays a huge part in supporting positive economic, environmental, societal and cultural outcomes to the benefit of all Queenslanders. But as the agriculture sector comes under increasing pressure from a number of issues, we need support from a diverse range of sectors, such as transport, health and the environment, to help us continue supplying world-class food and fibre to Australia and around the globe

***By attending this Conference, you'll have the opportunity to help shape the future of Queensland agriculture.***

This Conference will provide the opportunity for all Queenslanders to come together and work collectively on key issues facing the agriculture industry. With presentations from some of our nation's leading minds in fields such as finance and business, sustainability, leadership, science and health and wellbeing, this Conference will provide a platform for critical conversations and new thinking to ensure our sector continues to serve not only Queensland but all those who work tirelessly each day producing our high-quality food and fibre.

By attending this Conference, you'll have the chance to help shape the future of Queensland agriculture as the state approaches an election. You'll also be exposed to influential movers and shakers across industry and government, as well as those that are the backbone of our agriculture industry – AgForce members.

We look forward to welcoming many of you to our conference **#AgForce2024**.

*Georgie Somerset AM, AgForce General President and Michael Guerin, AgForce CEO*



**AGFORCE GENERAL  
PRESIDENT  
GEORGIE SOMERSET**



**AGFORCE CEO  
MICHAEL GUERIN**

# MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## MASTER OF CEREMONIES (MC)



CONFERENCE MC

### SAM FRYER

Founder of '*A Place To Call Home*' podcast and cattle farmer from North Queensland.



DINNER MC

### ANDREA CROTHERS

Experienced journalist, who grew up on a mixed cropping and livestock property in south-west Queensland.

# MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



KEYNOTE

### WAYNE BENNETT

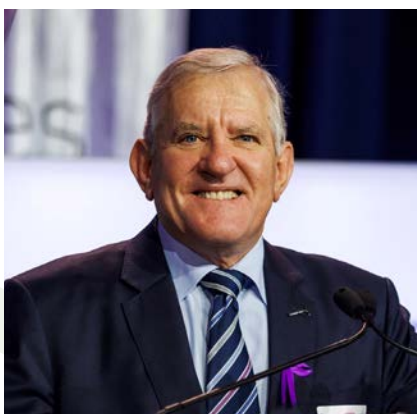
Coach of the NRL Dolphins, one of the most influential and innovative modern-day coaches.



KEYNOTE

### LISA MILLAR

ABC journalist across ABC Breakfast TV, *'Back Roads'* and *'Muster Dogs'*.



KEYNOTE

### HON. IAN MACFARLANE

AgForce Founder and Former Federal Member of Parliament.



KEYNOTE

### SAUL ESLAKE

Economist and Vice-Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Tasmania.

# MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



OPENING ADDRESS

**PREMIER, HON. STEVEN  
MILES MP**

Premier of Queensland.



CLOSING ADDRESS

**HON. BOB KATTER MP**

Federal Member for Kennedy.



DINNER KEYNOTE

**JULIA JONES**

Agriculture specialist, focusing on global macro trends impacting the food and fibre sectors.



# DAY ONE PROGRAM

## TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER

### WELCOME: CONFERENCE DAY ONE

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
7:00am - 8:00am	AgForce Member's Breakfast	
7:30am - 9:00am	Registration opens	
9:00am - 9:15am	Welcome to the Qld Agricultural Industry Conference 2024	Sam Fryer, MC
9:15am - 9:30am	Introduction	Michael Guerin, AgForce CEO
9:30am - 9:50am	Opening address	Hon. Steven Miles, Premier of Queensland

#### SESSION 1: STRENGTHENING QLD AGRICULTURE IN A VOLATILE WORLD

The world of agriculture is becoming increasingly complex and uncertain. This session will explore the key trends that are having an impact on the Qld agriculture sector and discuss how they can be addressed.

9:50am - 10:10am *Watch this space*

#### 10:10am - 10:50am MORNING TEA

10:50am - 11:50am Keynote address: *'The long and the short of it - the outlook for Queensland agriculture'* Saul Eslake, Economist

11:50am - 12:20pm Commodity spotlight: Cane Russell Hall, AgForce Cane President

#### 12:20pm - 1:20pm LUNCH

# DAY ONE PROGRAM

## TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER

### WELCOME: CONFERENCE DAY ONE

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
	<b>SESSION 2: FUTURE-PROOFING YOUR BUSINESS</b> How can producers adapt to the changing agriculture landscape in Queensland? This session will provide advice on innovation, leadership and resilience, and share the real-life stories of producers who have done things differently to capitalise on opportunities.	
<b>1:20pm - 2:00pm</b>	<i>Resilience in agriculture – adapting to new opportunities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ Panel discussion – featuring case studies of producers adapting and taking advantage of new opportunities such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Soil carbon deal</li><li>• Renewables deal</li></ul></li><li>♦ Open microphone session</li></ul>	<i>TBC</i>
<b>2:00pm - 3:00pm</b>	Keynote address: <i>'Innovation and leadership, succession planning and resilience'</i>	Wayne Bennett, NRL Dolphins Coach
<b>3:00pm - 3:30pm</b>	<b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>	
<b>3:30pm - 4:00pm</b>	<i>Watch this space</i>	
<b>4:00pm - 4:30pm</b>	Commodity spotlight: Cattle	Peter Hall, AgForce Cattle President
<b>4:30pm - 5:00pm</b>	Closing address	Hon. Bob Katter MP, Member for Kennedy
<b>5:00pm</b>	Wrap up and close day one	Sam Fryer, MC

### DAY ONE EVENING PROGRAM

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
<b>6:00pm - 7:00pm</b>	Pre-dinner drinks	
<b>7:00pm - 10:00pm</b>	Networking dinner	Andrea Crothers, MC Julia Jones, Keynote



# DAY TWO PROGRAM

**WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER**

## WELCOME: CONFERENCE DAY TWO

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
6:30am - 7:00am	Social activity e.g. morning walk	
8:00am - 8:45am	Registration opens	
8:45am - 8:50am	Welcome	Sam Fryer, MC
8:50am - 9:10am	Day two opening address	<i>Watch this space</i>
<b>SESSION 3: CONNECTING RURAL AND URBAN AUSTRALIANS</b> Those in the agriculture industry in Qld work hard to champion the bush and fight hard for their rural communities. However, as the sector comes under increasing pressure from a range of issues, farmers need the support of Queenslanders from all walks of life, to help them continue to supply world-class food and fibre to Australia and the world. This session will explore how rural and urban audiences can better work together to 'back the bush'.		
9:10am - 9:40am	Commodity spotlight: Grain	
9:40am - 10:40am	Keynote address: <i>'Creating meaningful connections between rural and urban Australians'</i>	Lisa Millar, 'Muster Dogs' and 'Back Roads'
10:40am - 11:20am	<b>MORNING TEA</b> Delegates can also join Lisa Millar for book signings during the break	
<b>SESSION 4: PROTECTING PRODUCER HEALTH AND WELLBEING</b> The pressures of working in the agriculture sector are taking an increasing toll on producers. This session will discuss producer mental health and the forces that impact it, as well as pathways to maintain and improve producer wellbeing.		
11:20am - 12:05am	Maintaining the mental wellbeing of Aussie farmers ◆ Panel discussion ◆ Open microphone session	<i>Watch this space</i>
12:05pm - 12:35pm	Commodity spotlight: Sheep, Wool and Goats (SWAG)	Stephen Tully, AgForce SWAG President
12:35pm - 1:35pm	<b>LUNCH</b>	

# DAY TWO PROGRAM

**WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER**

## WELCOME: CONFERENCE DAY TWO

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER
<b>SESSION 5: PATHWAYS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION</b>		
An aging agricultural workforce and structural barriers in rural communities are having an impact on the next generation in agriculture. This session will explore what agribusinesses may look like moving forward and techniques to help them get there, such as succession planning.		
	<i>Setting the scene</i>	
<b>1:35pm - 1:45pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Let's explore: what does modern farming look like?</li><li>What is the trajectory of the industry?</li><li>How will farming change?</li></ul>	<i>Watch this space</i>
<b>1:45pm - 2:00pm</b>	Young Producers' Council Policy session	<i>Watch this space</i>
<b>2:00pm - 2:45pm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Panel</li><li>Open microphone</li></ul>	<i>Watch this space</i>
<b>2:45pm - 3:25pm</b>	<b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>	
<b>SESSION 6: MOVING FORWARD – WHERE TO FROM HERE?</b>		
This session will explore the next steps from this Conference, particularly as Queensland approaches a state election.		
<b>3:25pm - 4:05pm</b>	Keynote address: <i>'A fork in the road: out of sight out, out of mind or making rural issues a priority for all Australians?'</i>	Hon Ian Macfarlane, AgForce founder
<b>4:05pm - 4:30pm</b>	Closing statements: where to from here	Georgie Somerset AM, AgForce General President
<b>4:30pm</b>	Conference close	Sam Fryer, MC



