

NATIONAL CONGRESS 2024

27-29 NOVEMBER | PORT DOUGLAS



Wednesday, 27 November

Register now

Time
(AEST)

9.30am

Arrival & Check In

Coach transfers from Cairns Airport to your accommodation will be organised throughout the day based on your needs. For more information please [click here](#)

5.00pm

IPA Group Annual General Meeting

Mirage Ballroom 3

5.30pm

Yulmbarril Bubungu Kaday - Welcome to Country & Smoking Ceremony

Four Mile Lawn

Join us as we pay our respects the Kuku Yalanji people with a Welcome to Country ceremony. Facilitated by Juan Walker, a Kuku Yalanji man from the Mossman/Daintree Region, recognising their deep and enduring connection to the land. Immerse yourself in the sounds of the didgeridoo and the profound tradition of a smoking ceremony, an age-old custom symbolizing purification and unity.

6.00pm

Presidents' Welcome Reception

Four Mile Lawn

Mingle and connect with fellow peers as we kick off National Congress with arrival drinks and canapés, enjoy the majestic views of the Four Mile Lawn and take in your surroundings for the next two days.

7.30pm

Free time

CPD Competency Area



Technical & Product Knowledge



Management & Professional Skills



Professional & Ethical Standards

Thursday, 28 November

[Register now](#)

Time (AEST)	Future of Accounting Glade Pavilion	Accounting 101 Mirage Ballroom 1 & 2	Beyond the Numbers Mirage Ballroom 3
8.00am	Registration		
9.00am	Virtual ticket streaming program begins. NOTE: Time is in AEST		
9.00am	Welcome Andrew Klein - MC & Cheryl Mallett, President - IPA Group Board		
9.30am	● CEO Address Andrew Conway, CEO - IPA Group		
10.00am	● Address Will Day, Deputy Commissioner Small Business - Australian Taxation Office		
10.40am	Morning tea		
11.00am	● Keynote Peter de Cure AM, Chair - Tax Practitioners Board		
11.40am	● Taking TASA into the Real World - Practical Tools for the Everyday Accountant Arthur Athanasiou, Partner - Thomson Geer Gain practical insights on applying the new TASA regulations into your daily practice. This session is designed for accountants eager to adopt best practice strategies. Equip yourself with the latest insights and tools to confidently navigate the new era of compliance and professional accountability. Real life examples will be provided to illustrate how problems arise and how they might be solved without breaching the Code of Professional Conduct.		
12.20pm	● The Compliance Challenge: Navigating Professional Obligations in a Shifting Regulatory Landscape Peter de Cure AM, Chair - Tax Practitioners Board & Tony Greco, General Manager of Technical Policy - IPA More panellists to be announced shortly. Following Peter de Cure's keynote, this panel delves deeper into the critical issues facing professionals today. Join our experts as they discuss the evolving regulatory environment, its impact on the profession, and what practitioners need to know. This session is essential for understanding the current landscape and preparing for the challenges ahead.		
1.05pm	Lunch		
1.50pm	● AI in Accounting: Cutting Through the Noise for Small Firms Inbal Rodnay, CEO, Guiding firms in adopting AI and Automation No more AI hype! This talk cuts through the noise, offering practical, actionable insights on how small businesses can leverage AI today. Learn about the most relevant AI tools, understand their impact on your practice, and walk away with a clear roadmap for implementation.	● UPEs and Division 7A - Post Bendel, Where does the dust lie? Andrew Henshaw, Managing Director - Velocity Legal The decision of Bendel and Commissioner of Taxation [2023] AATA 3074 lit a fuse and reignited debate about how Unpaid Present Entitlements to Corporate Beneficiaries are treated for Division 7A purposes as well as a broader discussion about what happened with the Commissioner's publicly expressed views. In this presentation, a complete analysis of the Federal Court's decision will be undertaken, including practical implications.	● Make Your Wellbeing a Strategic Priority Liz Tully, Founder & Owner - Mental Wealth at Work We've all done it—skipping lunch in the rush to get things done. But your wellbeing is more than a checkbox; it's a strategic priority. Join Liz as she highlights the effects of burnout and how incorporating self-care can keep you sharp, focused, and productive. Discover how to make wellbeing a key part of your professional strategy and how setting boundaries can help you thrive long-term.
2.30pm	Interlude		
2.35pm	● Securing the Ledger: Cyber Security as a Pillar for the Future of Accounting Matt Bushby, Chief Executive Officer - Macquarie University Cyber Skills Academy With digital transformation reshaping accounting through cloud-based systems, automation, and blockchain, accountants now play a crucial role in safeguarding sensitive financial data from cyber threats such as ransomware and phishing. This session will delve into the growing cyber security risks specific to the accounting profession and highlight the critical importance of Governance, Risk, and Compliance (GRC). Attendees will gain insights into how cyber risk management is becoming an integral part of financial auditing and governance, and learn how to prepare for a digital future by integrating financial expertise with essential cyber security awareness.	● ATO and Small Business Restructures John Goggin, Principal - Worrells	● 14 Steps to Energise Enterprise Bruce Billson, Ombudsman - ASBFEO Post-COVID the operating environment for small business is down 25% according to the ASBFEO Small Business Pulse. The Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman, Bruce Billson, will outline 14 Steps that will 'Energise Enterprise' and improve the risk-reward balance for small and family businesses.
3.15pm	Afternoon tea		
3.30pm	● Keynote: Insights & Updates from the Inspector-General of Taxation and Taxation Ombudsman Ruth Owen, Inspector-General of Taxation and Taxation Ombudsman		
4.15pm	● Keynote Brooke Hanson OLY DAM - Olympic Gold and Silver Medallist Swimmer		
5.00pm	Virtual Ticket streaming program concludes		
5.00pm	Education concludes & free time		
6.15pm	Coach Transfer to Flames of the Forrest from Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Port Douglas Delegates are responsible for arriving on time. If they arrive outside of the designated time, they will need to arrange their own transportation.		
6.30pm	Pre-Dinner Drinks & Canapes		
7.00pm	Celebration Dinner Ignite your senses through an unforgettable unique dining experience like no other in the heart of the tropical rainforest. Light installations illuminating the breathtaking surroundings while accompanied by a showstopping three-course tropical inspired menu of local produce, creating a once-in-a-life-time experience.		
10.30pm	Coach transfer to Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Port Douglas from Flames of the Forrest. Delegates are responsible for arriving on time. If they arrive outside of the designated time, they will need to arrange their own transportation.		

Friday, 29 November

Register now

Time (AEST)	Future of Accounting Glade Pavilion	Accounting 101 Mirage Ballroom 1 & 2	Beyond the Numbers Mirage Ballroom 3
8.30am	Registration		
9.00am	Virtual ticket streaming program begins. NOTE: Time is in AEST		
9.00am	Welcome Andrew Klein - MC		
9.15am	<p>● The Future of YOU in Accounting</p> <p>Brittany Baldwin, Sales Speaker & Trainer - Fire Up Sales</p> <p>In this engaging and insightful keynote, explore the role of the human element in the accounting industry, emphasising how building authentic relationships is at the heart of client experience.</p> <p>Brittany will show how accountants can achieve more connections, more conversations and more conversions, to enhance trust and credibility leading to opportunities for business growth and improved client retention.</p>		
10.00am	<p>● Building trust – lessons learned from PwC so far and where to from here?</p> <p>Senator Deborah O’Neill, Senator for NSW - Australian Labor Party & Rachel Grimes AM, Director - APESB More Panellists to be announced shortly</p> <p>As the PwC saga continues to unfold a year later, this panel revisits the scandal to assess the actions taken so far. Join key experts as they explore whether the measures being proposed or implemented have struck the right</p>		
11.00am	Morning tea		
11.20am	<p>● Mindfulness Reset: Essential Tools for Stress Relief</p> <p>Sophie Anderson, Owner - Cairns Coaching</p> <p>Explore simple, effective mindfulness techniques to reduce stress, these quick, practical tools can be integrated into your routine to help you stay calm and clear-minded among increasing demands in your personal and professional life.</p>		
11.40am	<p>● Managing your risks - How Management Liability and Professional Indemnity can protect your business</p> <p>Corey Rule, Business Development Manager - IPA Insure</p> <p>Join Corey, as he unpacks how Management Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance can protect your business from common risks. Learn the top claims businesses face, how to avoid them, and what steps to take when filing a claim to ensure a smooth process.</p>		
11.55am	<p>● Future Pathways: Redefining Education and Employability</p> <p>Philomena Leung, Group Executive Education - IPA & Amanda Linton, Chief Executive Officer - The Institute of Certified Bookkeepers More panellists to be announced shortly</p> <p>Explore the future of education and career development as our panel delves into innovative pathways that bridge education and employability, offering fresh perspectives on addressing the growing skill shortage in the profession. Join industry leaders as they discuss the latest trends and provide practical insights to future of education and help you leverage your current resources.</p>		
12.40pm	<p>● The Benefits of Property Tax Depreciation Deductions on all Types of Properties</p> <p>Theo Mavratzakis, Director - Tax Depreciation Australia</p> <p>Discover how property tax depreciation deductions can significantly boost your cash flow across all property types. This session will explore the key benefits and strategies to maximize your deductions, helping you unlock potential savings for your clients or business.</p>		
12.55pm	Lunch		
1.40pm	To be announced	<p>● Not-for-Profit - Income tax exemption status</p> <p>Judy White, Executive Director - BDO & Lisa Greig, FIPA FFA & Principal - Perigee Advisers</p> <p>You find that you have been appointed as the Treasurer /Director of a not-for-profit organisation or your daughter’s netball club. What do you need to do now? You heard that there are new rules regarding reporting income tax exemption status to the Australian Taxation Office - what does this entail? In what is becoming a must-see experience at IPA events, Judy and Lisa will once again team up to co-present a session. Be prepared for tricks and traps, practical discussion and unpredictable banter and fun along the way!</p>	<p>● Database to Dollars</p> <p>Brittany Baldwin, Sales Speaker & Trainer - Fire Up Sales</p> <p>This session will demonstrate how to transform your database to dollars by reengaging existing prospects. Focusing on relationship building, Brittany shares strategies for selling in a way that feels natural, and not pushy. Gain practical insights on how to keep sales conversations going, spark new opportunities and maintain meaningful client relationships. Learn the best ways to follow up when your client go silent and what to say to convert them from prospect to paying clients.</p>
2.20pm	Interlude		
2.25pm	To be announced	<p>● What Does Tax Look Like in the Future...</p> <p>Peter Adams, Founder - Augmentors</p> <p>They say what remains are continuing constant is death and taxes...</p> <p>The other constant is change...</p> <p>This is of course true, but certainly the taxation landscape, even though a certainty of occurrence, is continuously evolving and the future of taxation is no doubt going to be very different to what it is currently, particularly regarding tax revenue mix, tax compliance processes and tax administration.</p> <p>In this session, we will explore the potential evolution of some of the key tenets of our currently existing taxation framework and the application an effect thereof in the future.</p>	<p>● Mind your Energy: Effortless Self-Care for High Performance</p> <p>Sophie Anderson, Owner - Cairns Coaching</p> <p>Discover how managing your energy, rather than just your time, can transform your wellness and productivity. Learn simple, effortless strategies to manage your energy throughout the day—without adding tasks to your to-do list.</p>
3.05pm	Afternoon tea		
3.10pm	<p>● Keynote</p> <p>Speaker to be announced</p>		
4.30pm	Virtual Ticket streaming program concludes		
4.30pm	Prize Draws, Event Close & Afternoon Tea		
4.30pm	<p>Coach transfers to Cairns Airport from Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Port Douglas</p> <p>Coach transfers from Sheraton Grand Mirage, to Cairns Airport will be organised throughout the day based on your needs. For more information please click here</p>		