

COMMSDAY

# Regional & Remote Forum

QT Canberra, 25-26 February 2025

CommsDay is pleased to announce its inaugural Regional and Remote Forum, taking place in Canberra's QT Hotel on 25 and 26 February 2025.

MC: Michelle Lim



Our new forum is geared at helping government and industry understand the challenges in providing ubiquitous connectivity across Australia's seven million square kilometres. Its objective is to showcase the technologies, the investments and the policies that can meet these challenges.

## AGENDA DAY 1

**From 9am:** NBN Co, BAI, Vocus

**From 11am:** MarchNet, Amplitel, Telstra, InfraCo, Pivotel

**From 2pm:** Ciena, ACMA, AMTA, TPG, Indara, Optus, AC-CAN, Leading Edge Data Centres, Shadow communications minister

## AGENDA DAY 2

**From 9am:** Communications Minister, First Nations Digital Advisory Group, Regional Telecoms Review, Department of Communications

**From 11am:** NSW Telco Authority, NSW Government, Comms Alliance, Skylo, OneWiFi

**From 2pm:** WISPAU, BRRR, USO Panel, Lightning talks

## Plus an EXHIBITION & COCKTAILS



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[www.commsday.com](http://www.commsday.com)

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# Agenda

## DAY ONE FEBRUARY 25

### OPENING KEYNOTES

9.00am NBN Co chief development officer, regional and remote Gavin Williams

9.25am NBN Co chief customer officer Anna Perrin

9.50am Vocus general manager, government and strategic projects Michael Ackland

10.15am BAI Communications chief commercial officer Elyssa Rollinson

10.40am Morning tea sponsored by Indara

11.10am MarchNet group COO Shane Bennett

11.30am Amplitel CEO Jon Lipton

11.50pm Fireside chat with Telstra featuring Telstra InfraCo executive, customer success & sales, Dino Georgiou; Telstra chief sustainability officer, Justine Rowe, and Telstra Global Networks and Technology executive investment planning, Hannah Chong moderated by Rohan Pearce

12.20pm Ciena sales engineer Paul Indoo

12.40pm Pivotal sales director Darren Cooley

1.00pm Lunch sponsored by Pivotal

### 1.50pm AFTERNOON KEYNOTE:

TPG CEO Inaki Berroeta

2.15pm Australian Communications and Media Authority member Adam Suckling

2.35pm Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association CEO Louise Hyland

2.55pm Indara executive director, property and customer engagement Jason Horley

3.15pm Afternoon tea sponsored by Indara

3.45pm Optus senior director local community engagement Neil Harley

4.10pm Australian Communications Consumer Action Network CEO Carol Bennett

4.30pm Leading Edge Data Centres CEO and founder Chris Thorpe

4.45pm Telco Together chair Renee Bowker

4.55 Cocktails

Location: QT Lounge on Level 15

6.30 CLOSE



## DAY TWO FEBRUARY 26

### OPENING KEYNOTES

9.00am Communications Minister Michelle Rowland

9.25am First Nations Digital Inclusion Advisory Group co-chairs Dot West (OAM) and Associate Professor Lyndon Ormond-Parker

9.50am Regional Telecommunications Review chair Alannah MacTiernan

10.15am Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts first assistant secretary, communications services and consumer division Sam Grunhard

10.40 Morning tea sponsored by Indara

11.10 NSW Telco Authority managing director Kylie de Courteney

11.30 NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development group director, strategic projects and service delivery Peter Adams

11.50 Communications Alliance CEO Luke Coleman and (Satellite Services Working Group) senior manager Mike Johns

12.15 OneWiFi managing director Mevan Jayatilleke and telecom economic advisor John de Ridder

12.35 Skylo vice president, global carrier partnerships Paul Hanton

12.50 Vocus head of operations, space and wireless Ashley Neale

1.05 Lunch sponsored by Corning Optical

2.00 Wireless Service Providers Association of Australia president Adrian Robertson

2.20 Better Internet for Rural, Regional and Remote co-founder Kristy Sparrow

2.40 PANEL SESSION: The future of universal service with panellists including Kristy Sparrow, Luke Coleman, Ashley Neale and NBN chief regulatory officer Jane van Beelen

3.20 LIGHTNING TALKS Regional Tech Hub general manager Jennifer Medway, speakers from IQGEO, Nokia head of Optical Networks for Oceania Antonio Ruggiero

3.45 CLOSE

**Register at [commsday.com](https://commsday.com)**

## New speakers announced this week



TPG Telecom  
CEO  
Inaki Berroeta (NEW)



Telstra chief  
sustainability officer  
Justine Rowe (NEW)



Telstra InfraCo exec,  
customer success & sales  
Dino Georgiou (NEW)



Telstra Global Networks  
and Technology executive  
investment planning,  
Hannah Chong (NEW)



Nokia head of Optical  
Networks for Oceania  
Antonio Ruggiero (NEW)

## ... joining a stellar conference lineup



Communications  
minister Michelle  
Rowland MP



DITRCA first assistant  
secretary—comms  
services Sam Grunhard



NSW Telco Authority  
managing director  
Kylie de Courteney



NBN Co CDO regional  
and remote Gavin  
Williams



NBN Co chief  
customer officer  
Anna Perrin



BAI Communications  
CCO Elyssa Rollinson



NBN Co chief  
regulatory officer  
Jane van Beelen



Vocus NGM gov't &  
special projects  
Michael Ackland



Vocus head of space &  
wireless operations  
Ashley Neale



ACMA member  
Adam Suckling  
(spectrum)



Pivotel sales director  
Darren Cooley



Australian Mobile  
Telecommunications  
Association CEO  
Louise Hyland



NSW Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development's  
Peter Adams



RITRC chair  
Alannah MacTiernan



Communications  
Alliance CEO  
Luke Coleman



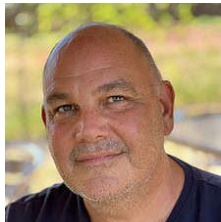
Australian Communi-  
cations Consumer  
Action Network CEO  
Carol Bennett



Amplitel CEO  
Jon Lipton



First Nations Digital  
Advisory Group co-chair  
Dot West OAM



First Nations Digital  
Advisory Group co-chair  
Associate Professor  
Lyndon Ormond-Parker



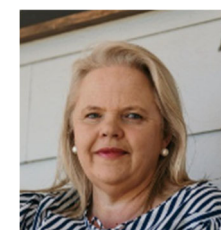
Skylo VP, global  
carrier relationships  
Paul Hanton



OneWiFi  
managing director  
Mevan Jayatilleke



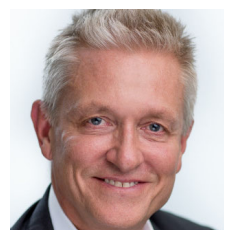
OneWiFi telecom  
economic advisor  
John de Ridder



Regional  
telecommunications  
advocate  
Kristy Sparrow



Indara executive  
director, property and  
customer engagement  
Jason Horley



Leading Edge Data  
Centres CEO and  
founder Chris Thorpe