AUSTRALIAN
smart communities
association

Annual Report
2016-2017

President's report

From our early beginnings in South East Queensland, the organisation that is now the Australian Smart Communities Association (ASCA) has grown in so many ways. We now are a truly national organisation which has evolved to represent cities, communities and a wider supply and service ecosystem. We partner with leading research organisations, national and international groups and state and federal governments.

In only seven years this volunteer organisation has developed into the mature organisation it is today. As this annual report is going to print, ASCA has employed its first CEO (Laurie Patton) and is well positioned to serve our communities and primary focus - the people of Australia.

During this past year, I am pleased to confirm that ASCA has again achieved its most successful year of growth and development. Thanks to our active network of members and partners, we have been able to increase our range and level of services and dynamically evolve the structure of the organisation to meet the changing needs and opportunities that present themselves.

- We held another successful Conference in Adelaide in May with almost 50 speakers, more than 300 delegates, a strong tradeshow and program of activities.

- We released our second *Guide to creating a smart community in Australia.*

- Partnered with the Australian Government to deliver 10 Future Ready webinars which attracted 1240 registrations.

- Our online seminars are growing in attendance and range of topics for our members.

- Our membership grew from 87 to 167 (92 percent increase).

- We launched a conference and ASCA events app.

As a not for profit organisation, we could not do all these things without the commitment and passion of our Board. We have developed a strong leadership group to ensure we provide high quality management of the organisation and planning for the future.

Behind our leadership group is a fantastic administration team. I would like to specifically acknowledge Megan (Administration Manager), Hari (Communications), Liz (Summit) and Christine (Future Ready webinars). Without these folks in the engine room, we would not be where we are today.

Finally, after seven years leading this organisation from the fledgling beginnings to the mature organisation with strong foundations for the future, I have decided to retire from the role of President and the Board. This will open the door for more renewal and further underpin ASCA's potential into the future.

I would like to thank you all for your support and alongside me continue to participate actively in ASCA as it sets forward into an increasingly digital future across Australia.

Michael Whereat

About us

The Australian Smart Communities Association (ASCA) facilitates, promotes and advises on how communities can build liveable, sustainable, workable smart cities. We put our citizens, local businesses and stakeholders at the core of our activities.

ASCA's members are made up of local governments, Regional Development Australia committees, Regional Organisations of Councils, industry, businesses, R&D partners, startups, not for profits and individuals who collectively represent - directly and indirectly - **1 in 2 Australians.**

Our vision

Creating a network of smart communities

Areas of focus

National membership and partnership ecosystem with 5 pillars

Annual conference

National Smart City Leadership Forum

Annual *Guide to creating smart communities in Australia*

6 national seminars per year

Industry Board and Working Groups
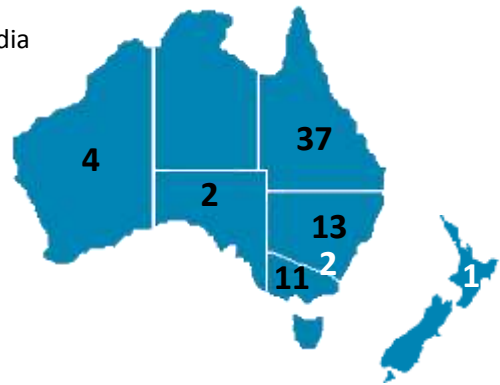
Policy and advocacy

Membership

Strong growth in members across Australia is one measure of our performance and a reflection of the growth of interest in smart communities and cites. We need to also keep a focus on what is most important, the way we serve the people we represent. ASCA has always had a strong focus on people and this will continue into 2018.
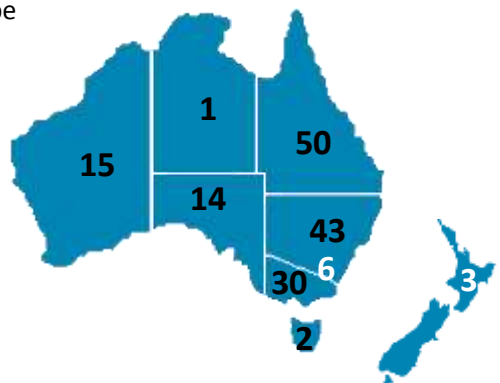
April 2016

28 Local governments

13 Individuals

11 Affiliates

9 Regional Development Australia

6 Businesses

2 Regional Organisation of Councils

2 Reciprocal memberships

1 India

4

37

2

13

11 **2**

1

August 2017

47 Local governments

31 Business / industry partners

30 Individuals

13 Startups

12 R&D partners

9 National and international partners

9 Regional Development Australia

8 Not for profits

4 Regional Organisation of Councils

3 Federal, State, Territory partners

1 International affiliate city

4 Europe
1 India
1 USA

1

15

14

50

43

30 **6**

2

3

Industry Board and Working Groups

ASCA established an Industry Board consisting of leading national and international organisations who are working together to establish collaborations with emerging smart cities and communities. Tree Working Groups were also set up in March 2017 to bring together ASCA members to collaborate around solving some of the big challenges facing smart city adoption.

Standards

Terms of reference (purpose)

ASCA seeks to support customers of smart city related technologies and systems to make wise choices regarding the selection of standards that underpin those technologies.

Common standards enable interoperability between devices and systems of different vendors, reducing implementation costs and increasing innovation efficiency. A nationwide approach endorsed by ASCA places Australian smart city customers in a good position to leverage national expertise and builds strong foundations for future development.

ASCA is not in a position to enforce standards. In practice smart city technology customers (eg councils) will specify standards they believe best meet their needs. We hope that such customers will refer to ASCA guidelines and recommendations for those standards.

Key achievements and initiatives

The Working Group has produced a terms of reference document which outlines our pragmatic approach to dealing with the complex field of smart city related standards. Our starting focus is city data models used to publish data such as lighting, bins, weather and air quality, in a machine-readable form.

We will also conduct a survey to help us discover exemplar projects from Australia and the world that might be using 'standards of interest' to Australia.

We are pleased to see Standards Australia showing an interest to facilitate ongoing coordinated standards activities.

Working Group Chair	Neil Temperley, Data61	CSIRO
Members	Peter Auhl, City of Adelaide
	Rajesh Bhardwaj
	Renald Gallis, Thinxtra Pty Ltd
	Jed Horner, Standards Australia
	Simon Kaplan, [ui!] the urban institute Australia
	John Meehan, VRT Systems
	Peter Moar, La Trobe University
	Matt Schultz, Ipswich City Council
	Ashish Shah, Logan City Council
	Simon Toze, CSIRO - Land and Water
	Michael Whereat, ASCA

City liaison

Terms of reference

The purpose of the Working Group is to develop a strategic plan on how the ASCA Industry Board can best engage with cities. This includes a framework for adoption to support a thought leadership position when engaging with cities around the agreed pillars of:

- Public safety
- Transportation
- Citizen engagement
- Energy management
- City platform

Key achievements

- Development and ratification of terms of reference
- Draft workflow for engagement with local councils

Working Group Chair   Paul Francis, KPMG

Members   Ashish Shah, Logan City
Bill Marlow, VRT
Scott Mason, Axicom
Michael Fisher, Boon Edam
Jussi Ware, Comptel
Tim Loebel, Duncan Solutions
Renald Gallis, Thinxtra
David Catalovski, Greenbe
Arlette Rike, Axicom

Funding and procurement

Terms of reference

The purpose of the Working Group is to focus on the various alternatives available to cities looking to acquire funding for smart city projects. A major concern for city leaders is how they can afford smart technology. It might not be possible to reallocate funding for a new project, and it can take months, if not years, to get approval for new funding within a municipality.

The Working Group will research and provide a broad understanding of the options available to deliver critical funding for large and small projects. This could include structures such as public-private partnership (PPP), concession and other risk/reward models as well as more conventional models such as finance leasing. The Working Group will endeavour to identify current practices from around the world and highlight which models may be most appropriate for relevant smart city systems.

Key activities

Working in collaboration with the Customer Liaison Group to identify and lay the groundwork with several local interested financing institutions and organisations. The working Group can only approach the potential funding organisation and government bodies once it understands who the user would be, what services we are talking about, costs and ROIs. This will be collated once potential end users have been identified, approached and services identified.

Working Group Chair   Michael Fisher, Boon Edam (resigned October 2017) – currently vacant

Members   Bill Marlow, VRT Systems

2017 Guide to creating a smart community in Australia

ASCA again partnered with Acache as well as Smarter Technology Solutions and [ui!] the urban institute to produce our second guide, launched at the Telstra Smart Communities Conference in May.

Building on our first edition *Concepts and considerations for the future of smart communities* launched in 2016 (in partnership with Acache), this year's guide was expanded to include a broader range of smart city themes and case studies featuring best practice initiatives and deployments from large cities to regional areas.

Project partner:
Acache

Case studies: 10

Pages: 24

Project partners:
Acache, Smarter Technology Solutions, [ui!] the urban institute

Case studies: 25

Pages: 44

ASCA seminars

- o **6** online ASCA seminars
- o **17** presenters
- o **1** special seminar: Smart Cities and Suburbs Program

Members can view the seminar presentations through the Member content portal on the website.

Future Ready webinars

ASCA partnered with the Australian Government to deliver 10 Future Ready webinars to kick-start communities' digital transformation journeys. Held between May-September 2017, the webinars explored smart city case studies from global leaders, shared tips and tricks of digital success, and talked community engagement.

The webinar series provided an ideal platform to bring together government, industry, research organisations and innovators from across Australia and internationally to encourage knowledge sharing, new partnerships and active learning. The videos are available on the ASCA website.

parking
IoT
councils welcome
Innovation Roadmap
global view lighting
leadership smart
community engagement
Digital Marketplace

| **10** webinars | **23** presenters | **1240+** registrations | **3000** video plays | **Speakers** Australia NZ, UK, USA |

Future Ready Co-Learning Lab

ASCA hosted a one-day Future Ready Co-Learning Lab in Adelaide on 29 May to build smart city know-how and strengthen relationships across government, industry, academia and innovators.

Held as part of the Australian Government's Future Ready smart cities incubator series, the interactive Lab session gave participants a deeper understanding of and insight into how to create a smart city.

| **10** presenters | **50** participants | **15** LGAs represented |

"The Future Ready Co-Learning Lab is a reflection of all the key aspirations of being a smart and connected community ... access to information, collaboration, networking and sharing ideas. The Lab is a gateway to improving the intellectual capital in a community about smart and connected communities." – LGA participant

Telstra Australian Smart Communities Conference

29-31 May 2017 | Adelaide, South Australia

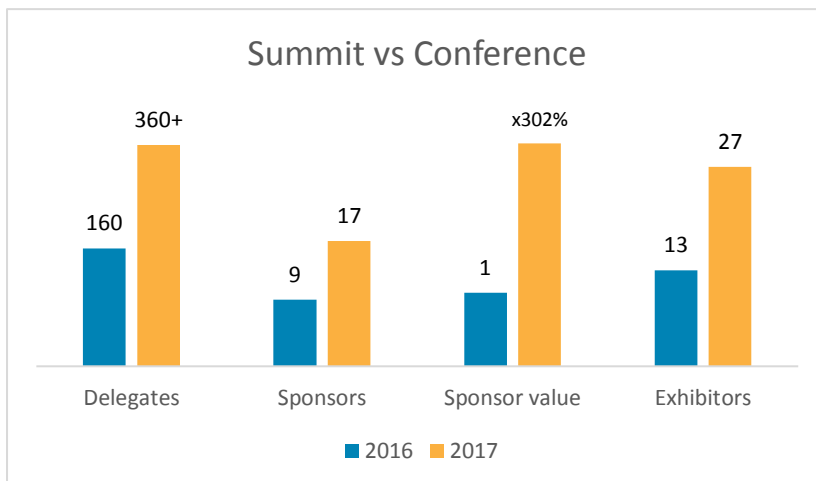The 2017 conference was a great success for ASCA and smart communities across Australia.

Beyond the numbers of delegates, exhibitors and parallel activities to the conference there was one consistent message form participants – the genuineness of the speakers – acknowledging that transitioning from analogue to digital is not always easy. Vendors were referred to as solutions providers by their clients rather than glossy vendor sales focused communications.

ASCA prides itself on maintaining a focus on our respective communities and the people we serve. To do that our conference program delivers a mixture of problem solving, targeted knowledge and experience together with events and activities designed to drive uptake of solutions where they meet the needs of the community and make sense:

- Have a robust financial model
- Are secure
- Build quality outcomes for the public realm.

Through our host city and state - Adelaide and South Australia - together with Telstra as naming rights sponsor and the high profile national and international sponsors and exhibitors we have successfully delivered on those objectives and plan to do this again in 2018.

Photos and videos are available on the conference website.

Summit vs Conference

	Delegates	Sponsors	Sponsor value	Exhibitors
2016	160	9	1	13
2017	360+	17	x302%	27

2018 Conference | 9-10 May | Melbourne

http://ascaconference.org.au

Naming rights sponsor

Host destination

Platinum

Gold

Silver

Investment attraction SA
Atos
Invest HK

Bronze

Esri Australia
Xandra
SunCentral

Welcome reception

University of Adelaide

Coffee cart

Fujitsu

The year ahead

2018 is looking like a great year for ASCA. Following an extensive search process, we have engaged our first CEO, Laurie Patton, who previously headed-up Internet Australia, the NFP peak group representing the interests of internet users. This appointment was a key element in the Board's strategy to grow the organisation and enhance our work to help make communities more liveable, more sustainable and more technologically empowered.

We are planning for an even more successful Australian Smart Communities Conference, after the impressive 2017 event attracted more than 360 delegates from around the country. The conference profit will greatly assist us to undertake our work on behalf of our members and stakeholders.

As we formulate our next five-year plan we welcome your views on the issues you feel we should focus on and how we can best provide valuable member services.

Over the next 12 months you can expect to see ASCA take a more prominent role in the debate about smart cities and we will expand our advocacy work with more interaction with all three levels of government, plus an increasing flow of information through the media.

We will strengthen our international profile and connections – to promote Australia's smart city expertise and attract the best smart city players from around the world.

This year we farewell Michael Whereat who is standing down from Board after seven years of great service and we are indebted to him for all his work. With Michael's departure we will see a new Board and along with our CEO the intention is to revisit our corporate structure and governance processes. The Board is mindful of the need for ongoing organisational renewal, including greater gender diversity and broadening our skills base.

All up, it is an exciting time to be involved with ASCA. If you are reading this and you or the organisation you represent is not already a member we urge you to join and play a role in our quest for *#SmarterCommunities*.

Income statement

For the year ended 30 June 2017

Income	2017	2016
Sale of goods	42,343.74	33,189.13
ASCA Guide advertising	2,272.73	-
Business & industry partners	65,177.27	1,200.00
Conference 2017	289,689.02	-
Conference sponsor 2017	158,172.73	-
Future Ready webinars	24,481.82	-
Interest income	0.03	-
Summit 2016	37.64	72,751.78
Summit Sponsorship	-	55,000
Total Income	**582,174.98**	**162,140.91**
Other income		
Other revenue	799.92	872.49
Total Other Income	**799.92**	**872.49**
Total income	**582,974.90**	**163,013.40**

Expenses	2017	2016
Travel and accommodation	1,855.48	4,671.11
Advertising	**-**	600.00
Bank fees	5,569.73	1,773.07
Communications employee – ASCA	9,010.00	1,275.00
Communications employee – Conference	10,962.50	-
Communications employee – Guide	2,837.50	-
Conference 2017 expenses	195,416.79	-
Conference speaker expenses	8,817.62	11,054.14
Consulting & accounting	62,081.16	11,204.54
Entertainment	141.00	520.51
Eventbrite fees	-	0.73
Freelancer	1,732.26	327.46
General expenses	158.61	146.36
Governance/Incorporation	47.00	45.41
Insurance	181.82	1,240.14
Insurance association liability	1,902.36	-
Interest expense	-	83.91
Printing & stationery	2,347.68	1,656.25

	2017	2016
Subcontractors	-	3,930.00
Subscriptions	-	124.50
Summit 2016 expense	-	78,916.06
Superannuation	2,720.30	1,571.79
Telephone & internet	854.25	612.19
Wages and salaries	28,635.00	16,545.00
Web program costs	2,876.46	2,894.89
Total expenses	**349,249.11**	**139,193.06**
Net income	**233,725.79**	**23,820.34**

Balance sheet

As at 30 June 2017

	30 June 2017	30 June 2016
Assets		
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	36,581.95	9,222.44
Broadband Alliance Inc	271,792.87	42,296.92
BTA credit card	(3,681.75)	(1,578.88)
Total current assets	**304,693.07**	**49,940.48**
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	1,155.42	1,155.42
Total non-current assets	**1,155.42**	**1,155.42**
Total assets	**305,848.49**	**51,095.90**
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
GST	18,971.83	1,414.44
ATO integrated account	-	**13.46**
PAYG withholdings payable	2,454.00	-
Rounding	(0.80)	(0.83)
Superannuation payable	1,343.76	314.92
Wages payable - payroll	(234.00)	(234.00)
Total current liabilities	**22,534.79**	**1,507.99**
Total liabilities	**22,534.79**	**1,507.99**
Net assets	**283,313.70**	**49,587.91**
Equity		
Retained earnings	283,313.70	49,587.91
Total equity	**283,313.70**	**49,587.91**

Financial statements prepared by Louise Nousala, Accounting Matters

Our team

Executive officers

President
Michael Whereat
Sunshine Coast Council

Vice President
Brook Dixon
Delos Delta

Secretary
Ray Heffernan
Broadband 4 Bush

Treasurer
Matthew Schultz
Ipswich City Council

Board members

Glenn Pomeroy
Smarter Bendigo

Daniel High
City of Perth

Peter Auhl
Adelaide City Council

Peter Runcie
Data 61

PO Box 288, Nambour QLD 4560

Phone: 0421 172 675

Email: admin@australiansmartcommunities.org.au

Social media

Web: www.australiansmartcommunities.org.au

Twitter: @AusSmartComms

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/australian-smart-communities-association

Events app my.yapp.us/ASCA

Australian Smart Communities Conference

Web: ascaconference.org.au

FB: www.facebook.com/australiansmartcommunitiesconference

App: my.yapp.us/ASCACONF