



SEGRA 2011

MEDIA RELEASE

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Attention News Editors / Chief of Staff
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IS REGIONAL AUSTRALIA WORTH PERSISTING WITH?

For a continent that has 85 per cent of its population living in 15 per cent of the landmass, the question stands unanswered, despite the inbuilt favouritism of the current minority government.

Speaking up for regional Australia is the ***Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia*** think-tank, which presents a stellar line-up of speakers for its annual conference in *Geelong, 25 – 27 October*.

Dedicated to vibrant and viable regions, SEGRA seeks to draw the political and public agenda to the pressing issues stressing regional and remote Australia, as well as the raft of opportunities that are embedded in non-metropolitan communities.

Linking policy, research and practice SEGRA's program highlights include:

The Hon. Simon Crean, Minister for Regional Australia

Senator Barnaby Joyce, Shadow Minister for Regional Australia

New Paradigms for Regions and their Cities

Mr Michael Knight, Senior Consultant, Pracsys

Taking advantage of high-speed fibre optic technology

Mr Mark Keil, Chief Information Officer, City of Chattanooga, USA

Future proofing your Region

Assoc. Prof Peter Waterman, University of Sunshine Coast

SEGRA is the only national forum dedicated to the conversation about regional Australia and celebrates its 15th year in Geelong, itself a remarkable case study of regional innovation and reinvention.

“For too long policy frameworks and funding arrangements have been an ad hoc patchwork, preventing regional Australia from realising it’s full potential,” said Ms Kate Charters, SEGRA Convenor.

“We believe the National Broadband will present some stunning opportunities for regional Australia.

“We are also very interested in discussion about the role of regional cities and the investment needed to build a network of cities that can support towns and communities across regional Australia,” said Ms Charters.

The full SEGRA conference program is available at www.segra.com.au

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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