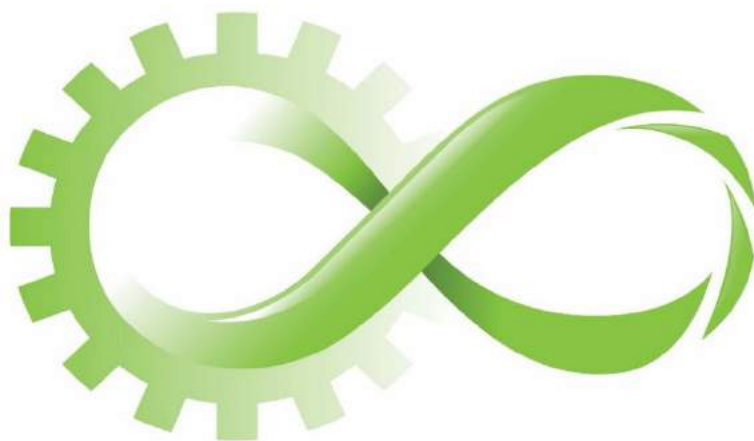


MEMBERS NOTES
ASSOCIATION OF LAND DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS INC
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER, 2022

ABN 79 863 308 424



**Association of
Land
Development
Engineers**

Our Objectives;

- ❖ *To provide a forum for professional engineering consultancies engaged in the land development industry (“the consultancies”) and to represent the interests of the Consultancies in negotiations with all forms of Government and Semi Government authorities and any other bodies organisations or entities involved in the development and implementation of systems, methods and controls for the improvement of procedures and professional services within the land development industry;*
- ❖ *To foster, promote and enhance the standing of Consultancies within the community generally and with all forms of Government, Semi Government authorities, bodies, organisations and entities with whom Consultancies deal;*
- ❖ *To develop and encourage educational and technical standards, skills and professional standards generally within the land development industry;*
- ❖ *To raise funds by lawful means for the implementation of these objectives.*

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OUR MISSION:

TO REPRESENT THE VOICE OF OUR
CONSULTANCY MEMBERS, TO RAISE THE
PROFILE OF OUR PROFESSION AND GUIDE
THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS.

OUR VISION:

TO BE THE NATIONAL PEAK BODY FOR
LAND DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERING.

Agenda

**Annual General Meeting No. 28
Tuesday, 6th September, 2022**

Commencing 5:45pm for a 6:00pm start

1. Opening & Presidents Report – Sehon Pellew (see page 9 of booklet)
2. Apologies
3. Confirm Meeting Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting No 27
4. Treasurer’s Report – Gordon Templeton
Presentation of Financial statements made by Trident Financial Services
Adoption of Financial Statements
5. Special Business
Reading & Voting on the Motions (see pages 4 – 7 of booklet)

ALDE Annual General Meeting 6th September 2022

Motions for Consideration

Purpose

Clarification in wording to reflect the intent of existing membership categories, and the inclusion of a new categories.

Motion 1:- Changes to membership type and eligibility of Model Rules of Association, and correction of numbering as highlighted in red text below.

8 Membership Type and Eligibility

Membership with the Association is based on the following categories:-

Company, Individual, Student, Sustaining, Honorary and Associate

8.1 Company Membership.

A company employing persons who are eligible to be Members of the Institution of Engineers and/or are engaged on a consultancy basis in providing expertise and services as engineering consultants to the Land Development Industry at large and who are nominated and approved for Membership as provided in these Rules.

A Company which applies and is approved for membership as provided in these Rules is eligible to be a member of the Association on payment of the entrance fee and annual subscription as outlined in Appendix 4 “Schedule of Fees” (attached).

8.2 Individual Membership.

An individual who is eligible to be a Member of the Institution of Engineers and/or is engaged on a consultancy basis in providing expertise and services as an engineering consultant to the Land Development Industry at large and who is nominated and approved for Membership as provided in these Rules and not an employee of a company eligible to be a Company Member or Sustaining Member.

An Individual Member must be over the age of 18 years

An Individual who applies and is approved for membership as provided in these Rules is eligible to be a member of the Association on payment of the entrance fee and annual subscription as outlined in Appendix 4 “Schedule of Fees” (attached).

8.3 Student Membership.

A student who is eligible to be a member of the Institution of Engineers and is currently undertaking a diploma / degree of Civil Engineering who applies and is approved for membership as provided in these Rules is eligible to be a member of the Association on payment of the entrance fee and annual subscription as outlined in Appendix 4 “Schedule of Fees” (attached).

A Student Member must be over the age of 18 years

8.4 Sustaining Membership

Sustaining Members are a financial sponsor of ALDE and can be an Authority, a private or public company or an individual providing goods and / or services to the land development industry.

A Sustaining Member who applies and is approved for membership as provided in these Rules is eligible to be a Sustaining Member of the Association on payment of the entrance fee and annual subscription as outlined in Appendix 4 “Schedule of Fees” (attached)

8.5 Honorary Membership

Persons who have received **an award from the Association**, either the Bill Foley Award or the ALDE Recognition Award, automatically become Honorary members of the Association.

A Honorary Member shall be entitled to all the privileges and be subject to all the duties of a full Member Firm representative during his or her life without any further payment, annual or otherwise of any subscription provided however that on retirement from practice he or she shall not be entitled to any voting rights, but shall be entitled to hold a position on the Board.

8.6 Associate Membership

An Associate Member is a free membership that offers information transfer to like associations, such as CCF, UDIA, IPWEA, CPAA, etc.

Membership is at an organisational level, not an individual and there are no reciprocal rights to the organisation’s members to other Association of Land Development Engineers membership entitlements or benefits.

Motion 1 (continued)

13 General rights of members

- (1) A member of the Association who is entitled to vote has the right—
- (a) to receive notice of general meetings and of proposed special resolutions in the manner and time prescribed by these Rules; and
 - (b) to submit items of business for consideration at a general meeting; and
 - (c) to attend and be heard at general meetings; and
 - (d) to vote at a general meeting; and
 - (e) to have access to the minutes of general meetings and other documents of the Association as provided under rule 75; and
 - (f) to inspect the register of members.
- (2) A member is entitled to vote if—
- (a) the member is a member other than an associate member, **a student member, or a sustaining member**; and
 - (b) the membership fee, if any, has been paid; and
 - (c) more than 10 business days have passed since he or she became a member of the Association; and 10
 - (d) the member's membership rights are not suspended for any reason.

14 **Not Used**

~~14—Associate members~~

- ~~(1)Associate members of the Association include—(a)any members under the age of 15 years; and(b)any other category of member as determined by special resolution at a general meeting.(2)An associate member must not vote but may have other rights as determined by the Executive Committee or by resolution at a general meeting.~~

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Adopted: Yes / No

Motion 2:- Changes to who is eligible to be a committee member, as highlighted in red text below

49 Who is eligible to be a Committee member?

A member is eligible to be elected or appointed as a committee member if the member—

- (a) is 18 years or over; and
- (b) is entitled to vote at a general meeting; and
- (c) has held a membership for more than 12 months, or
- (d) is appointed by the Executive Committee.

A Committee Member could be a delegation of no more than two people from the Member Company acting as an individual Committee member and entitled to one vote between them.

Moved: _____

Seconded: _____

Adopted: Yes / No

6. Election of Office Bearers
Declaration of all positions open
Announcement of nominations received

Executive Committee

Sehon Pellew (Millar Merrigan) - President
Gordon Templeton (Reeds Consulting) - Treasurer
Mark Fleming (SPIIRE) - Secretary
Tony Ilijoski (Urban Design & Management)
Adam King (Breese Pitt Dixon)
Anthony O'Dwyer (Taylors)
Anthony Grodzki (Urban Design & Management)
Craig Doubleday (Beveridge Williams)
Quok Ho (Precinct)
David Cameron (Spiire)
Rod Jackson (Calibre) – Immediate Past President
Chris Cathcart (SMEC)

Sub Committee

Jamie Tainton (Afflux) Hydraulic Services
Julian Farrugia (Urban Design & Management) YEILD & Training
Michael Millier (Colliers) Local Government

Confirmation of Nominations.

7. Closing Comments, Q&A, Meeting Close

Presidents Report – Sehon Pellew

COVID—to ignore it is to pretend that we are in a post COVID world. But what is a COVID normal world?

Since last year's online AGM where I came in as President of ALDE, we emerged from lockdown, and we were fortunate to be able to hold our Annual Christmas Dinner in person. What a treat, given the many months we spent indoors.

Something we had all been experiencing, given the level of government stimulus during the lockdowns, was that we were increasingly stretched due to the high levels of demand in housing. Many of us were surprised when figures from UDIA confirmed exactly what we were feeling; that lot production was nearly 2.5-3 times that of the previous year!

With ALDE members designing and project managing at least 95% of greenfield subdivision development activity in Melbourne's growth areas, and over 90% across Victoria, this spoke to why so many of us were feeling stretched to deliver. With this growth, the struggle was evident with a technical skills shortage, and the growing knowledge gaps, due to lack of experience within our businesses and the wider land development industry.

Regional development experienced a surge like we have not experienced before, as home buyers sought the 'tree change' that working remotely could now provide, and larger property sizes at an affordable price point could accommodate. Low interest rates were here to stay, or so the Reserve Bank of Australia told us.

Government assistance was integral in the land development industry continuing to operate throughout the last of our lockdowns, and the support of our general membership continued to be resolute as we were weaned off government stimulus with the association in a generally a strong financial position.

During this time, the Executive Committee had to ensure that the information and knowledge that traditionally would come from our member forums meetings could be done using online meetings and presentations. This was a learning curve, and something that the association now has the capability of providing to our members who are not able to attend events in person. The land development industry is one that should be celebrated for its achievements, playing such an integral part in the national economy.

We have often heard that our industry does not have the visibility of some of the other engineering disciplines. The Association was proud to have been able to host our inaugural **ALDE Industry Awards** during this financial year. This initiative is important to growing the professionalism that our member companies are delivering to their clients and staff.

The return of the **E-Conduit** in a monthly newsletter format that is distributed not only to our mailing list but also on LinkedIn aims to further grow our reach as an industry to attract talented individuals.

At the start of the year, we held the **Leadership Luncheon** in February, which was slated as one of three events. The discussions coming out of this event were surrounding the urgency for diversity in the land development sector being critical due to the challenges currently facing the industry, and the different skillsets required for the vast range of roles; from graduates, to managers at all levels, and the many roles in between. The urgent need to develop our next frontline of leaders set the tone for what was to follow during the year.

We were able to commence the **Mentoring Program** for young professionals, with several members of the Board participating as mentors. This is a program that we will look to build upon, to further develop the skills within the industry.

The **Female Observership Program** was another initiative that sought to increase representation of women on the Executive Committee and in the industry in general, the input from the female observers participating in the board meetings is welcomed to ensure that we have a wider lens on the industry.

We have been able to have some mature forums around diversity and inclusion facilitated by the Diversity and Inclusion sub-committee. Additionally the Yield sub committee recently held a workshop on mental health, something that is not often talked about, especially in male dominated industries like land development. Both of these events were very well received.

The **Geelong sub-committee** has held a series of presentations on various topics of interest. There is a high level of engagement from authorities within the region, and that is testament to the hard work of the sub-committee. All of this intertwined with our stable of usual events; the Fine Food & Wine function incorporating the Awards presentation, the Golf Challenge and Member Forums has seen a very busy period for the ALDE team.

Registration of Engineers, something that should have been celebrated, looks to bring about a degree of uncertainty in terms of our operations, and the impact it will have on our industry. The Executive Committee will look to provide advice to members in the implementation as regulations are being implemented and released, we are understanding that this does have the potential to heighten the shortage in qualified staff for our member consultancies. The opportunity that registration of engineers can provide to our industry is the recognition of the standing of what an engineer provides to a project, the regulation of engineering will be discussed on a wider basis.

To close, I would like to thank the Executive Committee and the various sub-committees for their tireless work given the frenetic pace we have been experiencing within the industry. This work is carried out by members on a volunteer basis, and often in their own personal time. The support that they provide to the organisation, together with our Executive Officer Karen Leoncelli, ensures that the Association goes from strength to strength as we navigate the changes within the industry.

Wishing you our members the very best for a successful financial year ahead.



Sehon Pellew
President

Minutes of Meeting

Annual General Meeting No. 27 Held Tuesday, 14th September, 2021

Virtual meeting due to Covid-19 restrictions

1. Opening & Presidents Report – Rod Jackson
(from the Members report)
Acknowledgement of Country.
Acknowledgement of past presidents in attendance:- John Prentice, Gordon Templeton,
Mark Whalen, Darren Powell, Mark Fleming
2. Apologies
None received.
3. Confirm Meeting Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting No 26
Moved:- Tony Ilijoski Seconded:- Mark Fleming
4. Treasurer’s Report – Gordon Templeton (per Members report)
Presentation of Financial statements
Adoption of Financial Statements
Moved: Gordon Templeton Seconded: Quok Ho
5. Special Business
Reading & Voting on the Motions (if any received)
None received

6. Election of Office Bearers

Declaration of all positions open

Announcement of nominations received

- Sehon Pellew (Millar Merrigan) - President
- Gordon Templeton (Reeds Consulting) - Treasurer
- Mark Fleming (Stantec)
- Tony Ilijoski (Charter Keck Cramer)
- Adam King (Breese Pitt Dixon)
- Anthony O'Dwyer (Taylors)
- Anthony Grodzki (Urban Design & Management)
- Craig Doubleday (Beveridge Williams)
- Quok Ho (Precinct)
- David Cameron (Spiire)
- Rod Jackson (Calibre) – Immediate Past President
- Chris Cathcart (SMEC)

Confirmation of Nominations.

All accepted their nominations and Sehon took the chair and thanked all for their support.

In particularly thank you to John Yalden to his many years of service, 8 years.

Sehon's acceptance speech:-

Good evening fellow Members.

I am truly honored to have been selected as the President for the incoming term. I would like to express my gratitude to the Executive Committee and Karen Leoncelli for their continued support.

Executive Members;

- Rodney Jackson - President
- Mark Fleming - Secretary
- Gordon Templeton - Treasurer

Ordinary Members;

- David Cameron
- Anthony Grodzki
- Adam King
- Tony Ilijoski

- Quok-yeong Ho, and lastly
- John Yalden (who has stepped down from the committee after 8 years of service)

I hereby accept the honor of being your President.

I am pleased tonight that we have so many members in attendance despite the circumstances that restrict this from being an in-person event. I am deeply touched by your presence, thank you again!

Let me introduce myself to those that are hearing me speak for the first time.

My name is Sehon Pellew, and I have been within the land development industry for 18 years, I started attending ALDE member forums and events as a graduate at KLM Spatial, where I worked under the tutelage of Rud Lindley and Carol Gaulke for close to 12 years and developed a sound grounding in the land development process and navigating negotiations with authorities. In 2015 I moved onto SMEC where I had the privilege of working with past ALDE President's John Maxwell, Darren Powell and Stephen Watters amongst others that have made notable contributions to the land development industry as a whole throughout the years. At SMEC I started increasingly getting involved with ALDE by assisting then President Stephen Watters through attendance at industry workshops or meetings which later culminated in my nomination to the ALDE Executive Committee and subsequently becoming ALDE Vice President. Currently, I am now at Millar | Merrigan as the General Manager of Operations.

I am excited for what the future brings as an association and the land development industry.

Whilst we face numerous challenges ahead, this also brings opportunities. I believe that ALDE needs not only to keep pace with but—to lead the way—in skilling up our industry, communicating with our members and providing greater benefits for them at all stages and levels of their careers. Anyone who has worked with me can tell you, that I am a big believer in encouraging people to get the best out of themselves. Diversity and inclusion has been talked about for some time as a goal, but let's start working to turn this commitment into practical changes, so that every single member feels welcome and can flourish to their highest potential.

We cannot walk alone, as we have much work to do. We have a lot of exciting initiatives that we are currently working on for next year and would love to have as many of you get involved with ALDE, there will be more information forthcoming on joining our sub committees which is open to everyone.

Thank you again.

Sehon Pellew
President

7. Closing Comments, Q&A, Meeting Close

Mark Fleming – Thank you to Rod – stepping down – what a shit time to be president, combined with the pressures of work and the pandemic. Happy to hand over the title of Immediate Past President, the workload may be greater!

Rod Jackson – for the younger members on the meeting – thank you for being part of it and please try to get your younger members involved – this really opens doors for you and helps you develop as a professional. We are here to create new experiences.

Neville – congratulations to Sehon, Rod & Gordon.

Meeting closed at 6.24pm

Signed:



Karen Leoncelli,
Executive Officer



Rod Jackson
Outgoing President



Sehon Pellew
Incoming President

Treasurers Report – Gordon Templeton

I have pleasure in presenting the Independently Reviewed Year End accounts for the Financial Year 2021/22.

Our financial goals are centered around the Association of Land Development objectives as stated in our Articles of Association and we acknowledge that we are guardians of the funds that our members provide and strive always to get the best value for money while providing opportunities to attend different venues.

For the benefit of members, we have prepared a printed detailed handout including our financial reports. Members can easily see where the money has come from, and where it has been spent.

During the 2021/22 year, we have continued to enhance our use of the new accounting software, creating a more automated system which has greatly improved the amount of time spent preparing reports and the like. Alongside our Accounting firm Trident, we are regularly reviewing and refining our financial records and the way they are being reported. Additionally we have begun to utilize the Budgeting and forecasting capabilities within Xero to provide a more detailed cashflow analysis and reporting to the Board

The ALDE Board has continued to review its operations, with the “war chest” growing ever so slightly, which will be used for the promotion and furtherment of the Association and its goals, not limited to but including a possible conference in 2023.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been an ongoing challenge for the Association and our members as we all endure what is a world altering pandemic.

While we have been able to hold a few in person events over the last year, we have continued to use of LinkedIn and have created a series of virtual meetings which we see continuing into the future. Please refer to the Media report for further details.

For the financial year 2021/22, the Profit & Loss Statement shows that the Association of Land Development Engineers Inc. has resulted in a loss of \$5,497 compared to last year’s surplus of \$73,280. This is mainly due to the increased outgoings related to events. The Balance Sheet shows that cash at bank and fixed deposits amounts to \$189,823. That is the end of year financial position, meaning that is what we bring through with us to the new year. Our financial position remains strong.

INCOME

From the Profit & Loss report, you can see our income sits at \$280,793, of which \$198,050 is received from Membership (both General and Sustaining). The majority of our income comes from our membership base. While we are always looking for ways to set up additional income streams, we currently rely on membership, some small income from our term deposits and support through sponsorship for our events.

Sponsorship this year was up this year to \$26,436 compared to \$-92 in the 2020/21 year. Interestingly Event Attendance showed a slight increase from \$36,691 to \$55,903 which shows the level of support received for the few events that we managed to get across the line. We still receive, and truly appreciate, the support from our few regular General Member and Sustaining Member sponsors; however we would love to see an increase level of sponsorship especially for our Golf Day. We strive to use venues that are unique and unusual and not in the “mainstream” industry use. But to continue to do so requires support and sponsorship from not only our Sustaining Members, but also you, our General Membership.

EXPENDITURE

In the 2019/20 financial year we decided to report our expenditure in two separate categories in line with the Xero format, those that are fixed and essential for the running of the Association, and those that are related to the running of events and functions (cost of sales). We continue reporting in this way and this is showing good stability.

The regular office expenses such as salaries, rent, telephone, insurance, superannuation, postage, stationery, subscriptions, and bank charges etc are shown in the Profit & Loss Statement. These expenses are unavoidable, but we are regularly reviewing these items to keep them as low as possible.

The 2021/22 financial year expenses as shown in the Profit & Loss report is \$286,290 which is an increase when compared to the 20/21 year of \$200,980. An amount of \$167,316 of the expenses is related to the Events, which is up from last year's amount of \$83,989. Much of this cost is related to deposits for future functions in the coming year. Marketing and promotion has increased to \$2,173 this year with the last financial year showing zero.

COVID-19 continues to have some impact on our face to face events, the impact on the 2020/21 year was the inability to run our AGM in person, and the majority of our scheduled Kooyong meetings being covered by virtual events. We were lucky enough to be able to hold our Winslow supported Golf Day and our annual Christmas dinner with good attendance despite the uncertainty of Covid restrictions. The COVID-19 impact is becoming less and we are hopeful of being able to provide a full calendar of in person events in the coming year.

LIABILITIES

In the Liabilities section (Employee entitlements) of the Balance Sheet, Annual Leave shows a provision of \$9,348 which is a slight reduction from 20/21 year showing \$12,664, and we expect to reduce this over the Christmas break and into the New Year.

The 2021/22 budget process follows the path which was introduced approximately 16 years ago using an Excel spreadsheet. This is somewhat onerous to regularly revise and update, however, along with reports generated by Xero, it provides an instant way to check and balance the figures, keeping the Board better informed regarding the detail of all income and expenditure, basically as & when it occurs, and this will enable us to plan more accurately. This year we are introducing Xero budget reporting and forecasting which will provide an even stronger view moving forward.

It is exciting to bring the Association into the new financial year in such a strong position, albeit somewhat cautiously given the continuing Covid situation.



Gordon Templeton
Treasurer

Subcommittee Reports

Media & Communications – Sehon Pellew, Gordon Templeton, Quok Ho, Karen Leoncelli

With COVID-19 lockdowns lifted, the Association of Land Development Engineers (ALDE) were eager to get back to face to face events. And with COVID-19 pushing the world into communicating digitally, ALDE approached this year with a new media and communications strategy involving both face-to-face advertising as well as increasing its digital exposure to its members via email newsletters and online portals such as the website and LinkedIn.

With the understanding that some members are still nervous about face-to-face events, ALDE has invested in better recording equipment to ensure that all members can access and view General Forums in the safety of their own home.

The Communications Matrix continues to be adapted to suit the current climate and has included several events hosted by both sub-committees of Young Engineers in Land Development (YEILD) and Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) along with our Member Forum guest speakers. The Matrix continues to be successful at planning our events and providing opportunities for our sponsors to be involved.

With the revamped monthly newsletter, engagement rate is at 46% of membership base of 336 subscribers, with new subscribers joining every month. Our LinkedIn page has seen a tremendous increase in traffic and engagement over the past year, with close to 1,700 page views and gaining 194 new followers on LinkedIn this year, an average of 16 followers per month.

Event attendance in the last financial year has been up and down with last minute attendees cancelling due to COVID. Generally the ALDE Golf Day, and the various events held by YEILD and D&I, have received high attention with most events being sold out. Attendance to events and post event surveys will continue to be issued and recorded.

We look forward to working closely with the various ALDE sub-committees to assist us with news releases. If you are a passionate general member who is also keen to join the media and communications subgroup please get in contact.

Safety & Environment – Adam King, Craig Doubleday, Sehon Pellew, Shankar Tisseverasinghe, Sehon Pellew & Travis Shreeve

This committee aims to collate & distribute relevant information to our member companies such that they can continue to keep up to date with the latest changes in both safety & environmental legislation, guidance, and best practice.

Over the past 12 months, ALDE has worked to update the Safety Handbook which was last published in 2018. This will be supplied to ALDE member companies in the coming months.

Thank you to those companies who have financially supported the revamp of the Safety Booklet:-

- Cossill Webley
- SPIIRE
- Creo Consultants
- Millar | Merrigan
- Calibre Group
- Colliers Engineering & Design
- KLM Spatial
- Taylors Development Strategists
- GHD
- Precinct Land Consultants
- Urban Design & Management
- Dalton Consulting Engineers
- Reeds Consulting
- Tomkinson
- Paroissien Grant & Assoc
- SMEC
- Beveridge Williams
- Breese Pitt Dixon

The Safety & Environment committee also held a Member Forum in March on a Trench Safety Alert from South East Water, together with a presentation from the Australian Contaminated Land Consultants Association.

The committee has also provided advice to the industry on the following through The Conduit:

- Update on working with Crystalline Silica Dust
- APA Gas Safety Awareness Update
- Naturally Occurring Nickel on Greenfield Sites
- Live 22kV Cable Cut – Safety Alert
- South East Water Safety Alert – Unsupported Trenches
- VPA Sodic & Dispersive Soils

Diversity & Inclusion – Elsa Allen, Rod Jackson

This sub-committee was formed in 2019 to support the Association of Land Development Engineers to build an inclusive and diverse industry. The committee's aim is to promote D&I initiatives within the member organisations, so individuals feel welcomed to the industry, and to provide support via networking opportunities and via social media.

SMEC hosted the D&I sub-committee's annual panel discussion event was on the 17th of August for 60 people attending from 17 member organisations. Our three panel members, Lindsey Brown, Niki Brown (nee Hendrikson) and Chris Gallagher, offered great insight to build the confidence of the audience through sharing times in their careers where they've had to be brave, take risks and operate outside their comfort zone. Feedback from the event has been very positive:-

"It was great to hear the varied & diverse responses of panelists, as well as the similarities in their experiences throughout their careers. I found Chris to be highly relatable and Lindsey & Nikki very engaging"

"I enjoyed the radical candor of all 3 panelists"

The committee aims to:

- Work with ALDE to promote and consider diversity and inclusion at ALDE events
- Increase cultural awareness by acknowledging a diverse range of cultural celebrations and special occasions during the year
- Promote STEM careers to those who identify as women and support those already in the Land Development industry
- Promote D&I initiatives within the ALDE member companies
- Continue to track attendance at ALDE events to build on existing data

A review of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives for Member Companies is continuing. This research will be used to give a snapshot of female participation in the industry.

We're seeking new members in 2022/23 and encourage the Executive Board members to plant the seed in young and emerging work colleagues to take up Sub-committee positions at ALDE

Governance - Mark Fleming, Gordon Templeton, Karen Leoncelli

For the first time in three years, we are able to host the AGM face to face here at the Winehouse in Melbourne.

This time last year Sehon Pellew (Miller and Merrigan) was nominated by our members as our President. It has no doubt been a journey for Sehon but he hit the ground running with a range of new initiatives and a renewed enthusiasm for what ALDE can achieve.

A number of new initiatives have been implemented over the past year. The Executive Committee has introduced a Female Observer Program whereby young women in our industry can be given the opportunity to attend our executive meetings to witness the discussions and dialogue of the committee in person. The hope is that this will help foster and interest from women in playing a greater role in the running of ALDE.

Sehon launched his Leadership Lunch series with some success, and we have also implemented a Mentor Program with Executive members giving back to the industry in a different, more personal way.

Tonight, we consider some amendments to our Rules of the Association. These are aimed at improving our governance of ALDE, clarifying some rights and benefits of various types of memberships, and adding a membership category allowing other associations such as UDIA, ACSV and CCF to join ALDE as associate members.

Even though social restrictions have eased, we have continued to run our Executive meetings virtually, using Microsoft Teams. The efficiencies gained using virtual meetings has been significant. We have saved time, cost and carbon emissions, our meetings start on time and our attendance is better than ever.

Work is underway to ensure the Awards will be back next year, possibly as a part of an ALDE Conference! Detailed discussions on costs, budget allocations and benefits are already underway.

Governance remains high on our agenda, and your Association is continuing to evolve as best practice and member expectations change over time.

Future Directions – Sehon Pellew, Quok Ho, Gordon Templeton, Karen Leoncelli

The Future Directions subcommittee takes its lead in part from the Strategic planning sessions that are undertaken periodically along with directions from the Board.

Our last Strategic Review took place in 2020, the continued development of our web site is an important instrument identified and requires the next phase of work to bring the website into alignments with our current requirements. This includes updates to the use of various communication mediums to reach our audience being email, e-newsletter, LinkedIn and in person events.

From the 2020 session, the key elements were Leadership, Value Proposition, Diversity and Resourcing and while a number of these elements do require in person events the Board's actions over the last year have been to support and foster the majority of these key elements. Within the key elements there are initiatives that include, facilitating think tanks, review and strengthen strategic partnerships, develop a plan to become a national peak body, develop leading edge training programs, continue to encourage YEILD and the DI subcommittee's to be an integral part of ALDE, increase revenue to fund a bigger and better ALDE.

We are continuing with the strategic planning objectives and following the member survey results in July this year will host Member forums in different locations within Melbourne and Regional Victoria and have these recorded. The creation of a conference that brings our thought processes into the future was supported by members where we look to include the Awards for Excellence at a location outside of the Melbourne CBD.

One of the main objectives for the Future Directions Sub-committee will be working on an increased presence using a partnership approach into regional Victoria. In which we have had considerable success with Geelong now well established and Gippsland beginning to become known within the region.

With Registration of Engineers set to be mandatory for our industry, we look to increase our profile with the provision of appropriate training courses, in conjunction with our Training Sub Committee and incorporating a higher presentation standard within our General Meetings which will all provide CPD points (Continuing Professional Development) to those attending.

YEiLD – Quok Ho, Josh Rock

The YEiLD committee has continued in its endeavors to host networking and technical events over the last 12 months. Since the last AGM we have been able to strengthen relationships throughout the industry and have run a wide variety of events.

In March we ran a trivia night with around 100 attendees, this number was consistent with previous held YEiLD social events.

We have also been successful in hosting educational events with Iplex and Intelligent Water Network (IWN), as well as a mental health event with Outside the Locker Room (OTLR). Feedback from our events has been positive and we will continue to ask and listen to our attendees as to what type of events they want to attend.

We have in planning a careers night, to hear from well-respected and experienced industry peers on their career journeys and lessons they have learned along their way.

We will close the year out with a social lawn bowls evening to allow our membership to relax and make new connections.

In the last 12 months we focused on increasing our sponsorship base with success, which has enabled us to deliver cost effective events for our attendees and their companies. Moving into 2023 we will continue to seek further sponsorship opportunities, which will allow us to focus on running our social and technical events for all our members at reasonable prices.

The YEiLD committee would like to encourage all members to support YEiLD members to attend YEiLD and ALDE events to continue to increase engagement. We would also like to thank ALDE for their continued support.

Professional Practice Subcommittee – Mark Fleming, Rod Jackson

This year has been all about Registration of Engineers.

To help get ready for the impending legislation, the professional practice team organised for Engineers Australia to present at our May member forum at Kooyong. The presentation by Louis Field was honest and insightful and, pleasingly, very well received. It prompted many conversations immediately after the meeting and has paved the way for further conversations between ALDE and the various authorities attending that evening.

Since then, each of us within our own businesses have been busy ensuring our staff eligible for registration, get that process underway. This has been a huge effort.

With the due date almost upon us (1st October 2022), we are now beginning to hear from the authorities on what their expectations are regarding registration.

A number of regional authorities have announced that they expect designers submitting sewer and water plans to be Registered Engineers. Disappointingly, we have seen a move by the MRWAs, led by South East Water, to still require accredited key personnel to be hold their DAS accreditation, which is fine by ALDE. But they are also proposing that Registration become another pre-requisite to remain listed as key personnel.

The ALDE Executive has discussed this matter at length and believe that this approach is onerous, and would result in many very competent sewer and water key personnel being struck off the list.

ALDE would prefer the approach that the drawings are checked by a DAS accredited designer and approved by a Registered Engineer. We are deep in discussions with South East Water and the other MRWAs and will continue to press our case.

We have heard virtually nothing from the local government sector, but are very interested in how they see their role as approvers of the plans under the Subdivision Act and our role as Design Engineers.

Training Subcommittee – Julian Farrugia, Chris Cathcart, Mark Fleming, Sehon Pellew, Kim Dinh, Shuiyan Li & Daniel Barnes

The ALDE Training Subcommittee has grown to a team of 7 passionate and hard-working members.

Over the past year, we have developed a partnership between ALDE and ISCDT (12D Solution's training arm) to develop a Road Design Fundamentals Training Program. The course is designed to upskill land development engineers in the 12D design software, whilst supplementing the training with the key design inputs and engineering principals required for land development in Victoria. To date, the training delivered by 12D and other software providers has been fairly generic and not really tailored to the land development industry.

The initial training program, we are working through is entry level subdivision functional road design, with the intention to expand into other areas of land development (drainage and intersection design, etc). The course also has the potential to be expanded to universities and be linked to CPD and/or formal accreditation.

The expectation is that, ultimately, we will raise the level of knowledge, improve consistency and quality across the industry. We anticipate rolling out this course to our members and wider Land Development industry at the beginning of next year.

Local Government – Rod Jackson, Anthony Grodzki, Quok Ho

IDM

With COVID restrictions being lifted, the IDM Technical Committee meetings returned back in physical form at Whitehaven Receptions in Whittlesea. This was greeted with much excitement amongst the IDM Councils, as colleagues were able to meet with each other face-to-face after 2yrs of virtual meetings. The topic of discussion that has been on the forefront of each quarterly agenda recently has been regarding the State Government's decision on requiring all engineers to be registered and its impact on Council engineers.

The new ARnR standards for flood modelling and stormwater management also continues to be discussed amongst Council members, as well as how the interpretation of the new standards should be applied within the IDM design guidelines.

ALDE continues to support the IDM Technical Committee, providing technical support and advice where necessary, and collaborating to provide a robust technical design manual that is practical to both consultants and Councils.

EDCM

Much of the focus of the Local Government Committee for the past 12 months has been the continuance of the VPA-facilitated Engineering Design and Construction Manual (EDCM) Technical Review Committee. It is ALDE's strong policy position that the EDCM Review Committee is an important part of the functioning of the EDCM, and the EDCM must be reviewed and updated on a regular basis to ensure the best engineering outcomes can be achieved with greatest clarity for engineering designers consistently across the growth areas of Melbourne.

Whilst ALDE remain members of this important committee, only a few meetings have been held due to lack of commitment from the 8 growth municipalities involved and availability of the council officers. ALDE has been working with the UDIA Greenfield Committee in lobbying the VPA for more regular meetings and the revival of the technical standards committee. However meetings have been irregular and unfortunately not well attended. We recently lobbied successfully to arrange an emergency meeting of the committee to address the current issues with supply of concrete pipes in Melbourne and Victoria. This meeting will be held in the late September, with the aim of gaining short term approval to use alternative pipe products.

Various EDCM sub-committees have been formed including a committee to review Sodic Soils and a Green Streets Committee to improve street tree canopy policy.

In relation to Sodic soils, this committee was formed with ALDE involvement; sodic soils recognised as a significant problem, particularly in the north and west of Melbourne. In coming months this committee will be briefed by soil experts. It is the intention of the committee to provide practical and prescriptive solutions for treatment sodic soils for potential inclusion into the EDCM.

On the local council level, ALDE has responded to Wyndham City Council on both their review of General Specifications and updates to their Style Guide. The position of ALDE remains that any amendments, specifications, or processes be developed via the EDCM committee with appreciate input form industry bodies throughout the process.

A joint letter signed by CEO's of ALDE, CCF and UDIA was issued to Wyndham advising that this is a common position of the peak industry bodies. Although Wyndham proceeded with their review, the outcome benefited from ALDE's involvement in that several of Wyndham's proposed amendments did not proceed to the final version.

Power & Communications / Energy and Telecom's– Anthony Grodzki, Tony Ilijoski

The Electrical sub-committee has been involved in another busy year for 2022 and ALDE would like to acknowledge the ongoing collaboration of all the distribution business' over the past year and their commitment to continuous improvement.

Following the rollout of the URD 'Design & Construction Manual' in May 2021, the ongoing work of technical committee involved in the 'Technical Standard Working Group' has seen a review of the standard which was followed by the release of 'Version 3' published in late June. This continues to be a positive outcome for industry, and ALDE is delighted with the achievements in the latest updated.

Improvements to the standard include:

- The standard is a single dedicated document with common design and construction requirements across all five DBs. It should be noted however that for some DB specific requirements (such as kiosk reserves sizes, earthing, etc), the VESI URD Standard refers back to DB specific standards.
- The Standard has been updated to improve topics that were unclear, open to interpretation, not mentioned or extremely challenging to implement.
- In some instances, diagrams have been updated to support the text within the standards, to help remove confusion.
- Construction tolerances have been amended to provide flexibility for real world application i.e. service pit maximum offset changed from 300mm to 400mm.
- Minor updates through document to add clarity where required.

The next twelve months will likely see further refinements to the updated URD standard.

Further amendments to the Powercor auditing process are well underway, and ALDE will continue to represent the land development industry regarding changes to the compliance audit process for medium density sites and provide further updates on the rollout of REFCL isolating transformers.

Hydraulic Services – Adam King, Gordon Templeton, Anthony O’Dwyer, Chris Cathcart, John Koehler & Peter Skinner

This committee aims to proactively engage with the Melbourne Retail Water Authorities to standardise processes and improve design & construction standards.

Over the past 12 months, ALDE has been able to arrange regular meeting with each of the water authorities.

This has led to ALDE being asked to provide feedback on a number of changes that have affected our consultant members, such as:-

- the update to Greater Western Water’s accreditation deeds,
- Yarra Valley Water’s change to their process for unclaimed securities; and
- the Melbourne Retail Water Authorities shared asset tendering notice.

The committee has advocated heavily for a reasonable interpretation of the Professional Engineers Registration Act that provides a clear framework for member companies, have prompted Yarra Valley Water to update their design principles and has been able to get improvement on the timeliness of ARCUS responses.

Geelong & Gippsland Regional Committee – Tom Moorcroft, Narelle Hahn

A key part of the strategic planning for ALDE was to establish a presence in Regional Victoria. Given the significant land development occurring within these areas, ALDE has been part of the strategy of developing a framework for consultants and authorities alike, to both provide and facilitate events and learning opportunities.

The **Geelong subcommittee** has been running for a few years now and benefits from having water authority representation on the committee to further cultivate the connections with authorities.

The committee hosted a few online industry presentations. These were very well attended, and the recording was later circulated through the E-Conduit newsletter to the overall ALDE membership. This was a great outcome in terms of how we can knowledge share.

The **Gippsland subcommittee**, although a relatively new committee, has been actively trying to engage with the authorities within the Gippsland region to raise awareness of ALDE, and our representation of the interests of our members.

The Gippsland Subcommittee recently held a planning session with guest John Mitchell, the current chair of The Gippsland Regional Executive Forum (GREF). The committee were able to gain insights on future collaboration with the various forums that undertake professional development, and advocate for regional investment, policy and frameworks.

There's a lot happening in the Gippsland region in the near future, especially as it is one of the four hubs for the 2026 Commonwealth Games. The ALDE Gippsland Subcommittee is working to establish a combined presence for land development engineers to engage with authorities within the region moving forward.

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