



admin@mda.asn.au  
www.mda.asn.au  
T (03) 5480 3805  
ABN: 64 636 490 493

Level 1, 250 Anstruther St  
P.O. Box 1268  
Echuca, Vic 3564

## MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 5 May 2021

---

### MDA 77<sup>th</sup> National Conference & AGM – Release of Meeting Agenda

---

This year's MDA National Conference & AGM is without question one of the strongest programs the MDA has presented in its 77 year history.

Building on a strong conference legacy, this year's program looks set to contribute to important reforms in policies and practices, in this instance guiding the health and sustainability of the Menindee Lakes, the Murray Darling Basin and the communities of the Basin – with particular focus on cultural flows and First Nations communities.

The conference will be opened by Environment Minister, the Hon Sussan Ley, addressed by the NSW Water Minister The Hon Melinda Pavey and Water NSW CEO Jim Bentley and closed by the Minister for Water and Northern Australia, The Hon Keith Pitt.

2021 MDA National Conference presenters include Barkindji Elder Uncle Badger Bates; Marowra Elder Uncle Rex Smith and Grant Rigney, Ngarrindjeri leader and Chair of the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations.

Other speakers include a powerful range of community, business and industry leaders all known for their ability to build consensus and a stronger future for the Murray Darling Basin.

For the first time in any conference of its type, we also have the entire Commonwealth Water Family including the Department of Ag Water and Environment, the CSIRO, the BOM, the Office of the Interim Inspector General, the MDBA and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder all present for the full two days – not just as presenters, but each occupying a 'discovery booth' enabling delegates to genuinely meet, engage with, hear from and inform the departments in a very meaningful way.

We will also have representatives of the NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment | Water and others.

The Annual Dinner address will feature a presentation of the NGV's 'Homily to Country 2020' by French artist JR.

At this year's Annual General Meeting, motions to be considered include consistent metering and telemetry across the Basin jurisdictions; end of system and valley specific flow targets to restore the health of the Darling River; and support for the increase in representation of First Nations people on local government and in water policy.

To see the full agenda go to [www.mda.asn.au](http://www.mda.asn.au).

Registrations are still open until 10 May 2021 – don't miss out on your opportunity to be part of this event: [www.mda.asn.au](http://www.mda.asn.au)

ENDS                    *For more information, contact Murray Darling Association Chief Executive Officer,  
Emma Bradbury on 0429 905 017*