

AiBEC Newsletter

Association of Insurance Building & Engineering Consultants



Tony Libke AiBEC CEO

Dear Members and Industry Friends,

AGM Elections

I am pleased to report on the recent AiBEC AGM, our 2nd, held on 18th March with strong attendance by Individual Members. At the AGM, Nik Housh, James McIntosh and Glenn D'Costa were each elected for a period of two years. At the Board meeting following, Kate Middleton and Aleks Bakovic were appointed directors of AiBEC for 12 months. We welcome Aleks, National Operations Manager - Construct Services, to the Board and look forward to his contribution as we continue to move forward. Congratulations to Deniz Bekir and Kate Middleton, who were elected Chair and Deputy Chair respectively. It is also great to report that Kate has been judged as one of Insurance Business Australia's Elite Women 2026. Deniz said, "We congratulate Kate and are grateful for her spirit, energy, and support to the Association in her role as Deputy Chair and Board Director."

NSW Building Commission – At the Table



An outstanding sold-out At the Table event featuring NSW Deputy Building Commissioner Matt Press at The International Sydney was held on 25th February. Following the luncheon, a committee was formed to work with the NSW Building Commission in developing an **Insurance Guide for the Repair and Reinstatement of Class 2 Buildings**. AiBEC Committee Chair James McIntosh said the first joint workshop on this important project will be in Sydney on 13th April.

University of Sydney – EOL Study

The University of Sydney has been engaged to undertake a scientific research study to develop an empirical basis for evaluating damage from "escape of liquid" incidents such as burst pipes or flooding. The core goal is to move away from subjective or inconsistent assessments and instead create a **repeatable, data-driven method** for evaluating damage.

This research project will be headed by **Professor Yixiang Gan, School of Civil Engineering, University of Sydney**, and will involve other academic staff and PhD students. An At the Table event with Prof Gan will be held at the University on 3rd June, and invitations to this event will be forwarded in the near future.

ASAB

The Board has approved the establishment of an **Allied Supporter Advisory Board (ASAB)**, to be chaired by highly respected Frank Mamasioulas - Riverwall Constructions. EOIs were invited and a strong Board has been appointed to support Frank: Rob Elbasha - SBRG, Elena Kuzman - EZY Projects, Nick Scott - NLD, Anthony Caroi - CBS, Oliver Threlfall - Steamatic, and Alyson Haynes. This Board was always part of our planning and will have an important role in focusing AiBEC on matters that are critical to the wider membership base. Updates on their initiatives will be reported moving forward.

Conference Sydney

The 2nd National Conference, themed Delivering Best Practice Through Expertise in Claims Consulting, will be held in Sydney on 22nd July, and the organising committee has assembled a high-quality program. Matthew Bartlett, an organising committee member, said, "We were focused on providing insightful presentations offering tangible benefits for attendees."

The program has been finalised and presenters include Prue Monument - Code Governance Committee, Matt Press - NSW Building Commission, Emma Curtis - AFCA, Alexandra Hordern - ICA, and Julia Davis - FRLC. We would like to thank platinum sponsor Statewide Building and Restorations Group - SBRG and cocktail sponsor Loop Logics. For the program and to register for this important industry event [click here...](#)

Advocacy and Submissions

In addition to the two submissions reported in the last newsletter, a submission was lodged with the NSW Government in respect of the proposed new **State Environment Planning Policy (SEPP)**. AiBEC is in full support that the proposed SEPP will address uplift in rebuilding after natural disasters, including general insurable losses, to ensure costs to life, property, and the environment are mitigated.



In late February, we held face-to-face meetings with Prue Monument and Jarrod Orth from the General Insurance Code Governance Committee (CGC), Emma Curtis and Chris Liamos from the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA), ANZIIF, AICLA, and Insurance News as part of our objective to keep industry partners apprised of our developments.

Training and Webinars

AiBEC is collaborating with **Bond University** to conduct a **two-day in-house course on the Gold Coast on 10–11 June**.

The course will cover **implementation of the APRA operational risk framework as contained in CPS 230**, which applies to all contractors and subcontractors working for insurers. The course will be delivered by Professor Alex Lang and the program has two primary objectives:

- Ensure service providers understand the CPS 230 framework and their compliance obligations.
- Equip participants with practical implementation skills so they can develop and execute a CPS 230 implementation plan within their own organisations.

Registrations for the course will open shortly.

A program of webinars has commenced, with AAT Group presenting on **TradieEx – AI Consultant for Builders, Restorers, Engineers and Trades**. This will be followed by webinars by ALCAT, CHU and others.

Membership

It is pleasing to report a strong surge in membership for AiBEC, with **Suncorp, Clover Insurance, Johns Lyng Group, Western Building and Complete Building Solutions joining as Allied Supporters**, plus a number of Individual International Members.

We have also expanded the criteria for Individual Allied Supporter to include those working directly for insurers, and I am pleased to report that Chris Frazer, General Manager CHU Building Resilience Services, is the first of what we hope will be many to join.

Other News

AiBEC member **John Eldridge – Morse Building Consultancy** recently volunteered to prepare an independent report for a vulnerable client identified by the Financial Rights Legal Centre (FRLC) under the **AiBEC pro bono initiative**. If you wish to be part of this worthwhile program and would like more details, please see our website.

Recently, we have agreed to join with **James Cook University** to promote participation in a **Work Integrated Learning (WIL)** program for postgraduate students to be placed with AiBEC community members.

More about this program will follow.

Please mark your calendar for 12th November for our Black Tie Awards Night at the Royal Motor Yacht Club Sydney. Registrations are open for the **ANZIIF/AiBEC Certificate in Claims Consulting**, and full details are available on our website – aibec.com.

It is a busy time for AiBEC, and I encourage you to keep following us on LinkedIn and via email. Thank you to the many individuals and organisations that are supporting our advancement.

Regards

Tony Libke – CEO

