



Master the Art of the Boardroom

SUPERHEROES: Doing More with Less

Better Boards Conference 2025

Friday & Saturday 25-26 July

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

Apply to Speak at: <https://speak.betterboards.net>

Applications Close: 20th December

Speaker Applicant Information

Better Boards Conference 2025

25-26 July, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

Not-for-profit organisations, social enterprises and community businesses, play a crucial role in our society and economy.

The cost-of-living crisis is affecting every segment of society—yet demands and expectations remain high—and continue to increase. Leaders of NFPs are striving to continue to provide their services and ensure their organisation's sustainability and positive impact. However, with funding constraints, changing legislative requirements, limited time and fewer resources, leaders are being challenged to achieve more, with less.

Our theme for 2025 is **Superheroes: Doing More with Less**

The Better Boards Conference assists boards, CEOs and executives of not-for-profit organisations to navigate this crisis. You'll hear timely insights, ideas, and practical tools, solutions and realistic strategies to support governance and leadership roles and responsibilities, to help build better boards for our NFP organisations.

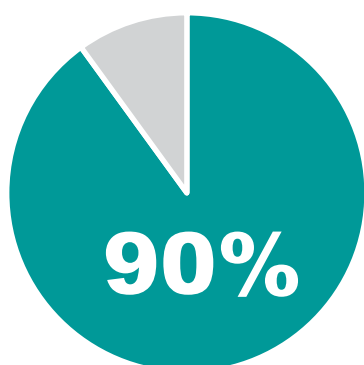
The organising committee is now accepting original papers and presentations that help board members and CEOs to succeed in their challenge to achieve more with less.

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Applications Close: 20th December (2024)

Who should apply?

- **Leaders** of organisations or companies.
- **Researchers** in the field of governance.
- **Individuals** who in their field of endeavour have a powerful and practical message that is aligned to the conference theme.



*Delegates who returned feedback in 2024, who said **they would recommend the Better Boards Conference** to a friend or colleague.*

Topic Guidance

Can you help board members and CEOs of NFP organisations to:

- Understand emerging drivers, forces and trends.
- Understand impacts, implications of macro-economic, demographic, social, geopolitical, environmental outlooks on the governance and leadership of their organisation and services.
- Develop strategies for efficient leadership and operations.
- Design effective frameworks.
- Understand and apply leadership co-design principles and practices.
- Apply governance principles efficiently and effectively.
- Achieve greater impact with efficient use of resources.
- Optimise governance policy and processes.
- Optimise business, service or financial models, for greater impact and efficiency.

Suggested topic areas include:

- Strategic planning, review, and vision
- Risk management, Decision-making
- Strategic leadership, Succession planning
- Economic outlook
- Policies, Processes & Systems
- Board dynamics, Conflicts of interest, Culture & Leadership

Case studies:

Chair's and CEO's are encouraged to present their board's innovative governance and leadership success story, highlighting actionable takeaways for conference delegates (mindful that it aligns with the '*Superheroes: Doing More with Less*' conference theme).

Note that:

Presentations must not be advertorial in nature or specifically promote commercial products and/or services either during the presentation or by means of banners, flyers etc within the venue.

Selection Criteria

What are we looking for?

Does your proposal:

- Relate to the conference theme (in conjunction with the topic of your choice).
- Use evidence-based research, or form part of a research project.
- Provide realistic strategies, clear actions, practical solutions, processes or tools.

We are looking for proposals that support these outcomes:

- Offer governance and leadership strategies or solutions to develop and drive organisational success and sustainability.
- Assist leaders to support their organisation to operate efficiently.
- Enhance the capacity and capability of directors.
- Unpack relevant strategic insights and substantial ideas.
- Offer practical tools, processes or frameworks to assist directors and support their CEO and/or executives.

Does your presentation offer practical steps and actionable strategies for boards and directors to help achieve greater impact and efficiency?

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Promotion of commercial products or services

Presentations deemed to promote specific commercial products or services may not be accepted. If you wish to promote a product or service, please contact Better Boards for sponsorship information.

Topics featuring AI:

Proposals featuring AI as their main solution will be critically assessed. Only include AI discussions or tools if it is part of a tried and tested evidence-based solution.

Co-presenters:

Applications proposing multiple speakers are less likely to be accepted.

Audience

Who is in the Audience?

The audience typically consists of chairpersons and directors (70%), CEOs (20%), and senior managers of Australasian not-for-profit organisations.

These leaders attend to:

- Equip themselves with realistic strategies and practical tools to assist with and refine their governance and leadership journey.
- Discuss key industry/sector trends, stay up-to-date with new ideas, strategic insights and information.
- Find support and solutions.
- Connect with fellow change-makers and leaders in the NFP space.

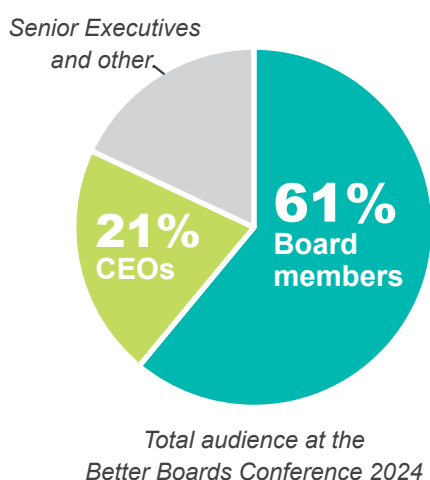
Attendees represent a diverse range of NFP organisations from a wide variety of industries/sectors throughout Australasia. A large proportion represent Aged Care, Disability and Community Service organisations of varying sizes.

Uniting factors include:

- The challenges faced in their governance and leadership roles.
- A focus on financially sustainable operations.
- A commitment to boardroom excellence, and making a difference in the communities and regions in which they operate.

Can you offer this audience:

Realistic strategies, tools, insights, case studies, innovations, processes, governance knowledge, updates, practical takeaways?



Make sure you know what you're getting into

As a speaker you get:

- A nationally recognised platform from which to influence the discussion and direction of governance and leadership in the NFP sector, raise your profile and cement yourself as a thought leader.
- A focused audience of Australasian NFP directors and CEOs. Over 90% of the attendees are directors or CEOs.
- Promotional materials that you can distribute to your network.
- A copy of the recording of your presentation (where possible).
- Opportunity to submit an article for publication in the Conference Magazine.
- Opportunity have your article published in the Better Boards Newsletter (an audience of approximately 5,000+ NFP directors and CEOs).
- Complimentary registration to both days of the conference.

However, you will need to cover the cost of any technology, accommodation and travel arrangements you may require to get to and from the conference.

Format

The conference may be held in a hybrid format. Presentations may be pre-recorded as part of the preparation. Speakers must intend to present in person.

Workshop style presentations will be up to 40 minutes total duration including questions and discussion (problem-solving) on areas of interest.

Plenary style presentations will be up to 20 minutes duration, and questions may be addressed separately in panel format.

Case studies will be approximately 25 minutes duration.

Location

The Better Boards Conference 2025 will be held in-person at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, QLD, Australia.

SAVE THESE DATES:

Friday 25 July

Better Boards Conference Day One

Evening: Leadership Networking Function

Saturday 26 July

Better Boards Conference Day Two

How do I apply?

The application form redacts identifying information allowing ALL applications to initially be reviewed and evaluated anonymously on equal footing.

We recommend applicants submit more than one proposal to increase the chance of inclusion if multiple proposals are received on the same topic.

You will need on-hand for the application:

- Brief biography (as relevant to this audience)
- Photo (JPG, high resolution – at least 1MB in size)
- Presentation Title (max 10 words)
- Presentation Description (max 300 words)
- 3 Key points and your number 1 outcome or take-away for delegates.
- A short informal video (5 min max) – to tell us why your TOPIC is important, and what key take-aways you have for the audience. We recommend uploading your video to a cloud-based storage (e.g. wistia, youtube, dropbox) and paste the link into the application form.

Do I need to do an application video?

This is really important. The application video often separates applications made on the same topic. It doesn't need to be formal, it should be a candid discussion about your proposed presentation topic. **The most important thing to cover in your video is why your proposed topic is important for directors, and key takeaways for the audience.** It does not need to match your application text verbatim.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

Friday 20th December

APPLY AT

<https://speak.betterboards.net>

Contact

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