

September 2024



Dr Hermione Parsons speaking at the NEMA's High Risk Weather Season National Preparedness Summit in Canberra.

Executive Insight : Reflections and Priorities from September 2024

From the Desk of Dr Hermione Parsons, ALC CEO & Managing Director

In September we continued our efforts to be in all the right places, championing our members and driving the ALC's strategic priorities in Canberra and across Queensland and NSW.

The NSW Freight Reform Panel is committed to a complex systems analysis guiding recommendations for the reform process for NSW's freight logistics chains. The NSW Freight Policy Reform: Interim Directions Paper was released last week with the final consultation ending October 23. The panel received over 120 submissions for the first stage of consultation. Please share your views on the final Directions Paper including any gaps. These are complex issues, and your expert advice is appreciated.

At the invitation of Senator Glenn Sterle, the ALC attended the National Road Transport Safety Roundtable at Parliament House, Canberra, with approximately 20 industry leaders, the importance of which was endorsed by an address from Prime Minister Anthony Albanese.

Our industry provides an essential service in times of crisis and calm, yet critical workforce issues continue with inadequate training and fragmented driver licensing, an escalation of road safety incidents, and the persistent challenge of attracting workers to the industry. At this roundtable we agreed to advocate together to take these issues to National Cabinet.

This month's ALC Council involved a presentation and detailed discussion with Joe Buffone PSM, Deputy Coordinator National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) on national supply chain resilience and civilian supply chain fuel issues.

The session was followed by a tour of NEMA's National Situation Room.

The Council meeting also featured ALC Councillors Darren Searle (ESR), Saski Groen In't Woud (Pacific National) and Neil Stephens (Port of Brisbane) sharing their perspectives on the Barriers to Infrastructure Investment. The meeting concluded the private sector is ready to invest, but regulatory hurdles and policy inconsistencies delay progress. Industrial land shortages, high costs, and poor urban planning were also identified as key issues. Solutions included retaining and expanding industrial land, allowing higher density logistics development, and securing critical utilities. These messages were taken to Parliament House Canberra, to discuss with parliamentarians at our evening event.

In partnership with Healthy Heads in Trucks and Sheds we organised a Parliamentary Friendship Group evening event in Parliament House, Canberra. Presided over by Hon Nola Marino MO, Senator Glenn Sterle, Senator Anthony Chisholm and Senator Bridget McKenzie, issues of workforce shortages and the need for basic amenities at truck driver rest area's across the country remained the focus, with drivers outlining deplorable conditions. Approved funds need to flow to ensure we, as a country, uphold the values of civilised society.

The ALC participated in NEMA's High Risk Weather Season National Preparedness Summit in Canberra, which focussed on responses to and recovery from catastrophic crisis events. Crisis management specialists from Australian governments, the private sector and community organisations were included in this detailed exercise exploring how we prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters as a nation.

Another positive month for the ALC!



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Wayfinder Freight Heartland Awareness Tour Series Underway!

Second Tour Comes to Melbourne 29 October 2024

This month our first Wayfinder event of the 2024-25 financial year kicked off with the Freight Heartland Awareness Tour in Sydney on Monday the 30th of September. Attendees got a firsthand look at how the supply chain logistics sector operates, met with industry professionals, and discovered how their skills can transfer into our ever expanding sector, with stops at Amazon, Qube, National Intermodal Corporation, DP World, and NSW Ports.

We are also very excited with how planning for the upcoming tour in Melbourne on the 29th October 2024 is coming along. Thanks to the wonderful support of our members the second tour of this series will kick off at Linfox Distribution Centre in Laverton. Attendees will hear from young industry ambassadors and industry executives sharing their stories, as well as an introduction to supply chain and freight logistics and the broad range of great careers. Other stops along the tour include the Bev Chain Distribution Centre, Viva Energy Fuel Transport Depot in Newport and the Victoria International Container Terminal Webb Dock at Port Melbourne.

Like the Sydney tour, this is a free, fully sponsored event with only 40 spaces available, and registrations are booking up quickly. So if you have any friends or family members considering a fresh start, returning to the workforce, or simply wanting to explore behind the scenes in Australia's thriving logistics and supply chain industry, be sure to share! To register or to share this event to followers, friends and family see [HERE](#).

Keep an eye out for further updates about Wayfinder events and tours Brisbane in 2025! If you would like to get involved or find out how your organisation can support Wayfinder's mission of engaging and onboarding more equity denied communities into our industry [reach out to our team](#).

Thank you as always to our Wayfinder sponsors - Amazon Commercial Services, Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd (ARTC), Coca-Cola Europacific Partners (CEP) Australia, Coles, DP World Australia, Linfox Australia Pty Ltd, National Intermodal Corporation, NSW Ports (Port Botany Operations Pty Ltd), Primary Connect (Woolworths Group), Qube Holdings Ltd, Toll Group, Victoria International Container Terminal, and Viva Energy Australia P/L.

Below: Wayfinder Freight Heartland Tour participants (Image: Ben Williams Photography)





ALC Expert Network

Meet Our Chair : Margaret Staib AM CSC

How many people can say they have a building complex named after them? Well, Margaret Staib AM CSC can!

Margaret has left an undeniable mark on both the military and logistics sectors. Her exceptional leadership in strategic operations and logistics management in the Royal Australian Air Force saw her rising to the rank of Air Vice-Marshal.

Margaret may no longer carry the title of Air Vice-Marshal since her retirement from the RAAF, but her legacy lives on with a lasting tribute: the Air Vice Marshal Margaret Staib AM CSC Joint Logistics Complex at RAAF Base Amberley, a testament to her groundbreaking work in modernising logistics.

Today, as the Independent Chair of the ALC, Margaret continues to lead with innovation and precision, steering Australia's logistics industry into a new era of sustainability and excellence. And with her other roles like President-Elect of the Royal Aeronautical Society (Australian Division), and Non-Executive Director of Sydney Airport, QINETIQ Australia, and Vault Cloud, her influence is unmistakable and Margaret's vision continues to help shape the future of transport and logistics across the nation.

ALC Expert Networks and Taskforces enable our members to come together, pooling their expertise to shape policy development and offer invaluable thought leadership. Through collaborative efforts, we swiftly tackle industry challenges as they arise, ensuring timely and effective solutions.

Want to join our growing Expert Network or Taskforce?
Connect with some of the best minds and expertise in the business [HERE](#).

Shaping the Future

Policy Updates & Recent Submissions

Driving NSW's Renewable Fuel Future: ALC's Vision for a Sustainable Logistics Sector

ALC is committed to advancing the decarbonisation of NSW's transport sector through the development of a robust renewable fuel industry. As the backbone of the economy, the freight and logistics industry plays a crucial role in reducing Australia's emissions and driving sustainability.

Our key policy recommendations to support the renewable fuel transition include supporting domestic production, harmonising policy and standards, incentivising adoption, and investing in infrastructure.

[Read the full Submission here in our Knowledge Centre](#)

Driving Victoria's Logistics Future

The Australian Logistics Council is urging the Victorian Government to take bold steps to secure the state's transport and logistics infrastructure for future growth. Our key recommendations include expanding the role of the land co-ordinator general, public sector planning and decision-making, protecting and expanding industrial land, optimising existing and new industrial assets.

These reforms will ensure that Victoria's logistics sector remains competitive, efficient, and prepared for the future. ALC is committed to working with government and industry to make this vision a reality.

[Read the full Submission here in our Knowledge Centre](#)

Policy Works in Progress

National Heavy Vehicle Regulator : Heavy Vehicle Productivity Plan 2024-2029

Freight Policy Reform Interim Directions Paper, Transport for NSW

Want to provide thoughts or insights to our current work in progress?

Contact us at policy@austlogistics.com.au

At the Table : ALC Member Advocacy in Action

5 September - CCAT Board Lunch with Sally Stannard

CCAT - Centre for Connected & Automated Transport held an exclusive Board lunch on September 5th in Brisbane, where they hosted **Sally Stannard**, Director-General, Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads and alongside prominent Queensland transport industry leaders. In this intimate setting, ALC leadership and other guests gained invaluable insights into the Queensland Government's transport priorities as Ms. Stannard shared key developments shaping the future of the state's infrastructure.

The event fostered a dynamic roundtable discussion, where industry experts explored innovative solutions and strategies to address the evolving challenges of future transport planning. We were delighted to be invited to join this important discussion that will help shape the direction of Queensland's transport landscape, and it was a fantastic opportunity for ALC to continue to represent our members in critical conversations about the future of our sector.



6 September 2024 - National Road Safety Round Table with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese

The ALC proudly represented our members' voices at the high-profile ***National Road Transport Safety Round Table in Canberra*** convened by Senator Glenn Sterle. Prime Minister Anthony Albanese attended the event, underscoring the significance of the discussions. Other key speakers included industry heavyweights such as Victorian Transport Association CEO Peter Anderson, TWU National Secretary Michael Kaine, along with Lisa Fraser (QTA), Western Roads Federation CEO Cam Dumesny, NatRoad CEO Warren Clark, and Tasmanian Transport Association Executive Director Michelle Harwood.

This roundtable offered a powerful and strategic platform for ALC members to have their concerns and priorities directly addressed by the most influential figures in government and the transport industry. With the Prime Minister himself participating, alongside other key decision-makers, it was a rare opportunity to ensure that member issues—ranging from road safety to workforce challenges—were not only heard but positioned at the forefront of national policy discussions. The ALC's active involvement ensured that the needs and interests of the supply chain and logistics sector are driving real change at the highest levels.



Above: Senator Glenn Sterle, Dr Hermione Parsons, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese at the National Road Safety Round Table

10 September - ALC and Healthy Heads in Trucks and Sheds Event at Parliament House

The Australian Logistics Council, in partnership with [Healthy Heads in Trucks & Sheds](#), hosted a Parliamentary Friendship Group evening event in Parliament House, Canberra. This exclusive and highly impactful event was presided over by Hon Nola Marino MO, Senator Glenn Sterle, Senator Anthony Chisholm and Senator Bridget McKenzie.

The event provided an opportunity for key industry leaders, Ministers, Senators, and Parliamentarians gathered to tackle some of the most pressing challenges facing the supply chain and logistics sector. This pivotal discussion addressed workforce shortages, mental health and wellbeing, and the barriers holding back critical investment and construction within the industry.

For ALC members, this event was a prime opportunity to ensure their concerns were heard at the highest levels of government and industry. With so many influential voices in the room, the conversation was both timely and essential for driving real change, especially in areas of critical need such as addressing the deplorable conditions at driver rest areas across the country.

Thank you to everyone who contributed—together, we are shaping a stronger, healthier, and more resilient future for Australia's supply chain and logistics sector. The outcomes from this event will help ensure that member priorities remain front and centre in national policy discussions.



Above: Senator Glenn Sterle, Dr Hermione Parsons, Margaret Staib AM CSC, Doug Fryer APM GAICD

11 September - ALC Member Tour of National Situation Room at NEMA

We had the unique privilege of touring the National Situation Room at the [National Emergency Management Agency \(NEMA\)](#) in Canberra, gaining exclusive insight into the vital role NEMA plays in safeguarding Australia's resilience and security. With a direct impact on the logistics and supply chain sector, this experience highlighted how emergency preparedness and response are crucial to maintaining the continuous flow of goods and services across the country. A special thank you to [Joe Buffone PSM GAICD](#) for sharing his invaluable expertise on how NEMA's strategies enhance industry resilience.

The ALC is proud to facilitate opportunities like this, ensuring our members are well-informed on the forces shaping our industry. We hope this tour was both insightful and empowering for all who attended. Experiences like these strengthen our shared mission to build a stronger, more resilient logistics sector.

Below: Joe Buffone PSM GAICD, Dr Hermione Parsons, ALC Leadership and ALC Member Representatives visit NEMA



18-19 September - NEMA National Preparedness: Higher Risk Weather Season Summit 2024

ALC Leadership and Members attended the [*NEMA National Preparedness - Higher Risk Weather Season \(HRWS\) Summit in Canberra*](#), an essential event focused on enhancing Australia's readiness, response, and recovery to natural disasters and catastrophic events—critical issues that directly impact the logistics and supply chain sector.

NEMA's annual HRWS Summit brought together leaders from across the nation, and our CEO, Dr Hermione Parsons, was right there, participating alongside government, private, and not-for-profit sector experts. The event kicked off with a powerful Welcome to Country by Uncle Tyronne Bell, followed by insightful opening remarks from the Minister for Emergency Management, Jenny McAllister, and NEMA's Deputy Coordinator-General, Joe Buffone PSM GAICD.

A highlight of the day was Brendan Moon AM, NEMA's Coordinator-General, reflecting on 50 years of Australia's emergency management capability and the evolving challenges posed by a changing climate. Brendan's emphasis on collective preparedness underscored how events like this Summit are key to building resilience across sectors, especially in logistics, where maintaining supply chain flow during crises is paramount.

Other standout speakers included Governor General Sam Mostyn AC, a fascinating Seasonal Outlook presentation from the Bureau of Meteorology's Dr Karl Buganza, and a thought-provoking talk by NEMA's Deputy Coordinator-General Dr Jill Charker FCPHR GAICD.

For ALC members, this Summit not only provided invaluable insights but also reinforced the importance of our industry's role in national emergency preparedness. The knowledge shared here will help shape strategies that strengthen our resilience and ensure the continued movement of goods and services through even the most challenging weather seasons.

Below: Second National Higher Risk Weather Season (HRWS) Preparedness Summit (Photo Credit - NEMA)



ALC Member Matters : Driving Change Together



The Port of Brisbane has announced the release of The Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd's (PBPL) 2023/24 Sustainability Report[READ MORE](#)



Qube has welcomed a new Volvo FH16 prime mover to its fleet as part of an extended partnership with Pilbara Minerals. The new FH16 will operate 24 hours a day in support of Pilbara Minerals' Pilgangoora Operation[READ MORE](#)



Coles has announced the official opening of its first Customer Fulfilment Centre (CFC) in Victoria, bringing together 'world-class' technology and automation as part of its technology-led supply chain innovation journey[READ MORE](#)

Port of Melbourne



Australia's largest general cargo and container port, **Port of Melbourne**, has secured a long-term lease with the Victorian Government to access additional land that will bolster Victoria's supply chain efficiency and resilience.....[READ MORE](#)



Primary Connect hit a major milestone this month with the completion of construction of their 35,000sqm Moorebank Regional Distribution Centre.[READ MORE](#)



Victoria International Container Terminal hosted a visit this month from the Victoria Department of Transport and Planning. The most recent developments and equipment were inspected, including new Truck Lanes for an increased Terminal capacity of up to 30% and 2 new STS Cranes, currently the largest in Australia, capable of handling the largest vessels[READ MORE](#)

Our Members in the News ...

Linfox : Five finalists in Australian Freight Industry Awards

Linfox had reason to celebrate this month with five finalists in four [Australian Freight Industry Awards](#) categories hosted by Victorian Transport Association - VTA.

Congratulations to Namrita Anchan who received the Australian Freight Industry Women's Leadership Award recognising her contribution and leadership in encouraging women's participation within the transport, freight and logistics industry. We commend all Linfox nominees and finalists including Noah Heldt and Brandt Honda, both nominated for Emerging Leader Award, John Makris for Application of Technology Award and Linfox for the Green Star Award.

The AFIA recognises the outstanding achievements of operators, organisations and individuals across the logistics industry.

Lindsay Fox AC, AFIA Personality of the Year

Congratulations Lindsay Fox AC who also took home the coveted Personality of the Year Award at the Australian Freight Industry Awards. The prestigious award recognises individuals who have made the most outstanding contributions to the Australian transport, freight and logistics industry over an extended period, and are recognised in the community through their leadership qualities.

Lindsay began Linfox in Melbourne in 1956 with one truck delivering soft drinks in the summer and charcoal briquettes in winter. More than six decades later, Linfox leads the way as Asia Pacific's largest privately-owned logistics company, involving more than 24,000 people across Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asia. [Read More.](#)



Photo: Lindsay Fox AC, Personality of the Year Award (Photo Credit - [Australian Freight Industry Awards](#))

Upcoming Events

October

ALC & Australian Governments Annual Dialogue.
Canberra, Thursday 24th

Wayfinder Melbourne Tour.
Melbourne, Tuesday 29th

November

ALC Board & Council Meeting.
Sydney, Tuesday 19th

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