

ALC AUSTRALIAN LOGISTICS COUNCIL **UPDATE**

October 2025



(L-R) Neil Stephens, CEO Port of Brisbane; Hermione Parsons CEO ALC; Marika Calfas, CEO NSW Ports; and Saul Cannon, CEO Port of Melbourne.

Executive Insight: October 2025

From the Desk of Hermione Parsons, CEO

As we head into the final months of 2025, it's a busy time for everyone across Australia's freight and logistics sector, with peak retail periods just around the corner. Our members are working hard to keep supply chains moving efficiently through this critical time of year — a powerful reminder of the essential role our industry plays in supporting communities and the national economy.

It's also been a productive and dynamic period for the ALC team. In October, we welcomed the establishment of the Queensland Ministerial Freight Council, an important step forward in strengthening collaboration between government and industry. The ALC is pleased to participate in this forum, helping advance strategies to move more freight by rail and improve long-term network resilience. We also engaged with Treasury to reinforce the importance of freight productivity, investment, and national infrastructure planning.

Earlier this month, I spent two days in Canberra meeting with senior representatives from various departments and agencies, focusing on key national priorities including workforce reform, decarbonisation, productivity and supply chain resilience. These conversations further strengthen ALC's policy influence and ensure our members' perspectives continue to shape government decision-making across jurisdictions.

We also acknowledge a major change within the ALC team. Sheena Fardell, our Head of Government and Industry Affairs, will soon depart the ALC after three years of exceptional service to take up a senior role with member company Australia Post. Sheena has been instrumental in restructuring the ALC and strengthening our profile with members and government. I would like to personally thank her for her significant contribution and wish her every success in her new role.

To ensure continuity and further enhance our capability, ALC is now recruiting for Sheena's replacement as well as a new Marketing and Communications Officer to support our growing engagement and advocacy work.

As always, thank you to our members for your continued support and outstanding collaboration.

Kind Regards, Hermione

ALC + Government Dialogue 2025 Program Announced



Thursday 27 November 2025 | Infrastructure House, Canberra

The ALC + Government Dialogue is one of the most important events on the national freight and logistics calendar - a cornerstone collaboration between the Australian Logistics Council, the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA), and key Australian, State and Territory Government departments and agencies.

This exclusive, member-only forum offers an unparalleled opportunity to:

- Engage directly with the Department's senior policymakers from across governments.
- Raise the issues impacting end-to-end supply chain.
- Contribute to shaping the future of Australia's freight and supply chain industry.

Secure your place today by emailing Millie.livori@austlogistics.com.au and don't miss your chance to be part of these critical discussions.

[Check out the program](#)

Farewell and Thank You Sheena



After three years of dedicated service, Sheena Fardell departs the ALC to take up her next role at Australia Post. From her first day as Head of Government and Industry Affairs, Sheena brought deep strategic thinking and cross-sector experience to ALC's work. With over 15 years in the transport, logistics, and supply chain sectors, she has been instrumental in shaping strategy, policy, and partnerships across the industry.

Sheena has consistently strengthened the ALC's voice across policy and government arenas. She led ALC's submission to the Productivity Commission, advocating for harmonised emissions reporting, workforce reform, and national infrastructure priorities. Sheena played a pivotal role in elevating freight and logistics from a background sector to a central economic priority—consistently reinforcing that freight is the backbone of Australia's supply chain.

Sheena, thank you for your leadership, commitment, and the lasting impact you have had on the ALC. We will miss you and wish you every success in your new role and look forward to working with you in your new capacity.

ALC Advocacy & Engagement Highlights

QLD Ministerial Freight Council Established



On 30 September, The Hon Brent Mickelberg MP, Minister for Transport and Main Roads, chaired the inaugural meeting of the Queensland Ministerial Freight Council, with The Hon Sean Dillon MP, Assistant Minister for Primary Industry Development, Water and Western Queensland, serving as Deputy Chair. The ALC is one of nine members appointed to the Ministerial Council, alongside Andrew Harding, CEO of Aurizon.

The Ministerial Council is helping drive the Government's goal to move more freight by rail. This focus aligns with the ALC Freight Rail Taskforce, which continues to champion improved productivity and performance across Australia's rail freight system.

Net Zero and Rail Freight Safeguard Mechanisms



ALC met with Peter Nicholas, Senior Adviser to the Hon Chris Bowen MP, to discuss the role of freight rail within the Safeguard Mechanism and its contribution to Australia's climate and energy objectives. The discussion highlighted the disproportionate impact of the mechanism on freight rail as opposed to road freight.

ALC outlined practical measures to improve policy alignment, including access to funding for low-carbon fuels, the ability for rail operators to earn Safeguard Mechanism Credits, mode-shift incentives under the ACCU Scheme, and a review of the framework to ensure equitable treatment of rail.

Defence Strategic Logistics Seminar



Australian Government Defence

On the 23 October ALC CEO Hermione Parsons and ALC Chair Margaret Staib attended a dinner in Canberra as part of the Department of Defence's annual Defence Strategic Logistics Seminar. This year the theme was "Operationalising, Optimising and Strengthening the Resilience of the Defence Logistics Network – in line with the National Defence Strategy."

It was a unique professional development opportunity for senior Defence personnel in logistics and the ALC was invited to discuss the importance of collaboration between to strengthen national sovereignty, supply chain resilience and operational readiness.

ALC Policy Updates

Net Zero Fund Design

The ALC's submission to the Australian Department of Industry, Science and Resources dives deep into how the proposed \$5 billion Net Zero Fund can actually get decarbonisation moving in freight and logistics. We argued that big emissions cuts won't come from one shiny technology — they'll come from unlocking projects stuck behind high costs, grid bottlenecks, and long approval timelines.

Our submission called for concessional finance and co-investment models that share risk and crowd in private capital, while backing immediate, realistic measures like renewable diesel alongside emerging solutions such as hydrogen and electrification. We also pressed for freight rail, intermodal terminals and airports to be recognised as eligible assets — essential if the Fund is to support the full, end-to-end transformation of Australia's supply chains.

Read the full submission in our Knowledge Centre by following this [link](#).

NSW Roads Act Review

ALC is finalising its response to Transport for NSW's Roads Act Review Options Paper, which could reshape how decisions about road access and use are made. We're concerned the proposed reforms risk giving councils greater control over roads of state and national freight importance, creating inconsistency and delays.

Our submission will argue for a balanced approach that keeps freight efficiency, safety and connectivity at the centre of decision-making. We're calling for clear state oversight, protection of key freight corridors, and a modern, digital framework that supports future technologies and reliable network performance.

ALC in the Media



Hunter plan to strengthen freight connectivity

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ALC urges new fund prioritises freight and rail decarbonisation

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Industry News



Port of Melbourne Partners with Port of Shanghai with Aim to Advance Green Shipping Corridor

Port of Melbourne has joined forces with the world's largest container port, Port of Shanghai, with an aim to establish a Green Shipping Corridor between the two ports. The agreement was formalised at the 2025 North Bund Forum in Shanghai, China, on 19 October.

Saul Cannon, CEO of Port of Melbourne commented, "This initiative is a significant development in our work towards decarbonising the supply chain. Given Australia's position as an island-nation that heavily relies on sea freight, we have a key role in global efforts to decarbonise shipping."

China is Port of Melbourne's largest trading partner, accounting for 50 percent of total container imports and 20 percent of container exports. This milestone is a culmination of a nearly two-decade-long partnership between Port of Melbourne and SMTC, which commenced in 2006.

Welcome New Councillors



George Lippett, Group Executive Bulk & Containerised Freight Aurizon

Bachelor of Commerce, CFA, CPA

George was appointed Group Executive Bulk and Containerised Freight in July 2025 and leads a national team delivering integrated freight and logistics solutions across Aurizon's bulk and containerised operations. This business spans every mainland state and the Northern Territory, supporting Australia's resource and agricultural sectors with rail and port infrastructure, rollingstock, and supply chain capability.

George joined Aurizon in 2013 and has held a range of senior leadership roles across strategy, corporate development, and sustainability including Aurizon's Chief Financial Officer and Group Executive Strategy.

ALC Member Spotlight



Bruno Porchietto, CEO Australia VICT

ALC Board member and Councillor, Bruno is fluent in seven languages and with a career spanning eight countries across three continents, he brings a truly global perspective to leadership. Born in Italy, he has held senior roles at Coca-Cola, Mondelez, and Bestfoods-Unilever, and at Hibu Spain he spearheaded the successful digital transformation of the Yellow Pages. Seven years ago, he joined ICTSI as CEO for Argentina, where he revitalized the Buenos Aires terminal. Today, as CEO of Victoria International Container Terminal in Melbourne, he is leading the company's transformation into the city's most advanced and efficient port operation.

Beyond his professional life, Bruno is a 3rd Dan black belt in Tae Kwon Do, a discipline that reflects his focus and perseverance. He is also an avid motorsport enthusiast with a particular passion for Ferrari. Staying true to his Italian heritage, he has been taking singing lessons for the past five years - a creative pursuit he deeply enjoys.

Our Members in the News...



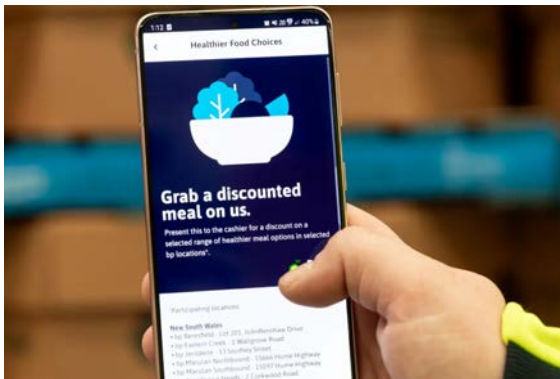
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Upcoming Events



ALC Wayfinder Heartland Awareness Tour - Showcasing Modern Supply Chain Careers for Women on 19 Nov 2025

The Freight Heartland Awareness Tour is returning to Sydney on 19 November. Sydney based women who are looking to change careers or industries and would like to learn more about our exciting sector are encouraged to register their interest.

We are offering a rare chance to go behind the scenes at some of Sydney's most innovative logistics operations - including Linfox, Qube, NSW Ports and DP World. A big thank you to Wayfinder sponsors and ambassadors. It's not all about serious business, we also manage to have some fun and laughs along the way!



ALC Expert Network: 2025 End-of-Year Event

Register Now (Members Only)

10 December 2025 | 2.30pm - 5.45pm

AGSE Building, Swinburne University of Technology, Entry via Wakefield Street, Hawthorn VIC

[Register your attendance now!](#)

ALC in partnership with Swinburne University of Technology, invites you to an exclusive, **member-only** end of year event - an afternoon dedicated to ideas, innovation, and festive networking.

Step inside Swinburne's Factory of the Future for a behind-the-scenes tour and witness a live demonstration of the Technology Truck - a mobile innovation lab capturing real-world data to power safer, smarter and more sustainable supply chains. Hear directly from leading academics and experts driving research and industry collaboration, then, join fellow ALC Members for an engaging afternoon of insights, innovation and festive connection as we reflect on a dynamic year and look ahead to 2026.

Our Hosts:

- Professor Saeid Nahavandi, Assoc. Dep. Vice-Chancellor Research & Chief of Defence Innovation
- Professor Hadi Ghaderi – Lead, Supply Chain Decarbonisation Flagship Initiative
- Assoc. Professor Amie Hayley - Founding Chair/Lead, Driver Monitoring Systems (DMS) Group
- Professor Prem Prakash Jayaraman – Director, Factory of the Future

Please note that as this is a member-only event, we kindly ask that you do not forward this invitation or the registration link.

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