

1 August 2023

## **Two New Board Members Join BESydney**

Two new Board Directors have been appointed to the Business Events Sydney (BESydney) Board.

The BESydney Board has appointed Judith Crompton, as an Independent Director and incoming Chair of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee (FRAC) from 1 September 2023, replacing Marlene Kanga AO who steps down after six years of service.

As of 16 June Deborah Zimmer, BridgeClimb CEO, was appointed as a Member Director to the Board, filling the casual vacancy that arose following the company's 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM). Ratification of Ms Zimmer's appointment will be sought from BESydney members at the 2023 AGM in October.

Announcing the new appointed directors, BESydney Chair The Hon Bruce Baird AM said, "We are privileged to have Deb and Judith joining the BESydney Board. They bring diverse experience and business expertise, and we look forward to their contribution in guiding BESydney over the next three years."

"Sincere thanks to Marlene who has served as a Board and FRAC member for six years, and as FRAC Chair since March 2021. As a BESydney Ambassador and previous National President of Engineers Australia and previous President of World Federation of Engineering Organisations, Marlene has provided a unique client lens to Board discussions. BESydney has benefited significantly from Marlene's strong commercial risk and governance skills during her time on the FRAC," he said.

Ms Crompton is a highly experienced executive and board member who has held senior executive positions within the insurance, airline and travel industries and has over 30 years' extensive experience working with some of the largest and most innovative companies in Australia, Switzerland, the UK and the United Arab Emirates. Throughout this time Ms Crompton has also led teams and overseen operations in Europe, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia and India. Ms Crompton has had, and continues to hold, board positions in the private and not-for-profit sectors.

Ms Crompton said, "This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to the team at BESydney as they continue the excellent work in promoting our beautiful, vibrant and creative city of Sydney to the world. In these times both the challenges and the scope for future success in the commercial and cultural arenas is unprecedented and I look forward to playing my part in achieving this success."

Ms Zimmer is a CEO and former CFO with experience in financial management, commercial decision making, contract negotiation, raising finance, motivating and developing people and project management. Since she started her career as a Chartered Accountant with PwC she has had the opportunity to work for a number of blue chip organisation across health and fitness, telecommunications, retail, IT and FMCG.

Ms Zimmer said, "It is a privilege to join a team that consistently delivers such significant economic benefits to Sydney and NSW through the growth of the visitor economy. I look forward to helping drive and support their strategic direction as they continue to showcase this unique, world-class city to our business visitors."

More information on the BESydney Board here: [besydney.com.au/about-us/board/](https://besydney.com.au/about-us/board/) and BESydney broadly here: [besydney.com.au](https://besydney.com.au).



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### **About Business Events Sydney (BESydney)**

BESydney promotes Sydney as the pre-eminent Asia-Pacific business visitor destination and acquires strategic business events that deliver economic and social impact for Sydney, NSW and global communities. We are independent and not for profit, supported by the NSW Government, the City of Sydney and industry.