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**ABARES Toowoomba Regional Outlook conference**

Wednesday, 27 July 2022

Venue: City Golf Club, 254 South Street, South Toowoomba

To register go to <https://agriculture.eventsair.com/2022-2-toowoomba-roc/delegates/Site/Register>

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

8.30 AM Registration

**SESSION 1:** **Agriculture’s contribution to Australia’s prosperity**

CHAIR       Lucy Cooper, ABC Southern Queensland

9.00 AM Welcome to Country

9.10 AM *Opening address*

Senator the Hon Murray Watt

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and Senator for Queensland (video message)

9.15 AM Kurt Hockey

ABARES

*Big picture issues affecting local farmers*

9.30 AM Carmel Onions

Commonwealth Bank

*Market insights adding value to farmers*

9.45 AM Johnelle Stevens

Bureau of Meteorology

*$100b in a changing climate*

10.00AM Jo-Marie Moore

Australian Bureau of Statistics

*Modernising the agricultural data collection*

10.15 AM Questions and panel discussion

10.30 AM Morning tea

**SESSION 2:** **Adopting and adapting for sustainable growth**

11.00 AM Our experienced panel members will share their stories of innovation and adaptation driving sustainability and business success. Join in and ask questions.

MODERATOR: Justin Heaven, Toowoomba & Surat Basin Enterprise

PANELLISTS:

Belinda Frentz, Owner/Manager of Salad Makers and Chair, Growcom

Kerriann Lamb, Wickham Farms Killarney

Bronwyn and David Neuendorf, 9Dorf Farms

Craig Baillie, University of Southern Queensland

Angus Woods, Woods Foods

12.30 PM      Lunch

**SESSION 3:** **Driving value in agriculture and food**

CHAIR         Richard Routley, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries QLD

1.30 PM Jonathan Wong

ABARES

*Commodity outlook and issues*

1.45 PM      Mirjana Prica

Food and Agribusiness Growth Centre

*The $43 billion food and agribusiness opportunity for Queensland*

2.00 PM      Jonny Arkins

Wellcamp Airport

*Driving value in agriculture and food - Gate2Gate*

2.15 PM      Ed Matthews

Australian Rail Track Corporation

*Inland Rail – generating new opportunities for industries and regional communities*

2.30 PM      Jordan Hatch

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

*Helping farmers get to market*

2.45 PM      Questions and panel discussion

3.15 PM      Close and invitation to stay for afternoon tea/networking

About ABARES and the Regional Outlook conferences

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) is the research arm of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. ABARES provides professionally independent research, analysis, forecasts and statistics. ABARES Regional Outlook conferences are an essential part of our delivery of commodity forecasts and research results directly to rural and regional communities, with each conference program tailored to the region. For more visit www.agriculture.gov.au/abares.

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