



2025 NATIONAL Small Town Reinvention CONFERENCE

Following the highly successful Inaugural National Small Town Reinvention Conference in 2024, plans are underway to convene another such learning event in September 2025. Through the support of the South Australian Government, the Light Regional Council, the Northern and Yorke Local Government Association, Rebuilding Australia and local coordination from the Office of Tony Piccolo, MP for Light, this Conference is being organised to provide an opportunity for community builders and organisations who care deeply about the future of small town Australia, and who desire to discover best practice in terms of reinvention and positive futures.

There are currently 1614 country towns in Australia which have a population of less than 5000. 1088 of these towns have less than 1000 people. It is estimated that more than 70% of these small towns in terms of population and business life are either static or dying. Yet these small communities continue to play a significant role in terms of agriculture, mining and tourism, and represent home and community to a population of 1,131,600 persons. Their reinvention is of national significance.

National and international evidence suggest the importance of seven locally driven development actions; namely –

- *Continually growing and diversifying local leadership and capacity.*
- *Fostering a positive and can-do mindset.*
- *Actively encouraging healthy community behaviours related to inclusion, conversation, engagement and collaboration.*
- *Encouraging asset, idea and opportunity obsession.*
- *Developing community 'wow-factor'.*
- *Enhancing lifestyle options related to recreation, education, health, housing, childcare, retail services and staying local.*
- *Creating the environment that supports local-based employment enterprise and economic development.*

This Conference seeks to provide an opportunity for those who care passionately about small-town Australia to come together around conversation and storytelling to share their experiences and successes with reference to the above development themes.



***Prosperity through connection,
collaboration & community***

National Small Town Reinvention Conference

Dates:

22-25 September 2025

Venue:

Kapunda Football Club | Kapunda, South Australia

The Conference will be based at the Kapunda Football Club, Kapunda, South Australia with Conference activities and study tours occurring throughout the South Australian regions of Light, Barossa, Mid Murray, Clare and Gilbert Valleys, Adelaide Hills and Plains.

Conference Organiser:

The **Bank of I.D.E.A.S.** has been committed since its establishment in 1989 to supporting the growth of enterprising, sustainable and vibrant small-town communities and economies.

Their facilitation endeavours have involved 2000+ rural communities and project work in 67 countries.



Conference Sponsorship:

The **National Small-Town Reinvention Conference** seeks to provide an opportunity for those who care passionately about the future of small-town Australia.

We have a range of **Sponsorship Options** to showcase those who share this vision

Please contact **Peter Kenyon** for more information on Conference Sponsorship Investment Opportunities:

Expressions of Interest:

The Organising Committee supporting the organisation of the Conference would welcome any expressions of interest from communities and individuals keen to facilitate a workshop, present a keynote, share their story during the PechaKucha storytelling session and/or be part of an afternoon study tour.

For further information:

For further information or any questions, please contact **Peter Kenyon**
0417 183 719 or **pk@bankofideas.com.au**

Check the **EVENTS PAGE** of the website for updates on the program, speakers, workshops, accommodation suggestions and more.



22 Sept. to
25 Sept.
2025



Kapunda
South Australia



\$990.00*
(inc. GST)

* Conference fee including all sessions, all meals & conference materials. Registration is through the website of the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. | **bankofideas.com.au**

The Conference fee does not include travel and accommodation.

