



International Association
for Public Participation
AUSTRALASIA



IAP2 Newsletter

Rebuilding Communities – The Practitioner’s Role

The integral role of community engagement in rebuilding communities has come to light in recent months following the tragedy of the Victoria bushfires and the ongoing fight to keep our economy afloat.

Victoria’s Bushfires

In the case of the tragic Victorian bushfires, the concept of rebuilding communities means much more than laying bricks and hammering new foundations.

With entire towns simply wiped off the map, communities are forced to start from scratch. But with this comes the opportunity for change and improvement.

Residents of these areas may have ideas regarding policy or insurance, they may want to put forward future safety measures or they may have ideas for fire-safety education.

With many now facing the task of rebuilding, Anne Pattillo announced that IAP2, together with the Australasian Facilitators Network, has volunteered to offer support to Victorian communities by helping them to make their decisions, plans and policies for the future.



“Helping organisations engage with their communities to make tough decisions is the thing we do best,” Anne said.

“The aftermath of the Victorian fires is the moment we need to be at our best. More than 40 people have offered their support so far, from the heart of the affected area and as far as Glasgow.”

If you would like to volunteer your time, ideas or skills please contact Anne at pres@iap2.org.au.

The Economy

Companies around the globe are downsizing as many of the world’s largest and strongest economies crumble into recession.

This has had a significant effect on the livelihood of many Australians but has presented the opportunity for community engagement practitioners to engage companies internally to manage restructures.

Internal engagement is an important element of public participation work and one which can help rebuild communities.

Many employees have been given the opportunity through internal engagement to present new ideas and make decisions on their professional future, such as choosing a long holiday, less working hours to minimise job losses or new ways to save costs.

IAP2 Australasia

At IAP2, we recognise the impact of the economy on our members. IAP2 continues to invest in our quality and hold our price during these tough economic times.

What’s Inside ...

<i>Social Networking Site</i>	2
<i>President’s Report</i>	2
<i>Case study: Utah Point Berth</i>	3
<i>Indigenous Engagement</i>	4
<i>Climate Change Forum</i>	5

Got a Story To Share?

Please contact Amanda Newbery at anewbery@bbspr.com.au or 07 3221 6711.

Invitation to Australasian IAP2 Conference

Join us in Perth for the IAP2 conference on 22 and 23 October. Practitioners, policy makers and those interested in stakeholder and community engagement are invited to meet, share ideas, learn new skills and expand thinking as we focus this year on Tackling the Tough Issues – Engaging for Results Conference.

Call for papers will be out shortly focusing on the following themes:

- Engaging on the tough issues (local, state, national, international level)
- Innovative tools or techniques
- Communicating tough messages
- Advanced practitioner development
- The future of community engagement

There promises to be something for everyone, so whether you are just starting out in the industry or an experienced professional book in these dates. Email: conference09@iap2.org.au

