



MEDIA RELEASE

CMA'S BIGGEST EVER CONFERENCE FOCUSED ON REDEMPTIVE PRACTICES

Close to 500 delegates attended the biggest ever CMA Conference at Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, 28 - 29 May, 2024.

Now in its 22nd year, the CMA Conference helps church and ministry leaders, managers, administrators and board members develop the knowledge, skills and practices needed to overcome organisational hurdles and be more effective in church, business or ministry.

CMA National Director, Gary Williams says the 2024 Conference centred around the theme 'Redemptive', and heard some outstanding keynote presentations that honed in on the theme.

"For a long time, CMA has talked about the progression from compliance to effectiveness to excellence for Christian organisations. That's still a worthwhile direction, but at this conference, nearly 500 delegates from over 250 Christian organisations heard that there is a still higher calling. That calling is to be a *redemptive* organisation, to participate in creative restoration of our organisations and our communities, through a posture of 'I sacrifice, we win'." Gary says.

The Conference featured 5 plenary sessions led by Australian and International speakers, and 42 elective sessions around Ministry Governance, HR, Finance and Legal, Fundraising and Communications and Executive Leadership.

Delegates were able to stroll through a packed Exhibition hall featuring like-minded product and service organisations and was sponsored by 29 professional businesses and Christian media outlets.

Ansvar Insurance has been the Premium Sponsor of CMA Conference for over 20 years and they continue to support the event due to its unique value for Christian ministries and organisations. Other sponsors agree. "As an exhibitor at recent CMA Conferences, we have appreciated connecting with a diverse range of hundreds of delegates from churches,

denominations, Christian charities and other organisations“, Ashley Saunders from Barnabas Aid says.

During the two-day event, time was taken to honour 12 graduates of The Board Internship program, and commissioned a further 17 young leaders for the 2024/25 internship program. The Board Internship is a joint initiative between CMA and Korus Connect, and places young Christians between the ages of 22 and 35 in the boardrooms of Christian NFPs and Churches for 12 months, during which they receive hands-on experience, one-on-one mentorship and gain an intimate view of Host Board's operations.

An invitation-only breakfast event was held for organisations who are accredited partners of the CMA Standards Council. These organisations have been carefully assessed against the Nine Principles of Ministry Accountability and the 54 supporting standards, and have scored a 100% passing grade to achieve a Standards Council 'Accreditation' Seal.

Early Bird registrations are now open for the 2025 Conference to be held at Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, 10 - 11 June. Register today at www.cma.net.au/conference to secure the Early Bird rate.

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