



# Aviation Law Conference

Canberra 6 - 8 May 2026



## Preliminary Conference Program

### Wednesday May 6<sup>th</sup>

**ATSB Lab Tour** – 2 to 3pm & **Old Parliament House Tour** – 3:30 to 4:30pm

**Welcome Cocktail Reception**, National Press Club of Australia – 6 to 8pm

### Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>

**Day 1 Conference Sessions - 8:30am to 5pm: Old Parliament House**

**Including topics:** Airlines: Current Challenges (panel), Aviation Industry Ombudsman, Australian Competition & Consumer Commission, Emerging Issues in Advanced Air Mobility (panel), The David Boughan Memorial Address, Litigation, Airservices Australia, Airport, Planning & Development (panel).

**Speakers include:** **Ben Jones**, Head of Legal and Company Secretary QANTAS, **Jennifer Page**, General Counsel Air New Zealand, **Susan Schneider**, Chief Legal Officer and Company Secretary Virgin Australia, **James McIntyre**, Special Counsel HWL Ebsworth, **David Cranston**, Executive Director, Airports and Aviation, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, **Florence Takinan**, Manager Legal and Enforcement, Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji, **Richard Stocker**, Branch Manager of Airworthiness and Engineering, Civil Aviation Safety Authority, **Professor Alan Tan**, National University of Singapore, **Tom Brennan** Senior Counsel, **Dominic Gyngell**, General Counsel and Board Secretariat, Airservices Australia, **Jayne Heatley**, Partner HWL Ebsworth and **Stephen Byron**, CEO Canberra Airport

**Conference Dinner**, ANZAC Atrium, Australian War Memorial – 7 to 10:30pm

### Friday May 8<sup>th</sup>

**Day 2 Conference Sessions - 8:45am to 3:30pm: Old Parliament House**

**Including topics** Government Future Direction (panel), Insurance, Space (panel), Defence (panel), Debate in the **House of Representatives chamber** on a mock bill to nationalise an airline.

**Speakers to include** **Pip Spence**, Director Aviation Safety, Civil Aviation Safety Authority, **Angus Mitchell**, Chief Commissioner Australian Transport Safety Bureau, **Rob Sharp**, Chief Executive Officer, Airservices Australia, **Eoghan McCarthy**, Head of Aerospace; Pacific Region, WTW Global Aviation & Space; Willis Australia Limited, **Kate O'Connell**, Principal Legal Officer, Office of International Law, Attorney General's Department, **Alexandra Senata**, Executive Director, Australian Space Agency and **Wing Commander Lee Warren**, Director Legal, Royal Australian Air Force

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