



GLF Update

18 August 2010

What is a GLF Update?

At the most recent Alumni Executive Committee meeting a number of initiatives were raised and reviewed one of which was the Leaders Institute News which now has an extended format and will be distributed on a monthly basis. To supplement this there was a call from the Alumni Executive to publish regular updates from current year GLF participants. This concept is now a reality and thanks to our very generous volunteer participants, who as you all can appreciate, are extremely time poor, this publication will arrive in your in box every month on the alternate fortnight to the Leaders Institute News. The purpose of this update is to inform Fellows about the past month's Program activities and their impact on participants. We regularly hear from Fellows that you want to stay connected not only with each other but also with the GLF Program as it continues to evolve and we are confident that this new initiative will provide this much desired link and will help connect current year participants with the wider network of Fellows that they will soon enough be a part of.

GLF2010 UPDATE – PAUL MINAHAN – FERTILIZER PROCUREMENT MANAGER, ELDERS RURAL SERVICES

After a two week mid-semester break we launched back into the GLF10 season with a very powerful luncheon with General Peter Cosgrove as part of Leadership Week. General Cosgrove provided the audience with an inspiring and entertaining insight into his views of what makes a good leader, sharing with us some remarkable examples of how these traits have been exercised in his world.

Pearls of wisdom such as, 'Staff look to leaders for direction and leadership, leaders look to staff for courage and direction; take responsibility, don't wait for it; rank does not always carry the answers,' and, 'Good leaders don't just lead 9 to 5 with limited liability,' etch into our minds the values exercised by General Cosgrove that make him the leader we have read so much about. The session flowed seamlessly and was a credit to Brian, Nigel and Kerry, nominated by the group in preceding weeks to preside over the day and present our questions.

A couple of weeks later we were off on the mid year regional retreat to Port Augusta and surrounds. Over several days we were presented with a diverse range of community viewpoints that ranged from challenges facing the indigenous, displaced youth, RFDS, outback police, refugees and small isolated communities, contrasted against the potential opportunities lying ahead with mining. Unanimously we were left to consider the quandary of how to develop and capture positive externalities stemming from mining growth and deliver beneficial outcomes across regional communities.

An unequivocal highlight for the group was the opportunity to share unstructured time together on the trip. Between impromptu entertainment on the bus and the energy charged post-dinner parley, bonds between GLF10 participants and the group certainly took a leap forwards as the layers we put in place to protect us were peeled back. Early post-trip comments amongst the group certainly suggest there will be an enhanced degree of openness in GLF10 discussions.

Reflection on these past weeks certainly reinforces that success in challenging environments requires not only a smart game but also a tireless drive to achieve outcomes. It is no coincidence that the leaders we have met, regional or otherwise, have a genuine passion for their cause and display an admirable resilience when faced with what undoubtedly seem like immovable obstacles. The challenge for us as leaders is to identify an area of interest that stirs a passion so great that we are prepared to tolerate personal sacrifice and persist through the array of barriers that present themselves.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Australian Centre for Social Innovation: SA's Integrated Design Commissioner, Tim Horton, is the Australian Centre for Social Innovation's Blue Sky Session speaker this August. This Blue Sky Session promises to be an absolute ripper - When: Monday August 23rd, 4:30 to 5:30pm Where: Bradley Forum (Level 5), Hawke Centre, 50 North Tce, Adelaide. Register at www.tacsi.org.au/blue-sky-sessions/.

Think Women Breakfast - The Women on Boards Think Women Breakfast at the Intercontinental Adelaide on Thursday 26 August 2010. For more information please visit the Women on Boards website <http://www.womenonboards.org.au/thinkwomen/>

2010 CEDA Leaders Series - Hon Mike Rann MP on Tuesday 31 August, 2010, 12pm to 2pm, Crowne Plaza, Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide Click Here for [Special GLF Rego Form](#).

Hawke Centre - The Right to Mobility Tuesday 31 August 2010 5.45pm for a 6.00pm start, Bradley Forum, UniSA City West campus, Hawke Building level 5, 50-55 North Terrace, Adelaide. Presentations by David Constantine, Lloyd Walker and Damian Griffis Introduced by Kelly Vincent MLC, Dignity for Disability party. RSVP essential via Hawke Centre web site or phone 08 8302 0215

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