

Empowering Women: A Summit for Growth, Power & Purpose

23rd OCTOBER, 2026

Wayi Djerring - Us Together

(located within the Queen Victoria Womens Centre)

210 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000

WELCOME & OPENING

8:30 – 9:00 AM

Registration & Welcome Coffee

9:00 – 9:05 AM

Dr Sonja Skocic: Opening remarks

9:05 – 9:20 AM

Lynne Cazaly: 'Before We Begin: Understanding Cognitive Load & the Cost of Holding It All Together'

WOMEN LEADING CHANGE - LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY, & BOLD IDEAS FOR A BETTER FUTURE

9:20 – 9:50 AM

KEYNOTE: Liz Gosper OAM: 'Inclusive Sport & Women Leading Change'

9:50 – 10:20 AM

Kabinga Mazaba: 'The Cost of Just Doing It: What's Really Driving Your Life'

10:20 – 10:45 AM

Q&A interactive panel for audience participation

MIND BODY WOMAN

11:00 – 11:40 AM

Karyn Fitts, Esther McConnell, Maria Dietrich: 'Women Who Go the Distance: Stories of Courage, Endurance & Possibility'

11:40 – 12:15 PM

Abby Wake: 'Joy, Movement and Embodied Expression as Pathways to Transformation'

12:15 – 12:45 PM

Olivia Ong: 'Back on my Feet: A Story of Resilience, Self Compassion & Becoming'

CREATIVITY, VOICE & EXPRESSION

1:45 – 2:10 PM

Malavika Kadwadkar: 'From Margins to Movement: Reclaiming Power Through Intersectional Voices'

2:10 – 2:35 PM

Tamara Protassow Adams: 'Creativity & clashing cultures: the ins & outs of permission'

2:35 – 3:00 PM

Caryn Griffin: 'Art as a tool for insight & empowerment'

3:00 – 3:30 PM

Q&A interactive panel for audience participation

THRIVING, CHANGE & POSSIBILITY

3:45 – 4:10 PM

Jane Monica-Jones: 'The Body-Balance Sheet: Reclaiming Power, Safety & Agency in Women's Financial Lives'

4:10 – 4:35 PM

Katherine Gokavi-Whaley: 'You've Outgrown Your Old Self, Now What?'

4:35 – 4:55 PM

Collective reflection: 'What do women need to thrive?'