



MEDIA RELEASE

24 March 2018

REASON party founder Fiona Patten to address Annual Women's Lunch

The Victorian Transport Association has secured Upper House Victorian MP and REASON party founder Fiona Patten to deliver the keynote address at the association's Annual Women's Lunch, on **Friday, 20 April**.

Ms Patten was elected as the independent member of the Victorian Legislative Council for Northern Metropolitan in 2014. She has been described by ABC broadcaster Jon Faine as one of Australia's "most effective legislators", and is one of a handful of crossbenchers to hold the balance of power in the Upper House of the Victorian Parliament.

"Fiona Patten is one of the most influential figures in the Victorian Government, and with such a diverse and interesting career in and out of politics, she will no doubt have a compelling message for guests at our Annual Women's Lunch," said VTA CEO Peter Anderson.

"The rise of independent MPs in Australia and around the world has really been something to behold so it will be interesting to hear Fiona's views on the emergence of non-traditional political parties and social groups, and how this will disrupt conventional politics and ways of doing things.

"The VTA shares the same passion Fiona has for getting common sense outcomes in policy and planning and we look forward to welcoming her to our Annual Women's Lunch next month," Mr Anderson said.

The VTA has also secured a number of other prominent and successful women in transport to address the lunch including the Chair of Transport Women Australia, Jaqueline Brotherton, and Viva Energy Australia Logistics Manager Kersten Ross.

"The VTA has taken a leadership role in working to increase the participation rate of women in the transport industry. The Annual Women's Lunch is a great opportunity for members to network with each other, and discuss ways we can work together to attract and retain women to the industry," Mr Anderson said.

The lunch is being held Friday, 20 April at Richmond's Fenix River Terrace. Individual and table registrations are now available at www.vta.com.au or by calling the VTA on 03 9646 8590

Ends...

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