

CLOSING REMARKS

TERESA CORBIN: And thank you, Stilgherrian, for facilitating such a lively session for the end of our conference. That brings us to the end of two days, and it's been a very interesting couple of days, and there's been a lot of networking that's gone on, and we kicked off with Paul Fletcher, the Honourable Member for Bradfield, giving us an update on his work in relation to Mobile Black Spots. Then we had Gerd Leonhard, our world-leading futurist from Switzerland, present. And that was followed by another very lively panel on privacy, debating whether privacy is dead, and going through the shifting themes of policy issues that relate to privacy today. Another exciting session followed that, with videos from our members for the first time, and from case workers – many of them, our members. Those videos are actually available, also, if you want to see them – I know some providers here, particularly, have asked if they could follow up a bit further on that, so happy to talk to anybody about that. Then, of course, we had our launch of the Digital Business Kit, digital ready, and we had our panel on small business, which was also quite interesting and has generated a bit of media today, which is quite good. But I think probably, even though there's been many great moments in the last few days, one of the most inspiring things that we got to do was the launch of our inaugural Apps for All Challenge. So, thank you to everybody that helped us get there but, in particular, our partner, Telstra, and also the Australian Human Rights Commission, for being able to do that for the first time. And Telstra has also made some great announcements. The one I particularly want to highlight here was that they announced that they have killed captcha off their website, which was something that we advocated very strongly for last year. Hopefully there'll be lots of other businesses and providers that will follow suit by removing those very annoying scripts that you have to type out to verify that you are a human.

Today has been great, with the rolling-out session – something I know our rural and remote members that are here today really valued. I know they've taken the opportunity to talk to some of you in the breaks as well about that issue. It was also important and interesting for all of us to get an update on NBN, and how that's tracking. The Check Out the Telcos was also very good, with lots of questions from our members. In fact, we almost had to edit them down a bit because there were so many questions. GoT Content? – need I say any more about this feisty session? In conclusion, I want to thank our sponsors – our premium sponsors, Telstra and Google. Our associate sponsors amaysim, Optus, auDA, Conexu Foundation, our keynote sponsor, Vodafone, and our lunch sponsor, the NRS, the National Relay Service. And our captioning sponsors, Red Bee, and the ACMA. I also want to thank all our speakers, all our facilitators. I want to thank our captioners, who have done an absolutely awesome job. I think we should give them a clap.

(APPLAUSE)

And I think we should also thank our interpreters but, um, I'll just let you know, this is how you clap in Auslan... Let's all give the interpreters a clap. Thank you.

(APPLAUSE)

I want to also thank our staff, because there's a few people here that have worked unbelievably hard to make this event happen. Now, I know a lot of them don't like to sort of come forward, but I would really love it, if you do feel brave enough to come forward, because it would be nice for the conference to see the team that's behind this event. Anybody looking like they're going to come forward? Richard? Richard is our ICT officer, and he's done a brilliant job with all the videos and all the AV that's had to go on behind the scenes, and also the Dig Digital Ready Kit, so thank you, Richard.

(APPLAUSE)

Kelly has been our session coordinator, and I know she also doesn't like coming forward. Kelly is also our small business project officer.

(APPLAUSE)

And I believe that Kate and Yuriko haven't joined us in the room, but no doubt you have seen them at the front desk and you registered with them. They're just a little bit shy. Really, without Kate and Yuriko, this event just could not happen, because they have really, really worked an enormous amount. There are other staff here – Kate's just walked in the door please give Kate a clap.

(APPLAUSE)

This is the first time she's been the event's coordinator for this event, and she has worked her butt off, so thank you, Kate.

(APPLAUSE)

Now you can sleep! She hasn't had very good sleep lately. I also, even though she's not here today, but she was here yesterday, want to mention that we have an intern that was helping us yesterday from UTS. We love having interns come along and help us with our work. We usually have at least one or two a year. I know there are students here today, and that's why I wanted to mention it.

(LAUGHTER)

We're always – we don't want to be inundated, but we are very happy to welcome interns if we can accommodate them, so let us know if you're interested in that.

And lastly, I want to thank you, as the participants. The questions have been great. The debate has been, as always, enthralling and enlightening. I look forward to seeing you another time at another event. And I also look forward to hearing from you throughout the year, because I love to hear the input and the feedback that we get through our consultations and discussions. So thank you very much. Safe travelling home. Our members will be meeting after the afternoon tea break for their Annual General Meeting, and that's back in this room. So thank you, everyone, and let's close the conference. No? Narelle? I forgot something?

NEW SPEAKER: If my voice can manage it, there is one more thankyou that I do need to give, and that is actually to Teresa, because she's the one that actually slaves and flogs, occasionally, but mostly thanks, and is wonderful, to bring this whole thing together. So Teresa, you get one too.

(APPLAUSE)

Thank you!

(APPLAUSE)
