BELMONT BEC NEWS UPDATE - MARCH, 2024



Quote of the month

"Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans."
John Lennon
English singer, songwriter, and musician - 1940-1980



United Nations Commission Status of Women 68 (CSW)
Proud to announce BBEC & TCF are hosting our 9th CSW NGO Forum during CSW. Media Release Event flyer
Topic: Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs, Gender Equality, and the Sustainable Development Goals -
Carol Hanlon, Founder/CEO, TCF Global, Belmont BEC & BPW Business Incubator will be hosting a NGO Forum in New York, UN CSW68. Global speakers from Australia, Iran, Lebanon, Uganda and Sudan will provide insights into economic empowerment of women, gender equality, and projects that support the women and the SDG's. Like to know more about NGO CSW68 **visit** www.ngocsw.org
Visit https://bpwbusinessincubator.com/empoweringwomen



Celebrate International Women's Day – March 8th
Find an event at a BPW Club near you or visit UN Women in your region.
BPW Australia network - taking action for women's equality
BPW (Business & Professional Women) members advocate for issues that affect women around the world today. BPW operates in over 100 countries globally and has consultative status with United Nations Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC). If you wish to connect with like-minded women in Australia visit www.bpw.com.au or globally visit BPW International www.bpw-international.org or contact Carol Hanlon



Looking to increase your sales? Export your goods or services?
FREE ONLINE EXPORT WEBINARS Thursday, March 28th
1) Introduction to Exporting, 9.30am-11.30am (AWST) Bookings
2) Export Guide for Small Business, 12-2pm (AWST) Bookings
3) Writing your Export Marketing Plan, 2.30-4.30pm (AWST) Bookings
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL **Can't Make the Date? Request a Recording**
Book a FREE Export Online Mentor visit www.becnational.com/export



BELMONT BEC AUCTION ONLINE – GRAB YOUR BARGAIN NOW!
Accommodation, conference rooms, diamond watch, sports memorabilia, online business development and heaps more fabulous offers. All proceeds assist BEC & TCF provide support services to small businesses. www.becauction.com





Belmont Business 'Ask an Expert' Sundowner

You are invited to join us on 27th March, 5pm-7pm
Promote your business, make new business and gain Export opportunities. Meet our Great Speakers, Award Winners & Finalists; Bookings Essential **FREE Entry**: Nibbles Provided. **Venue**: Empire Bar, 220 Great Eastern Hwy, Lathlain, **Door Prizes:** $250 Digital Business Voucher; $200 BEC Membership Voucher



Are you a Speaker or Presenter? Like to present during our 20th designedge Innovation Festival? BEC, TCF & BPW Members are invited to register interest in being a presenter or speaker during our **20th designedge Innovation festival** which will run 4 months June to September to our national & global network. Sessions can run live or recorded online. View 2023 Festival Sponsor Opportunities also available. **Contact Carol Hanlon**

Grants and assistance programs in Australia Find grants, funding, and support programs from across government to help YOUR business grow and succeed! When searching for funding, keep in mind that you'll generally need to meet certain criteria to be eligible, and that, aside from funding assistance, many programs can help your business by building your skills and knowledge. **Do you qualify?**

Sponsorship Opportunity **31st Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards 2024** Join us to sponsor a category in the 31st Annual Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards in 2024 providing recognition to small businesses across WA. Launching May and running through to October. Gain extensive promotion and marketing opportunities for your business.. **View 2023 winners & sponsors** **Further info contact Carol Hanlon**



The benefits of entering business awards
Have you ever selected a bottle of wine because it had lots of shiny medals? Winning an award can be an important step for your small business that gives you an edge over competitors - but you may wonder if it is worth the effort. This article lists the benefits and challenges …**here**



How to make digital transformation work for your small business
It's crucial to figure out what AI can do for your business and not worry about how others use it. Of course, you need to monitor your competitors' activities and understand your industry's best practices. But you need to deploy AI in a way that makes sense for your business - and no, that doesn't mean firing your staff and replacing them with AI tools - you've got to think about where the human is in the loop of this in a much more fundamental way. **Article**



A series of useful guides from business.gov.au newsletter
Answering your top 5 starting a business questions - Starting a business is an exciting time, but it comes with challenges. Answers to the most asked questions.
New guidance for engaging with AI The Australian Cyber Security Centre has published new guidance on engaging with artificial intelligence (AI). It includes important advice to help businesses interact with AI securely.
Digital marketing help for small businesses Digital marketing is an important area for small businesses, but many face challenges with their digital marketing providers. The Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman has released a best practice guide to help small business navigate this topic.
Read these helpful articles (and more) **here.**



What small businesses need to know about cybersecurity
Many small businesses don't think about **cybersecurity** until after a **security breach**. Not having cybersecurity can cost your business money, time and result in lost sensitive information. Cyber attacks are the new normal for small business. Media reports may focus on corporate mega breaches, but small businesses are the new frontier for cyber criminals. A recent **Verizon data breach report** said small businesses are the target of 43% of cyber-attacks. The average **loss per attack averages more than $188,000**. Even worse, one report suggests that **60% of small businesses fold** within six months of a cyber attack. **Article.**



How to manage conflicts of interest in the workplace
Loyalty to one's workplace is a vital component of employment. Decision making and actions by employees should be fair and always within the interest of their employer. Lower staff numbers in a small business make conflicts of interest easy to spot, damaging workplace culture and staff trust. Follow these steps to identify, prevent and deal with conflicts of interest. **Be aware.**

Small Business Support – $20,000 instant asset write-off As part of the **2023–24 Budget External Link**, the Australian Government announced it will improve cash flow and reduce compliance for small businesses by temporarily increasing the instant asset write-off threshold to $20,000, from 1 July, 2023 until 30 June, 2024. Small businesses, with aggregated turnover of less than $10 million, will be able to immediately deduct the full cost of eligible assets costing less than $20,000 that are first used or installed ready for use between 1 July, 2023 and 30 June, 2024. ***Check with your accountant***. **Details.**



GLOBAL SOURCING EXPO SYDNEY, ICC, 12-14 June 2024
The Global Sourcing Expo is a highly anticipated 3-day event that brings together manufacturers, and suppliers in apparel, textiles, and homewares from around the world. This international trade show provides a platform for businesses to showcase their products, explore new markets, and establish valuable connections.
Visit globalsourcingexpo.com.au
***TCF Australia, CEO/Founder Carol Hanlon will present Free Import & Export Workshops at Global Sourcing Expo, ICC, Sydney, June 13 & 14th Bookings**

Are you an exporter or global trade advisor?
1001 Business Tips from 101™ Exporters and Global Trade Advisor Experts
Would you like to be featured in our new eBook with your 10 tips for Exporters and Global Trade Advisors? Each expert will be allocated two pages. Participation includes additional promotional opportunities as an expert, and you may also be invited as a presenter in future 1001 Business Tips Online Forums. Interested to share your expertise and gain exposure? **Contact Carol Hanlon**

Attracting a retaining a new breed of customer
CommBank Report Consumer Insights
Insights is an exclusive, wide-ranging analysis of the Australian consumer. This edition focuses on understanding consumer attitudes, motivations, and expectations of their experiences amid changes to the real and digital economy. **Report.**

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www.belmontbec.com/ membership



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www.belmontbec.com/mentoring

….The Cyber Sushi…
(serving up the cold facts, with some phish bytes)
Here's what's in this issue…
* Deep Deceptions: Navigating the Depths of Deep-fakes and Scams in the Digital Abyss. * Caller ID Spoofing: Can You Trust the Displayed Caller's Identity? * Protecting Your Socials: Avoiding Scams and Securing Against Takeovers. **Click**



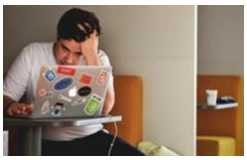
***Another tip by David Tuffley from the forthcoming - '1001 Business Tips from 101™ Cyber Security IT* Educate your directors**. Money flows down from the directors. It's essential that directors understand cybersecurity and can allocate the kind of funding needed for the latest prevention tools. If you are a director, be in no doubt that money spent on cybersecurity is a good investment. This is the best way to avoid catastrophic data breaches and damage to reputations.

ASIC issues warning on director ID
The Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC) recently issued a **letter** to all directors and authorised agents warning further actions will be taken if a director fails to apply for a director identification number (director ID).
You need a director ID if you are a director of a company, registered Australian body, registered foreign company or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander corporation. It is a criminal offence for a director to not apply on time. Details and how to apply are **here.**

PRESS RELEASE: Business Abundance launches the Business Recharge Program: Offering free expert assistance to local organisations
Business Abundance, a team of dedicated business consultants, accountants, IT and marketing professionals, proudly announces the launch of its new community initiative: the Business Recharge Program. This unique program is designed to offer pro bono business support services to local organisations in Australia, as part of Business Abundance's commitment to give back to the community. **Details.**

AIBEF Facilitation Focus newsletter
This issue features helpful articles on: Stop multitasking / Difference between a personal or business website / Marketing tips to grow your business / Considering a business restructure / Small business and emotional struggles / Flexibility in strategic business planning / Your ultimate legacy… and more **here.**

Business support from Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman
The role of the ASBFEO is to support small businesses and family enterprises - to enable them to grow and thrive. They provide resources to help you solve many problems, such as: cyber-security, financial wellbeing, mental health … and much more. Help is a click away - check out their useful website **here.**



Common challenges every small business owner struggle with
Running a small business can be incredibly challenging, but what are the specific struggles that small business owners face? Entrepreneurs need to understand the various issues that come along with managing a small business. From finding the right resources to managing finances, there are numerous hurdles that small business owners need to navigate to succeed. **Article.**

PESTLE analysis explained (with examples)
PESTLE analysis is an incredibly popular business analysis tool. Not only is it extremely easy to use, but it's also very effective. The basic premise of PESTLE analysis is that you analyse a chosen organisation from six different perspectives: Political, Economic, Socio-cultural, Technological, Legal, and Environmental. By doing so, you unlock a powerful understanding of how a given business is performing from every angle. **Like this.**

How to get press and media coverage for your small business
Every small business benefit from positive press coverage and good media coverage. Press means brand awareness and credibility. This, in turn, generates more web traffic and social media followers. In addition, press coverage gets your business in the public eye, driving sales. Ten tips to help you get good press coverage for your small business are **here.**

Six questions to ask before choosing a law firm
Before hiring an attorney or law firm to represent your business, it's important to know whether they're the best possible option for your company -- and that means asking the right questions. But the due diligence process can be daunting. How can you ensure you're selecting the best match for your company? **Questions.**

What small business should take from big business marketing
Running a small business is dramatically different than running a business like Coca Cola, which has been around since 1886. Despite the differences, many small business owners still spend a lot of time, energy, and finances to use big business marketing techniques. There are a lot of things that small business can learn from big business marketing, including what to do and what not to waste your time on. **How?**

Explained: How Labor's industrial relations reforms will profoundly affect every small business
Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Tony Burke tabled the Labor government's long-awaited industrial relations reform bill in Parliament. Across 250 pages, the Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Bill 2022 describes the government's reform agenda in sharp detail. The legislation would have a profound impact on every small business in Australia. Here's what you need to know about the bill, from its proposed overhaul of the enterprise bargaining system to new Fair Work Commission powers to enforce hybrid work arrangements. **Explanation.**

Insolvency statistics (current)
ASIC releases weekly (two weeks in arrears) the following insolvency statistics to report on the level of company insolvency in Australia:
*Series 1: The first time a company enters external administration or has a controller appointed, and
* Series 2: All appointments over a company including the first, subsequent and transitional appointments.
You can download an Excel workbook that includes a data set providing the details of all external administration and controller appointments included in Series 1 and Series 2…. **Here.**

Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman Newsletter
Interesting articles for all small business owners, including - How to start, grow or transform your business in 2024; Help for small businesses using digital marketing; ASBFEO Procurement Inquiry completed; The insurance sector needs to do better . Plus a poll on **your** business plans for 2024. **Here.**

Access Asia Business Grants
Are you a Western Australian SME interested in advancing your business in Asian markets? Applications are now open for Round 6 of the Access Asia Business Grants (AABG) program. Grants of up to $30,000 (excluding GST) are available from a total pool of $360,000 (excluding GST) to help Western Australian SMEs and organisations to advance their export and trade activities in new Asian markets, particularly China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, and Vietnam. Applications must be submitted through the grants online portal by **12 noon AWST, Friday 15 March 2024**. **Details.**

3 ways Fair Work changes could impact your business
The changes will come into effect on 6 June, 2023 or an earlier date which could be announced, in the case of the bargaining changes. Certain aspects of workplace relations laws relating to bargaining, job security, gender equality, compliance and enforcement, and other conditions have changes. If you employ staff, here are three of the key changes which could impact your small business, and details of where you can learn more. You can find a summary of all of the changes on the **Department of Employment and Workplace Relations' website. Info.**

What is a business model and how to choose the best one for you
Put simply, a business model is an approach that you're taking to make money. It's how you deliver value to your customers, via products or services, in exchange for a set cost. A business model is an essential element of any new start-up, as it'll help you understand your value over the long term. **Answers.**

It's not too early to start thinking about …
The A - Z of preparing your small business tax return
Preparing and lodging your small business tax return requires careful planning and attention to detail. Failing to meet your tax obligations can result in penalties and fines from the ATO, which can negatively impact your business's financial health. This guide provides a step-by-step approach to preparing and lodging your small business tax return. By following this guide, you can maximise your tax refund and avoid any last-minute stress …. **Here!**



Effective employee retention strategies for your small business
Retaining your most valued employees, both new and old, is integral to running a successful business. There are many things that a small business can do to help reduce unwanted employee turnover, including setting clear employee expectations, offering promotion opportunities, tracking employee performance and progress, enhancing benefits and upping compensation, offering in-office perks, and taking time to uncover root causes for why employees leave in the first place. **Learn more**.

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The business advice industry in Australia and in many other countries is self-regulated, and virtually anyone can call themselves a business or enterprise facilitator, advisor, coach, mentor, or consultant. AIBEF provides accreditations for your skills and expertise. Further Info **www.aibef.org.au**

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Our special thanks to Storage King Perth Airport for their great support in sponsoring storage of textiles and sewing machines donated for our next delivery of community village sewing projects.



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Unit 3, 216 Belmont Ave., Cloverdale - Contact Belmont BEC

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Live and Recorded Webinar for Online - Anytime - Fast Track
Members receive one free webinar below during March - Contact us
To book for upcoming events visit **www.belmontbec.com/webinars**

- Writing Your Business Plan
- Pricing, Costing and Cashflow
- Starting Your New Business
- Understanding the Australian Privacy Changes
- Credit Management And Debt Collection
- How To Write A Tender Or Grant Submission
- Tips on Building a Successful Business
- Preparing For A Fashion Trade Show
- How To Start A Fashion Label
- Quality Control In The Fashion Industry
- Importing and Exporting
- Get Noticed By The Media
- How To Brief Your Website Developer
- TESTEX – Textile Accreditation and Labelling
- Avoiding Manufacturing Pitfalls
- Marketing On A Budget
- Strategies for Off Shore Outsourcing
- Sourcing in Asia via HK
- Sourcing Textiles & Apparel in India
- Buying Or Selling A Business
- Fashioning Sustainability Diverse Perspectives
- Balancing Work And Life
- Credit Management And Debt Collection
- How To Write A Tender Or Grant Submission
- Tips on Building a Successful Business
- Connect your Business to the Women's Empowerment Principles
- How To Grow Your Fashion Business
- Understanding your Intellectual Property – Trademarks, Designs, Patents
- Ethical Fashion and the Triple Bottom Line
- Italian Fashion Media
- Preparing a Business for Sale
- Global Platform for Sourcing From Women Vendors
- Tips on Using Social Media in your Business
- Make Customer Experience Your Competitive Edge
- Understanding Freight Logistics of Importing and Exporting
- How To Grow Your Business
- Strategies for Off Shore Sourcing
- Establishing Your Label in the USA
- What Buyers Are Looking For
- Specification Sheets for Apparel Manufacturing
- Marketing for Small Fashion Business

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