



## TCF AUSTRALIA NEWS UPDATE - MARCH 2025



### Quote of the month

"Some people regard private enterprise as a predatory tiger to be shot.  
Others look on it as a cow they can milk.  
Not enough people see it as a healthy horse, pulling a sturdy wagon."  
*Winston Churchill (1874-1965) Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945 and again from 1951 to 1955.*



### United Nations Commission Status of Women 69, Beijing +30

**BEC & TCF are hosting our 10th CSW NGO Forum New York, March 10th. [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 CSW69. Global speakers from USA, Canada, Korea, Iran, Nepal, UK and Australia will provide insights into economic empowerment of women, gender equality, and projects that support women and the SDG's. Further info on NGO CSW69 visit [www.ngocsw.org](http://www.ngocsw.org) or Visit [bpwbusinessincubator.com/empoweringwomen](http://bpwbusinessincubator.com/empoweringwomen)



### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GENDER EQUALITY?

Become part of G100 Australia MSME, linking with female and male leaders in micro, small medium enterprises who are interested in advancing gender equality across Australia and globally. [Contact G100 Country Chair Carol Hanlon](#)



### Australasian Institute of Business and Enterprise Facilitators (AIBEF) AIBEF Membership Scholarships

Are you a business advisor, mentor or coach? Like accreditation for your past expertise. Members can utilise post nominals providing accreditation and recognition for skills and expertise. **SPECIAL OFFER:** BEC, TCF and BPW Volunteer Mentors can apply for AIBEF Membership Scholarship. [AIBEF](#), Contact [Carol Hanlon](#)



### WOMEN ECONOMIC FORUM ASEAN 2025

**June 19-21, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

**Women Leaders Beyond Borders: Shaping the Future of the ASEAN Sheconomy.** You are invited to engage in impactful discussions, forge powerful networks and explore new pathways for women to shape the future of the global economy. [Register](#)



### Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics, Spring 11-13 March

Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics will provide visitors with an in-depth and unrivalled insight into the newest and choicest spring fabrics on offer. It will also be the perfect setting for suppliers and customers to conduct business deals or express interest in each other's products or services. With so much to offer, Intertextile Shanghai Apparel Fabrics is undoubtedly one of the premier textile, fabric, and accessories exhibitions in the world. [Contact TCF](#)



### STYLE Bangkok 2025, 2-6 April

Asia's premier lifestyle and fashion trade show, now in its 8th edition, where creativity converges with sustainability in a celebration of Thai craftsmanship. Organised by the Department of International Trade Promotion at the Ministry of Commerce, in collaboration with the Board of Trade of Thailand, this event serves as a vibrant platform for internationally acclaimed Thai brands, local designers, SMEs, and craftspeople. [Contact TCF](#)



### Delhi Spring Fair, India, 16-19 April

India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida Expressway, Delhi-NCR.  
Spring is now in April ... Featuring: home / lifestyle / fashion / furnishings / furniture / gifts / interior. [Details](#). [Contact TCF](#).



### Global Sourcing Expo, Sydney, 17-19 June

Registrations are now open! Mark your calendar for Tuesday 17 – Thursday 19 June 2025, at the International Convention Centre, Sydney, Australia. Taking place over three incredible days, this event has been at the forefront of global sourcing for more than a decade. It's a must-attend for retailers, key brands, and trade buyers. [Details](#). Registration [here](#).



### CENTRESTAGE, Hong Kong, 3-6 September

The annual Asian fashion extravaganza provides a comprehensive platform for designers and brands to present forward-thinking design collections and showcase the latest fashion. Centrestage (B2B+B2C) has gathered worldwide fashion brands together with influential industry buyers and media. [Contact TCF](#).



### 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 115 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](http://www.bpw.com.au) or globally BPW International [www.bpw-international.org](http://www.bpw-international.org) or contact [Carol Hanlon](#)



### Reminder about changes to casual employment rules

From 26 February 2025, eligible casuals can provide written notice to their employer to change to full-time or part-time employment under the new employee choice pathway. An employer can only refuse the notice for certain reasons. Check the changes [here](#).



### Redefining retail report from Inside Retail

2024 has brought significant changes to customer behaviour, driven by economic pressures and shifting expectations. Based on insights from over 750 Australian shoppers, this report highlights key areas to help retailers adapt and thrive in 2025. Inside, you'll discover: Strategies to deliver value without sacrificing quality / How service excellence builds trust and loyalty / The role of digital and personalised loyalty programs in meeting customer demands / The importance of data security and payment flexibility in shaping satisfaction. Connect to receive the full report [here](#).



### DO YOU HAVE ANY SMALL BUSINESS ISSUES?

[BEC AUSTRALIA](#) is the peak body for the national network of low cost business advisory centres assisting business intenders and small business owners, are providing feedback direct to Govt on national small businesses issues. **Belmont BEC & TCFWA also would like to hear from all its small business networks across Australia – What small business issues are causing you concern in your business. Send your 3 main issues to BEC AUSTRALIA Board Member [Carol Hanlon](#)**



### Are you a Speaker or Presenter?

#### Like to present during 21st designedge Innovation Festival?

BEC, TCF & BPW Members are invited to register interest in being a presenter or speaker during our 21st designedge Innovation festival which will run 4 months May to September to our national & global network. Speakers can run LIVE or recorded ONLINE. [View 2024 Festival](#) **Sponsor Opportunities also available.** Contact [Carol Hanlon](#)



### Outlook for 2025: A roadmap for small businesses

For any roadmap, it is important to have achievable goals for your business, with key dates and goals that will motivate you for the year ahead. With 2025 looking like the year of change and adjustment, you need to control what you can manage, like preparing for recurring annual events, and be flexible about goals and projects. What does your small business look like for 2025? [Check](#).



### Consumer rights and guarantees

Businesses must meet a set of basic rights when they sell products or services. These basic rights are called consumer guarantees. They are

included in the Australian Consumer Law. Consumers automatically receive these consumer guarantees when they buy goods and services. It is unlawful for businesses to mislead consumers about these rights. [Learn more.](#)



### 11 tips for better small business cash flow management

As a small business owner, nothing is more important than managing your cash flow - not even revenue or profits. Many profitable businesses have shuttered not because they didn't have customers ready and willing to pay for their products or services but because they didn't have the cash flow to pay employees, stay on top of debt payments, and keep the lights on. [Learn more.](#)



### 5 small changes, make a big difference in your business

The beginning of the new year is an ideal time to consider where you can make critical changes within your business to take it to the next level. Knowing where to begin can be an overwhelming process. In fact, it's often the little tweaks which you can implement quickly that have the biggest impact on your business success and, better still, won't blow your budget to action them. Begin tweaking [here.](#)



### Challenges for small businesses coping with debt

Risk is part of running a business. You can't easily plan for recession, pandemics, natural disasters or other negative events, because if you take a too-cautious approach then you'll never succeed. But sometimes the odds will go against you. If you sit back passively and wait for the worst to happen, it just might. So: take action. Manage what you owe before it becomes unmanageable. Some useful tips to help you take control of your debts are [here.](#)



**TCF Australia membership** – Get involved with your TCF non-profit community organisation - receive buying mission opportunities, supply chain linkages, free training vouchers, access to fashion business mentoring for your business. Bronze, Silver & Gold Levels available. Membership is tax deductible

[Membership Subscription](#)

**Welcome to our New Members**

TCF invites its network to link with its Social Media pages

TCF Facebook <https://tinyurl.com/he26e7an>

TCF LinkedIn <https://tinyurl.com/3b4k3z72>



### TCF WA, TCF Australia and TCF Global Mentors and Business Advisors

Discuss your business issues and concerns with your confidential advisor and develop your action plan for success. [Book by the Hour:](#) Online or Phone



### Are you an exporter or global trade advisor?

Like to be featured in our eBook with your 10 Tips' for Exporters and Global Trade Advisors? Free to participate. Interested to share your expertise and gain global exposure?? **Contact** [Carol Hanlon](#)



### Why Australia needs a National Small Business Strategy

There are almost 2.6 million small businesses in Australia, comprising around 97 per cent of all businesses (on 30 June 2024).<sup>1</sup> They contribute approximately \$590 billion to the economy annually, accounting for almost one-third of Australia's GDP.<sup>2</sup> They employ around 5.4 million people, or around 42 per cent of the private sector's workforce. Read the 62-page document [here.](#)



### 7 effective ways to elevate online customer service

Customers' choices and preferences might shift overnight, but one thing remains constant: their demand for fast, convenient and reliable customer service.

Smart businesses know that while products and services can often be replicated, standout online customer service can set them apart in today's ultra-competitive market. Efficient, accessible support has become a winning edge and those who master it are halfway to success. [The ways!](#)



### The four Cs of a 21st century small business

In this new age of entrepreneurship, there are 4 Cs that are paramount in running a new business: Communication, Creation, Critical Thinking, and Collaboration. Unpack the importance of each of them [here](#).



### The Cyber Sushi

Featured in this issue-

- \* Hijacked Connections: The reality of Phone Porting and SIM swap scams.
- \* CyberPsychology and CyberSecurity.
- \* Let's talk about sextortion.
- \* The news and views you don't want to miss.
- \* Can criminals make payments with my credit card when they didn't have my CVC number? [Learn more](#).



### Insolvency law

#### Facing financial difficulty? Take action early!

The worst you can do if facing financial difficulty, either personally or as a company director, is to ignore the situation. Despite the stress of a possible bankruptcy or insolvency, obtaining specialist advice early about your legal rights and options may help mitigate loss and increase the chances of financial recovery. [Learn more](#).



Another tip by Dr Mohiuddin Ahmed - from the now published -

### '1001 Business Tips from 101™ Cyber Security Experts

**No personal activities on business devices.** Social media platforms are used by cybercriminals to launch social engineering attacks. It is quite easy for cybercriminals to target victims based on the information available online, i.e., About Us/Team information from any business website. Hence, for the safety of the business, it is best not to allow any personal activities when using business devices.



### Small Business News

**A word from the Ombudsman** - The ASBFEO Pulse points to a continuing flat and challenging trading environment with many headwinds, well short of times when small businesses felt wind in their sails. The cost-of-doing-business crisis is set to stay with us for some time yet, although the rate of price increases will hopefully slow for some essential business inputs. Read the newsletter [here](#).



### Predictions 2025 - Banking

As cyberthreats become more sophisticated and AI technology rapidly evolves, financial institutions need to anticipate future challenges to protect consumer data and ensure operational resilience. Read this Forrester report to gain analyst insights on the future of banking and cloud technology investments ....access the report [here](#).



### How to sell second-hand products online

If your business is selling products, consumers have the right to expect certain things when they buy a product. These basic rights are called consumer guarantees. The basic rights covered by consumer guarantees can't be taken away by anything that a business says or does. [More info](#).



### WeWearAustralian New York

WeWearAustralian is more than just an initiative. It's a community-driven movement born from a sense of commitment and connection to our industry, uniting us all in our respect for Australian fashion. We stand as advocates for Australian fashion, community, and purpose. What began as a collective response to challenging times has evolved into a movement that transcends borders, celebrating the very best of Australian creativity and resilience. [Info](#).



### Guide to the 4-day work week proposal

The 4-day working week has long been a topic of conversation at the staff lunch table. We've all heard about the compelling legends of Scandinavian countries trying out the 4-day working week to great success. But is implementing a 4-day working week realistic outside of a trial model? And if yes, is it right for your organisation? To help you weigh up the benefits of a 4-day work week against the disadvantages, everything you need to know about this trending workplace model is [here](#).



### The Little Book of Scams

The best way to protect yourself against scams is through awareness

and education. ***The Little Book of Scams*** is recognised internationally as an important tool for consumers and small businesses to learn about scams including: the most common scams to watch out for, the different ways scammers can contact you, the tools scammers use to deceive you, the warning signs, how to protect yourself against scams and where you can find help. [Here](#).



### How to back up your files and devices

Important data such as your photos, documents and financial records can be lost instantly, so back it up regularly before it's too late. Your devices are home to your important data. If they are damaged, lost or destroyed, your data may be lost. Whether it's hardware failure, theft, natural disaster or a virus, recovering data can be expensive and sometimes impossible. [Learn more](#).



### Facilitation Focus

Latest newsletter from AIBF, featuring: Can we really motivate others? Networking is more than just business cards. Think marketing – Think planning. How to navigate cliques at work. Business owners should embrace lifetime learning. [Here](#).



### Reduce your business energy costs by 20% - 40%

**FREE Access to all nine topics Energy Efficiency Webinars**

[Contact Us](#) [www.tcfaustralia.com/webinars](http://www.tcfaustralia.com/webinars)

## Business Skills 'On Demand' Sessions



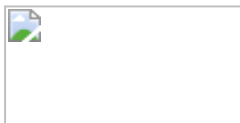
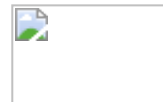
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**Members receive FREE webinar below during March - [Contact us](#)**

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- [What Buyers Are Looking For](#)
- [Specification Sheets for Apparel Manufacturing](#)
- [Marketing for Small Fashion Business](#)

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