



TCF WA NEWS UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 2025

32ND BELMONT & WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS 2025

Let your business shine brightly

Celebrating the 32nd Belmont & WA Small Business Awards

NOMINATE NOW

32nd Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards 2025

LAST CHANCE – AWARD ENTRIES CLOSING SEPTEMBER 23RD

Nominate yourself, or another deserving WA small business in the 32nd Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards to recognise and celebrate achievements in the small business sector. There are 23 Award categories open to small businesses, individuals, and organisations in Belmont, the Perth metropolitan area and across regional Western Australia. Gain exposure for you and your business! **FREE ENTRY**, assistance available preparing your

Award Submission. **Table Bookings NOW OPEN**

[AWARDS ENTRY FORM](#)

[AWARDS MEDIA RELEASE](#)

[AWARDS HELPLINE](#)



FINAL CALL: Share YOUR Small Business ISSUES and SUGGESTIONS!

We have Federal Small Business Minister Dr Anne Aly and Zaneta Mascarenhas MP visiting our NFP small business support centres, Belmont BEC Inc (BEC National) and TCFWA Inc. (TCF Australia) in September to discuss small business issues, productivity, and instant tax right off. [FLYER](#), Email [Carol Hanlon](#) by **Sept 10th** Queries: Ph. [0894793777](tel:0894793777)



Council of Small Businesses Organisations Australia announces –

Carol Hanlon named COSBOA National Small Business Champion 2025

The COSBOA National Small Business Summit Gala Dinner in Melbourne was proud to recognise Carol Hanlon, Founding CEO of the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. and Founder/CEO of the Textile Clothing Footwear Resource Centre WA Inc., for her extraordinary contribution to the small business community through leadership, advocacy, and practical impact. With more than five decades of leadership, Carol has assisted over 36,500 small businesses and startups, supported 7,500+ designers and creative industry businesses, founded landmark programs like the Belmont & WA Small Business Awards and the designedge Innovation Festival and built connections for Australian entrepreneurs across 125+ countries. [Press release](#).



LAST CHANCE – Ends September

21st designedge innovation FESTIVAL 2025 showcases webinars, workshops and forums being staged in Perth Western Australia, nationally and globally **ONLINE**. Over 60 events will bring together export trade opportunities, cyber security experts, innovators, designers, creatives, global women entrepreneurs, industry and Asian trade networks. All events are **FREE** to Members of BEC, TCF & BPW.

[FESTIVAL EVENTS FLYER](#)

[FESTIVAL MEDIA RELEASE](#)



TCF Fashion & Trade Forum – 17th September, 6pm-8pm

Promote your business, make new business contacts and gain new opportunities. Great Guest Speakers and Networking.

VENUE: Firehouse Restaurant, Country Comfort, 249-263 Grt Eastern H'wy, Belmont **DOOR PRIZES** – Fashion Design Manual 2 by Pamela Stecker (value \$100) TCFWA Bronze Membership (value \$200). **FREE ENTRY**, Nibbles Provided, Happy Hour Drinks, Bar Prices. [BOOKINGS](#)



Access up to \$10,000 in matched funding to invest in business growth

The Western Australian Government is backing small business owners through the Small Business Growth Grants program. Under the initiative, grants of up to \$10,000 are available to help WA small

business owners access professional services that support the growth and development of their business. [Learn more](#). **Contact: Carol Hanlon** if you would like to discuss quotes for your business growth services or referrals to specialist providers.



FREE EXPORT ASSISTANCE - NOW AVAILABLE!

TCF AUSTRALIA EXPORT ONLINE Training & Mentoring Project
Looking to increase your sales? Export your goods or services?

FREE WEBINARS – August 14th - all times AWST (Perth Time)

- 1) Introduction to Exporting: 9.30-11.30am [BOOK](#)
- 2) Export Guide for Small Business: 12-2pm [BOOK](#)
- 3) Writing your Export Marketing Plan: 2.30-4.30pm [BOOK](#)

Can't make the date? [Request a Recording](#)

Register for [FREE ONLINE Export Mentor](#)

[TCF EXPORT FLYER](#) [EXPORT MEDIA RELEASE](#)



Quote of the month

Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble but reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.

Norman Vincent Peale (1898-1993) known for popularising the concept of positive thinking, through his best-selling book *The Power of Positive Thinking*



Strategic predictions for 2025 and beyond: Riding the AI whirlwind

AI is no longer just a trend – it's a force of transformation, intertwining with other innovations to reshape business strategies, operations, and entire industries. Last year, organisations focused on becoming AI-ready, building literacy, and identifying key use cases. Now, the challenge is to go beyond readiness and become AI-advanced. The Gartner® report¹, *Gartner's Top Strategic Predictions for 2025 and Beyond: Riding the AI Whirlwind*, explores how AI will impact privacy, management structures, and the way businesses operate. [Here](#).



Join TCF BALI MISSION with *Accommodation Sponsorship

Market Find Small Batch Expo, Bali, 5-6 September 2 nights FREE buyer accommodation and FREE shuttle to expo venue

- Furniture & Craft
- Fashion & Accessories
- Commodity
- Food Service/Culinary

Carol Hanlon, CEO TCF, will be speaking at Market Find, Bali, Sept 6 Registration - www.marketfindexpo.id



Join our TCF INDIA Mission with *Accommodation Sponsorship **52nd India International Knit Fair September 17-19, 2025**

The India International Knit Fair focuses on latest trends in the fashion arena and serves as an ideal forum for international fashion. The best of international brand leaders, chain stores, wholesalers and importers have identified the Fair as a major sourcing destination for their consumers' requirements for end-to-end apparel products and materials. [Contact](#)



Global Sourcing Expo, Melbourne, 18-20 November

The Global Sourcing Expo is a must-attend event for industry professionals associated with buying and global sourcing of apparel, textiles, home, and giftware products. This is an opportunity for buyers to learn about sourcing options for their business, and to network with different countries and suppliers. www.globalsourcingexpo.com.au

Carol Hanlon, TCF Australia will be delivering Free Export & Import Workshops during Global Sourcing Expo, Melbourne



Welcome to TCF WA member - Maggie Byrne, I Design My Life
BENEFITS OF TCF MEMBERSHIP – Members can access 30-60 free advisory with an accountant; lawyer; HR specialist; or IP Attorney to discuss your issues. Members also receive free webinars during the designedge innovation festival, free business sundowners, buying mission opportunities, access to mentoring at discounted rates, supply chain linkages. Bronze, Silver & Gold Levels available. Membership is tax deductible.

[Membership Subscription](#)

TCF invites its network to link with its Social Media pages

TCF Facebook - [Link](#)

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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?

1001 Business Tips from 101™ Exporters & 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](#)**



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?](#)



Latest grants for women

Women across Australia face unique challenges in accessing funding and resources for their initiatives, businesses, and professional development. Whether you're a female entrepreneur with a groundbreaking business idea, seeking to advance in STEM, or working in the screen industry, we're committed to helping you find the funding needed to continue your vital work. [Ideas.](#)



Grants Assistance and Programs Register for WA industry
Register of available state and federal government funding programs and assistance. The Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation maintains a Grants Assistance and Programs Register which provides current and potential industry proponents with information on available state and federal government funding programs and assistance. [Details.](#)



How will AI impact the future of fashion?

The fashion world is on the brink of a technological revolution thanks to the rise of artificial intelligence (AI). AI-powered tools can help streamline operations, predict trends, enhance customer experiences, assist with design, and more. See how fashion leaders can use AI to impact the future of fashion by weaving innovation into the very fabric of the industry....[here.](#)



40th IAF World Fashion Convention, Oct 24–25, 2025, Indonesia

Join us for the 40th IAF World Fashion Convention, a landmark event bringing together the brightest minds and most influential leaders in the global apparel and textile industry. IAF is proud to collaborate with the International Textile Manufacturers Federation (ITMF) to deliver an unparalleled industry-wide platform for learning, networking, collaboration, and inspiration. [Register.](#)



Asia-Pacific Textile and Apparel Supply Chain

Step into the spotlight at APTExPO 2025, Asia's premier showcase for textile and apparel innovation. Positioned at the heart of the industry's transformation, this is your gateway to forging powerful connections and scaling new heights. Details and enquiries [here.](#)



Join our TCF Mission with *Accommodation

Sponsorship VIATT: ASEAN's platform for the entire textile value chain 26-18 February 2026, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Vietnam International Trade Fair for Apparel, Textiles and Textile Technologies (VIATT) is the region's most comprehensive trade fair covering the full textile value chain: Apparel Fabrics & Fashion, Home & Contract Textiles, and Technical Textiles & Technologies. [Contact](#) (*Accommodation sponsorship to approved TCF buyers)



Join our TCF Mission with *Accommodation Sponsorship

Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles, March 11-13, 2026

Intertextile Shanghai Home Textiles is Asia's leading home textile event at the National Exhibition and Convention Centre (Shanghai). It is a dynamic platform for industry professionals to source and to gain design inspirations through the conveniently structured product

displays. In 2025, 370 exhibitors and 25,000 visitors joined the event – [Contact](#) (*Accommodation sponsorship to approved TCF buyers)



World of WearableArt Show: Dream Awake...

.... took audiences on a journey to a world between worlds, where imagination becomes reality.

The World of WearableArt Show is a world-class arena spectacle seen by 60,000 people over three weeks in Wellington, New Zealand. The stage comes alive with works of wearable art, dancers, aerialists, captivating music, and awe-inspiring performance. The 2024 six core section themes were Natural World, Geometric Abstraction, Aotearoa, Open, Avant-garde, and Crazy Curiosities of the Creature Carnival. See the show [here](#).



Calling all fashion models ... now AI is coming for you

As fashion brands create AI 'twins' with models' permission, some believe this is just another form of exploitation.

The impact of AI has been felt across industries from Hollywood to publishing – and now it's come for modelling. H&M announced last week that it would create AI "twins" of 30 models with the intention of using them in social media posts and marketing imagery if the model gives her permission. [Learn more](#).



Navigating burnout as a small business owner

As a small business owner, you pour your heart and soul into your venture. When the next, big, exciting idea comes up, you chase it. The relentless pursuit of success, long working hours, and the weight of responsibilities can take a toll on your mental and physical well-being. This blog post explores the signs of burnout, its impact on small business owners, and offers up some actionable tips to help you navigate burnout and regain your passion for your business. [Learn how](#).



11 smart marketing ideas for small businesses

Running a small business poses unique challenges because of increasing competition. Small business marketing assists the owners in establishing an identity in their sector and building a significant online and physical presence to recruit, develop, and sustain strong customer relationships. As a small business owner who wears several hats, the concept of additionally being a marketer may initially seem daunting. The good news is that successful marketing campaigns do not require significant expenditures or years of experience. [Tips](#).



The best inflation busting strategies for small business owners

When running a business, it's important to understand how inflation can impact your bottom line. Inflation refers to the increase in the prices of goods and services over time. It can lead to higher costs for raw materials, increased employee wages, and other expenses that can eat into your profits. This article discusses the current state of inflation, its causes, and its impact on small businesses; plus, the best inflation-busting strategies to help you protect your bottom line. [Here](#).



Seeking an image for your next project?

Here's a site with 123,293 FREE images and clip arts on a wide range of topics for web design, brochures, promotions, emails, etc ... Just a click away [here](#). And a **FREE LOGO MAKER** – just enter your business name, select your industry and finally pick some colours – is [here](#).



Facilitation Focus Newsletter

Articles include: Do you conduct regular competitor research & monitoring? What defines an excellent workplace? Always qualify the client's needs. How does running your own business affect your personal life? Read [here](#).



Microsoft Word tips

To dictate text - just hold the Windows key and H and then talk – the words will appear on the screen as text.

To show a female symbol- type 1f6ba then hold Alt and X to get ♀

To show a male symbol – type 1f6b9 then hold Alt X to get ♂

To show where to sign a doc – type 270d then hold Alt and X to get 🖊

To change a font size gradually – highlight the text, hold Ctrl, then keep pressing] to incrementally increase or [to decrease the font size.

To learn ALL shortcut commands – Open a blank Word document /

Click on View then Macros / View macros / enter: listcommands /

Select Current keyboard settings then click Run.



Choose the right generative AI infrastructure

Building, training, and deploying generative artificial intelligence (AI) models require an unprecedented level of infrastructure resources. Organisations today need purpose-built AI tools with access to the highest-performance computer networking, and storage solutions, all while lowering costs. Free e-book [here](#).



The Cyber Sushi

Current edition covers - *The damage you can't see: Why it's not only about the \$\$\$\$. *Email accounts under attack. *In their words: IDCARE Client Stories. *Behind the mask: new and trending scams. * "My son, who has an intellectual disability, is in a romance scam." Newsletter [here](#).

ABACUS

6 reasons why you need your own online ordering platform

Still sitting on the fence? Check out a few ways an independent online ordering platform is better for your business than simply using a third-party platform. Are you a cutting-edge early adopter, or are you biding your time, waiting for a future that may never come? our profit margin, customers, and staff will all thank you for adding it to your business's offering. [Learn how](#).



A story of success

Stepping from a surgical ward to the couture runway, Dr Vinka Barunga made her modelling debut in Grace Lillian Lee's historic Paris showcase - marking a powerful moment for Indigenous representation in fashion. Originally joining to support her husband, Luke Currie-Richardson, she embraced the unexpected opportunity. Video [here](#).



Why side hustles are a bad idea

Despite the obvious appeal of side hustles — more money! — they're not for everyone. If your side hustle makes you stress out, neglect relationships, or miss opportunities at your day job, then consider it a bad idea. Side hustles are only beneficial when they help you accomplish goals without sacrificing what matters most. Read on to find out how to evaluate your options and goals before taking on a side hustle — [here](#).



Another tip by Yuri Miloslavsky - from the now published -

'1001 Business Tips from 101™ Cyber Security Experts

Be cautious with agreements When navigating websites and signing up for accounts, take the time to review the privacy policy. Understand how your data will be utilised and shared. Remember, once you provide information, it's no longer solely yours. Inquire about the necessity of certain data collection and consider opting out when appropriate. Avoid hastily agreeing to terms without fully assessing the implications. Ultimately, safeguarding your privacy is your responsibility.



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SPECIAL OFFER - STORAGE KING PERTH AIRPORT

Past Winner - Facility of the Year Award

15% off storage boxes and 50% off the first 2 months of storage. Storage King can ship your parcels to anywhere in the world. Storage King arrange the booking and email consignment notes for clients to attach to their deliveries. We offer a wide range of self-storage options, from lockers to vehicle storage.

[Phone Email W: storageking.com.au](#)

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



FOR HIRE - Training and Meeting Rooms at Belmont BEC

Fully equipped training room, catering and refreshments available. Unit 3, 216 Belmont Ave., Cloverdale - [Contact Belmont BEC](#)

Business Skills 'On Demand' Sessions



Live and Recorded Webinar for Online - Anytime - Fast Track your Training
Members receive one FREE webinar below during **September - [Contact us](#)**

- [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](#)
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- [Get Noticed By The Media](#)
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