

## 2020 Vision at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly November 2005

2020 VISION AT  
THE AUSTRALIAN  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY NOVEMBER  
2005

**Infocus:**  
The Newsletter of Plantations for Australia

A major focus for the 2020 Vision project in 2005 was to strengthen the partnership between the plantation sector and local government at all scales. This culminated in a 2020 Vision presence at the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly and an excellent meeting held in partnership with Timber Towns Victoria in conjunction with the National General Assembly.

'Plantations for Australia: the 2020 Vision' constructed a display in the ALGA National General Assembly Exhibition Hall at the Canberra Convention Centre from 7 through to the 10 November 2005. Approximately 60 ALGA delegates passed through the stand (not all delegates 'swiped' their electronic delegate card) – with some expressing a great deal of interest.

A broad range of information and display material was gathered from DAFF, BRS, DPI Vic, FPC, AFG, A3P, NAFI, TCA, many of the PFDCs- including recent socio economic studies and regional strategies, as well as some poster case studies. We are not short of excellent information!



**Photo:** The exhibition stand at the ALGA National General Assembly 2005.



**Photo:** The welcome reception From left: Mr Warwick Ragg, CEO Australian Forest Growers; Cr Malcolm Hole, Chair of Timber Towns Victoria; Ms Jo Roberts, 2020 Vision Coordinator; Mr Alan Cummine, CEO Treefarm Investment Managers Australia; Cr John Sewell, President of Greenough Shire, W.A.

In partnership with Timber Towns Victoria (following on from similar meetings in 2003 & 2004), 2020 Vision co-hosted a very productive meeting in conjunction with the ALGA National General Assembly. The local government and plantation industry participants were addressed by Senator the Hon Ian Macdonald, Australian Government Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation about current matters of mutual interest; A3P Manager Policy, Richard Stanton with a national plantation industry view and ANU Research Fellow, Jacki Schirmer, who presented the findings of the BRS / FWPRDC Socio Economic impacts of the plantation industry studies. The studies were also launched at this event.

In a closed session at the end of the meeting, the 15 local government representatives responded positively to the Minister's direction and agreed to pursue formation of a 'National Timber Towns' network. Timber Towns Victoria will lead the formation of Timber Towns Australia during 2006. A resolution from the meeting was to seek to have a plantations/ forestry session incorporated into the ALGA National General Assembly agenda for 2006.



**Photo:** From left: Dr Glen Kile, General Manager FWPRDC; Cr Malcolm Hole, Chair Timber Towns Victoria; Ms Jacki Schirmer, BRS Social Scientist; Mr Richard Stanton, Manager-Policy A3P and Ms Jo Roberts, 2020 Vision coordinator at the Timber Towns meeting and FWPRDC study launch 9 November 2005