



VIEW FROM CANBERRA

Singapore 2015 to Perth 2016

Singapore 2015 is over and I have to say it was a very successful experiment and highlighted that we can learn something from the experiences of other countries.

Feedback from delegates has been overwhelmingly positive about the conference program and the quality of speakers in particular.

All of the Conference sessions were filmed and all presentations are available on the conference home page at ozebus.com.au. Presentations and key note addresses will also be made available on the BIC You Tube channel (youtube.com/ozebusandcoach) so check them out if you could not make the conference or if you want to revisit sessions if you were there.

A must see, in my view, was the Conference opening by BIC Chairman Wayne Patch, who was re-elected for another term at the 2015 AGM in Singapore.

The Chairman's Opening included a series of messages from key Federal leaders who were unable to attend the conference due to a Parliamentary Sitting week in Canberra.

Messages were received from the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, Deputy Prime Minister Warren Truss, Minister for Cities and the Built Environment Jamie Briggs and Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Tourism and Cities, Anthony Albanese, all of whom provided a recognition of the role and esteem that the BIC is held in Canberra.

The Chairman's Opening also included a collage of film clips from 2003 to the present day which provided an historical look, in film, from key politicians, industry representatives and academics of where the BIC began and what it has achieved since its establishment in Canberra in 2003. This film clip is available to watch on the OzeBus YouTube channel and if you were to look at nothing else from the 2015 BIC Conference, the Chairman's Opening address and the historical film is in my view a "cracker".

It has been an extremely busy 2015 for the BIC, not only in Canberra but in every State and Territory Government.

The dramatic events of 2015 leading to a new Prime Minister and appointment of a Minister for Cities was a watershed after more than a decade of industry advocacy in Canberra.

2016 is a new beginning in our advocacy efforts to meet the challenges of the next decade and I look forward to working with Industry to achieve our objectives. I agree with the Prime Minister, it is a great time and opportunity to be an Australian and I think a great time and opportunity to be a bus operator and supplier.

Next year's BIC Conference will be held at the Rendezvous Hotel, Scarborough Beach, Perth from November 6 to 9. I expect a great turn up with over 500 delegates when many of the "rusted on" BIC supporters who could not make it to Singapore, attend in Perth.

Mark the Conference dates in the diary and I wish you a very merry Christmas from the BIC Team.