

GRX26 - Byrnecut Future Talent Program

Welcome to the **GRX26 Future Talent Program**, delivered alongside the **Global Resources Innovation Expo (GRX26)**. We are delighted to welcome you to Perth for what promises to be an engaging, thought-provoking and valuable experience.

You have been selected to participate in the Future Talent Program from a highly competitive pool of applicants. Your inclusion reflects both your interest in the resources sector and the potential you bring as part of the industry's future workforce. We're pleased to have you join us.

GRX26: Competing Globally in the Critical Era builds on the landmark inaugural event held in Brisbane in 2025. Co-hosted by **Austmine** and **AusIMM**, GRX26 is an industry-led international platform that brings together mining companies, METS innovators, policymakers, researchers and professionals from across the global resources ecosystem. From **5-7 May 2026**, GRX26 will explore how innovation, collaboration and leadership can strengthen the sector's global competitiveness, sustainability and long-term impact.

The **Future Talent Program**, sponsored by **Byrnecut**, runs alongside the main GRX26 conference across **Wednesday 6 May and Thursday 7 May**. It has been designed to complement your attendance at GRX26 by providing practical insight into resource careers through facilitated discussions, near-peer panels and audience question-and-answer sessions. The focus is on real experiences, honest reflections and the kinds of decisions, trade-offs and lessons that shape early careers in the resources sector.

If this is your first time attending a major industry conference, you may find the scale and breadth of GRX26 both exciting and a little overwhelming – that's completely normal. This handbook has been developed to help you navigate the experience, understand what to expect, and make the most of your time at GRX26.

We encourage you to be curious, to listen broadly beyond your own discipline, and to actively engage with speakers, exhibitors and fellow participants. Most importantly, remember that you are here because you belong here.

We look forward to welcoming you to GRX26 and hope the Future Talent Program provides valuable insight, perspective and inspiration as you continue your journey in the resources sector.

Warm regards,

Austmine and AusIMM

Co-hosts, GRX26

About GRX26

Details

GRX26 runs from **5–7 May 2026** at the **Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre** and includes:

- a multi-day conference program,
- a large exhibition showcasing technology and innovation, and
- dedicated spaces for networking, discussion and learning.

As a Future Talent participant, you will engage with both the curated Future Talent program and the wider GRX26 conference experience.

Focus areas

GRX26 centres its program on mining innovation and new ways of working that improve performance and outcomes across the sector. Conference content spans technically focused sessions through to strategic discussions, including themes such as:

- mine automation, digitalisation and robotics
- safety, sustainability and regulatory frameworks
- workforce capability and leadership
- critical minerals and global value chains
- collaboration across mining and METS (Mining Equipment Technology and Services)
- capital, investment and global competitiveness

Sessions are delivered through plenaries, technical sessions, panels and interactive forums.

Audience

GRX26 attracts:

- professionals from mining and METS organisations
- technical specialists and researchers
- business and operational leaders
- international delegations
- emerging leaders and future talent

About the ByrneCut Future Talent Program

The Future Talent Program is a dedicated pathway within GRX26 for students and early-career professionals. It has been designed to help participants better understand how careers develop across the resources sector, and how early decisions, experiences and skills shape longer-term pathways.

The program is designed to help you explore the main GRX26 conference experience, while providing structure, context and support to help participants confidently engage with the broader event.

What the program includes

As a Future Talent participant, you receive:

- **Full delegate registration to attend GRX26**, including sessions and networking events on 6-7 May 2026
- **Access to dedicated panel sessions**, including *Meet a Grad* and *Career Pathways*
- **Near-peer discussions** with professionals at different career stages at the Future Talent networking lounge
- **Guided engagement** with the wider GRX26 conference and exhibition, including opportunities to attend selected main program sessions

How to approach the program

You are encouraged to listen to perspectives within the Future Talent program, and to explore beyond the program and your own discipline. The program should be used as a foundation for engaging more confidently with GRX26 as a whole.



BYRNECUT

The Future Talent Program is proudly sponsored by ByrneCut

[Click here to find out more](#)

What to expect at GRX26

If this is your first major industry conference, the scale and pace of GRX26 may feel both exciting and unfamiliar. That's completely normal.

A professional conference brings together people from many organisations, disciplines and career stages to share knowledge, explore ideas and build connections. You'll experience a mix of session formats, including plenaries, concurrent sessions featuring technical presentations and panel discussions, and time on the exhibition floor.

Plenary sessions

Plenary sessions are sessions where all conference attendees are invited to attend together. They typically feature high-level speakers and set the overall context for the conference, such as industry priorities, major challenges or strategic themes.

Concurrent sessions

Concurrent sessions are multiple sessions running at the same time in different rooms. These sessions allow attendees to choose topics that best match their interests or discipline, ranging from technical discussions to broader industry or leadership topics.

Exhibition

The exhibition is a central part of GRX where mining and METS organisations showcase technology, services and innovations. It is an opportunity to explore new ideas, see technology in action, and speak informally with industry professionals throughout the conference.

You don't need to attend everything. Instead:

1. Explore this handbook and the [full program](#)
2. Plan your day and attend at least one session outside your comfort zone
3. Meet people and ask good questions
4. Explore the exhibition and innovation areas

To get the most out of GRX26:

- arrive curious and open-minded,
- ask questions - in sessions or informally,
- introduce yourself briefly and confidently, and
- take note of ideas, people or organisations you'd like to follow up with after the event.

Remember: GRX26 is not just about technical knowledge, it's also about understanding how the industry works, how roles connect, and where opportunities exist.

Your Program – Key timings

Day 1: Wednesday 6 May 2026

- **8.30am arrival:** Collect your badge from the registration desk, then make your way to the Future Talent Lounge in the Exhibition Pavillion
- **8.50am:** Official conference opening
- **11.45am:** Welcome at the Student Lounge
- **12.00pm:** Panel session: *Career Pathways: From Graduate to Emerging Leader.*
- **5.00pm:** Tech and Tonic cocktail reception connect with fellow delegates and celebrate Day One of the conference.

Day 2: Thursday 7 May 2026

- **8.30am:** Day two kicks off. Reconvene with your fellow Future Talent members at the Student Lounge before heading to the plenary.
- **8.50am:** Day two plenary in the Riverside Theatre
- **11.30am:** Panel session: *Meet a Grad: From Study to Site*
- **4.10pm:** Reflect and connect at *The Spark Forward* closing drinks

After lunch on both days, you are invited to choose your own sessions and explore the exhibition floor to ensure you can connect with other delegates and immerse yourself in the GRX26 experience.

Full schedule

Highlight indicates a Future Talent-specific session

Day 0: Tuesday 5 May 2026		
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Pre-conference workshop sessions (optional, additional cost) Please refer to your registration email if you have purchased a ticket to a pre-conference workshop	
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	The Spark: Opening Night (optional)	Exhibition Pavilion
Day 1: Wednesday 6 May 2026		
8:30 AM - 8:50 AM	Day 1: Connect and prepare Meet at the Future Talent Lounge, meet your fellow participants and familiarise yourself with GRX26.	Registration desk → Future Talent Lounge in the Exhibition Pavilion
8:50 AM - 11:15 AM	Official Conference Opening & Welcome to Country + Opening Plenary	Riverside Theatre
11:15 AM - 11:45 AM	Morning Tea	Exhibition Pavilion
11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	Industry Leaders Welcome You to GRX26 Formal welcome from AusIMM CEO, Austmine CEO, Byrncut Executive Chairman	Future Talent Lounge
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Future Talent Panel Session Career Pathways: From Graduate to Emerging Leader	Exhibition Theatre
1:00 PM - 1:10 PM	Explore the floor Begin visiting booths around the exhibition hall; our student chapter chaperones can introduce you to familiar companies.	Exhibition Pavilion
1:10 PM - 2:45 PM	Lunch	Exhibition Pavilion
2:45 PM - 5:00 PM	Day One Closing Plenary	Riverside Theatre
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Tech and Tonic Cocktail Reception	Exhibition Pavilion
Day 2: Thursday 7 May 2026		
8:30 AM - 8:50 AM	Day 2: Next steps (optional) Meet in the Future Talent Lounge to welcome Day 2 of GRX26.	Future Talent Lounge
8:50 AM - 10:45 AM	Day Two Plenary + Global Open Innovation CoLab: Critical Disruptors, From Discovery to Recovery	Riverside Theatre
10:45 AM - 11:30 AM	Morning Tea	Exhibition Pavilion
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	Future Talent Panel Session Meet a Grad: From Study to Site + wrap up of formal sessions	Exhibition Theatre
12:30 PM - 1:10 PM	Choose your own session (self-guided) View the program and choose a concurrent session on a topic that you would like to ask more about.	Session rooms
1:10 PM - 2:20 PM	Lunch	Exhibition Pavilion
2:20 PM - 4:10 PM	Closing Plenary + Global Open Innovation CoLab Winner Announcement	Riverside Theatre
4:10 PM - 5:00 PM	The Spark Forward: Closing Drinks	Riverside Theatre Foyer

Future Talent Panel Information

The Future Talent sessions in the Exhibition Theatre are designed to be conversational, interactive and grounded in real experiences. Speakers have been selected for their willingness to share honest insights into their pathways, decisions and lessons learned.

1. Career Pathways: From Graduate to Emerging Leader

Wednesday 6 May 2026

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

This panel is designed to help students and early-career professionals understand the transition from graduate to emerging leader, and how early roles, decisions and experiences shape longer term career pathways across the resources sector.

Moderator: Dr Mosayeb Khademi, Geoscientist, Geoscience Australia

Panellists: Anshuman Pal, Planning Mining Engineer; Lucas Navarro, Exploration Geologist; TBC, Plant Metallurgist

2. Meet a Grad: From Study to Site

Thursday 7 May 2026

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

This session is designed as a relaxed, near-peer conversation for students and early-career attendees, focused on real experiences from the first few years in industry. It aims to give Future Talent participants honest insight into pathways, decisions, and lessons learned shortly after university.

Moderator: Alex Bozward FAusIMM (CP)

Panellists: Jackson Boyd, Geoscience Australia Graduate Program, Guster Laufmann, Project Engineer, Lauren Harding, Graduate Mining Engineer

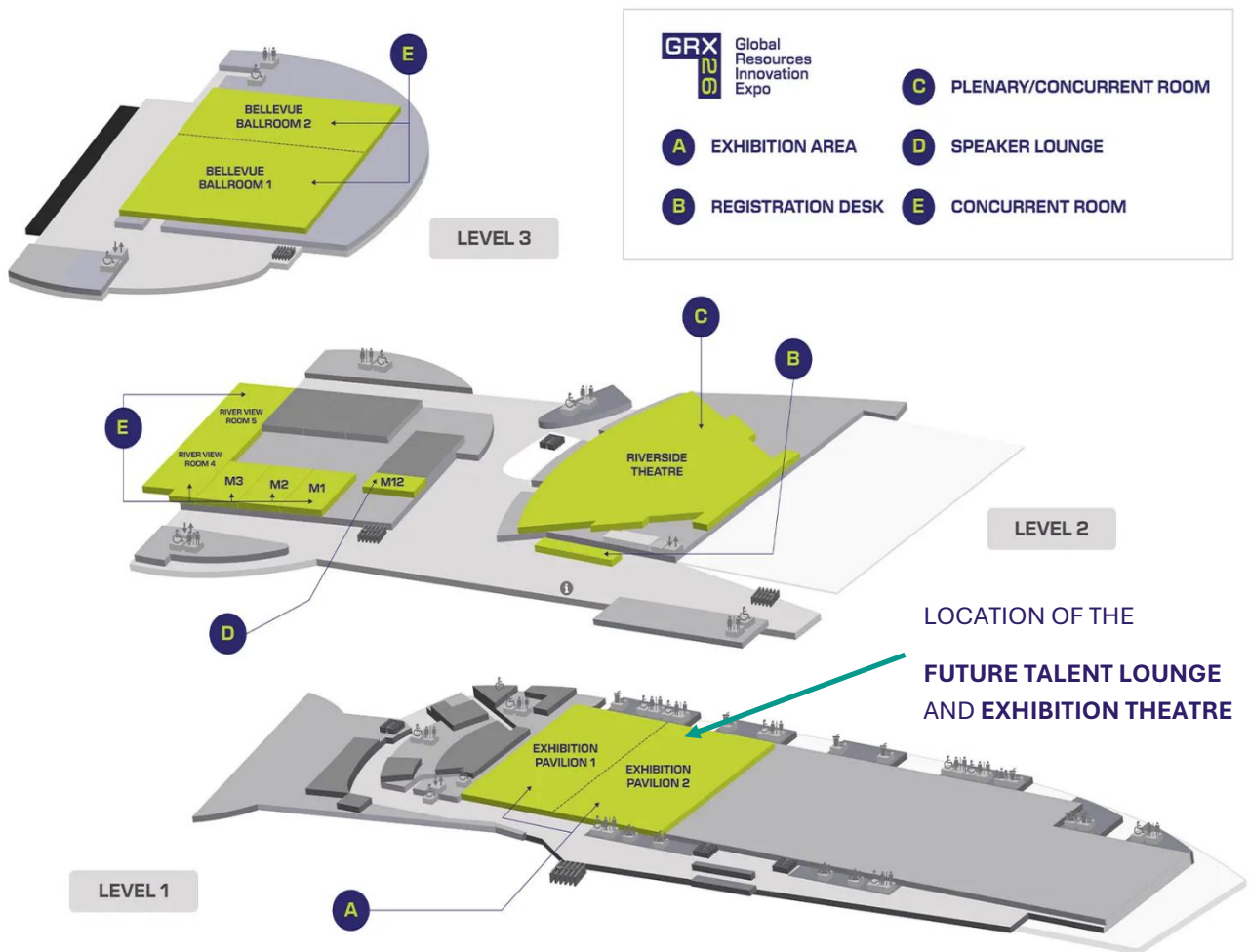
Where to go and what to bring

Venue Information

Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre (PCEC)
 Address: 21 Mounts Bay Road, Perth WA 6000

[More information on how to get to the venue](#)

GRX26 Venue Map



What to bring:

- Comfortable professional attire
- Notebook/phone for notes
- Curiosity and a few questions you'd like to ask

Key contacts

AusIMM Contacts

Joelle Warren
jwarren@ausimm.com
0439 921 223

- Onsite coordination

Monique Talarico
mtalarico@ausimm.com
0432 767 179

- Pre-conference support

AusIMM Student Chapter Chaperones

Representatives from AusIMM's UWA and Curtin Student Chapters will be on site to help support, guide you around the conference, or let you know more about how to stay engaged with the industry after the conference.

- Bianca Matthews (available both days)
- Will Reeves (available both days)
- Sara Ahmad Salem (available both days)
- Dawid (Frikkie) Spangenburg (available both days)
- Elliott Mitchell (available Wednesday)
- Geraldine Penarete (available Wednesday)

AusIMM/Austmine booth

If you need any further help, or you'd just like to introduce yourself, please visit the joint AusIMM and Austmine booth at the front of the exhibition hall.

GRX26 Hosts

About Austmine

Austmine is the leading industry association representing the Mining Equipment, Technology, and Services (METS) sector, with over 780 corporate members dedicated to driving innovation and technological advancement within the industry. Our commitment is to foster collaboration, innovation, and sustainable practices that enhance the global mining landscape.

Austmine's mission is to champion the METS sector by connecting members with opportunities for growth, playing a pivotal role in driving the future of mining through technological advancements and strategic partnerships.

At the Global Resources Innovation Expo (GRX), Austmine is dedicated to showcasing the strengths and capabilities of the METS sector. We highlight how METS companies are driving innovation and sustainability in mining, demonstrating Australia's leadership in these critical areas. As one of the hosts of GRX, Austmine brings extensive experience and a robust network to the event. Leveraging our established biennial conference and exhibition, we provide a solid foundation for GRX, ensuring a well-organised, impactful, and industry-focused event.

About AusIMM

AusIMM is the peak body for people working in the resources sector. We shape careers, showcase leadership, create communities and uphold standards. We represent a global community from 100 countries involved in all aspects of the mining industry.

We offer world-class professional development opportunities including technical conferences, online courses, webinars and leadership events to build and accelerate careers. We host local and global networking events to connect professionals with common interests and offer an outstanding membership program to support their career journey.

We invite you to join AusIMM to be part of a professional community that is shaping the future of the resources sector.

Together, we are creating a groundbreaking, industry-led platform for global collaboration — where METS innovation, mining technology and professional expertise come together to accelerate a more sustainable, forward-thinking future for our sector. With more than two decades of event legacy as the Austmine Conference, GRX has evolved into a new flagship conference and exhibition that connects the corporate and professional sides of the sector to accelerate progress.