

Why has the 2020 Bowen Basin Symposium been postponed?

The impact on all of us caused by COVID-19 required an assessment of the viability of holding the Symposium this year. With no certainty that current restrictions would be completely lifted by September, the potential health and safety impacts, as well as financial considerations for sponsors and attendees made it clear that the Symposium could not successfully proceed this year. The numerous postponements of similar events, including those currently planned for early in 2021, meant that the Organising Committee needed to postpone it to the second half of next year. In the end we were fortunate to get the only remaining week available at MECC.

When will the Symposium now be held?

The 2020 Bowen Basin Symposium will now take place on **Tuesday 24 – Thursday 26 August 2021** and hereafter will be referred to as the **2021 Bowen Basin Symposium**. The Symposium will still be at the Mackay Entertainment Centre (MECC).

What happens to my registration for the 2020 Bowen Basin Symposium?

All current registrations for the 2020 BBS will be rolled over automatically to apply to 2021. Those already registered do not need to do anything to secure their attendance for 2021. All components of current registrations including Symposium dinner tickets will also roll over. Should there be any timing, date or scheduling updates to any of these components, you will be advised via email. For those that have not registered, the early bird registration rate will be reopened, and will remain available via the online registration form, until the new deadline of **31 January 2021**.

All registrations made through the form will now be for attendance in August 2021.

What happens to my registration for the 2020 Dinosaur Safari?

All current registrations for the 2020 Dinosaur Safari will be rolled over automatically to apply to 2021. Those already registered do not need to do anything to secure their attendance for 2021.

What happens to my accepted abstract at the 2021 Bowen Basin Symposium?

The Program for the 2020 BBS has not been finalised but all accepted abstracts should proceed to preparation of full papers or posters. Program and presentation details will be sent to all accepted presenters early in the New Year indicating the date and time of presentation. We understand that abstracts that are currently accepted may not be accurate or relevant next year. Authors will have the opportunity to submit revised versions of their abstracts for presentation in 2021, while retaining a theme relevant to the 2020 BBS. Please continue to check for any email correspondence from the Symposium Secretariat regarding the program.

Can I submit an abstract for the new dates if I missed the original deadline?

Those who missed out on submitting an abstract to 2020 BBS originally will have the opportunity to submit an abstract in a secondary call for abstracts process to be announced soon.

What happens to the accommodation booking I made for the 2020 BBS?

If you booked accommodation through the Symposium Secretariat booking system your current accommodation booking and any deposit monies paid will be held as a credit on your account. You will receive an email from the Secretariat with the opportunity to select your new check in and check out dates. Your deposit payment credit will then be applied to the

new booking. Our National Accommodations Manager is working closely with the accommodation providers to ensure that the nightly rates for the 2021 period are the same or similar to the current booked rates. If there is a change in the nightly rate, delegates will be contacted directly to discuss. If you booked accommodation independently, you will need to contact the providers directly to make alternative arrangements, or to cancel the booking. Please continue to check for any email correspondence from the Symposium Secretariat regarding accommodation. Should you be unable to attend in August 2021, please contact the Accommodation Manager (adrianep@icmsaust.com.au) to arrange cancellation of your accommodation booking.

What happens if I can't go to the Bowen Basin Symposium in 2021?

Registrations for the 2020 Bowen Basin Symposium and Dinosaur Symposium are transferrable. We encourage those who are currently registered, but cannot attend in August 2021 to transfer their registration to a colleague or friend. Should you be unable to find a suitable transfer of registration, please contact the Symposium Secretariat to discuss a refund of registration(s) and cancellation of your accommodation booking.