

# GROWTH CAPITAL FORUM 2023 PROGRAM

## 8:30AM Registration and networking

### 9:00AM Welcome

- **Adrian Herbert** – Managing Editor, Private Equity Media

### 9:05AM Pluses of Longer-term Investing

*Smaller private capital investment firms have long recognised the pluses of longer term investing in growth businesses. Now, an increasing number of larger firms are adding this strategy to their arsenals.*

- **Damian Fox** – Partner, Carthona Capital
- **Jeremy Larkin** – Executive Director, Private Equity, IFM Investors
- **Simon Pither** – Managing Partner, Quadrant Private Equity
- Moderated by: **Sharon Lim** – Founder, Interest Alignment Management & Content Chief, She Loves Tech

### 9:45AM Challenges of Scaling up Businesses

*Proving the viability of technology businesses is but the first step in their development. Scaling-up is a very different challenge. And scaling up established businesses can be just as challenging.*

- **James Cameron** – Partner, AirTree Ventures
- **Kylie Frazer** – Co-Founder and Partner, Flying Fox Ventures
- **Christian Jensen** – Portfolio Manager, CVC Emerging Companies
- Moderated by: **Jared Connor** – Director, EY

## 10:20AM Networking Morning Tea

### 10:50AM Economic outlook

*With the prospect of a significant downturn in the Australian economy and a recession all but certain in the US, growth businesses need to keep a particularly close watch on economic developments right now.*

- **Martin Lakos** – Division Director, Macquarie Wealth Management

### 11:20AM Gender Lens Investing & the She Economy

*What is gender lens investing? How does gender lens affect how businesses are scaled, or do they? Do businesses in the SheEconomy with women in key decision making roles do better than those which don't? Should funds be taking gender lens more seriously than they have? Or are there still too few female investors and founders to move the needle?*

- **Michael Batko** – CEO, Startmate
- **Alex Downie** – Associate Director, Glow Capital Partners
- **Lisa Fedorenko** – Investment Manager, Alberts
- **Sharon Lim** – Founder, Interest Alignment Management & Content Chief, She Loves Tech
- Moderated by: **Emily Barker** – Transaction Lead, Middle Market, Macquarie Group

### 12:00PM Restructuring Opportunities

*With an economic downturn looming, business failures are likely to increase in coming months, including in the mid-market sector. Business failures present opportunities for specialist private equity firms and also co-investors. This presentation will take us through one such process.*

- **Chris Koeck** – Investment Director, Allegro Funds

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## 12:30PM Networking Lunch

### 1:15PM Debt funding in Growth Strategies

*Non-bank lending to small-to-medium enterprises has been growing steadily over recent years, largely supported by new digital technologies. At the same time, changes to prudential rules have made this category less attractive to banks. Business owners have enthusiastically taken up loans that are not secured against personal property but rising inflation and higher loan-funding costs could disrupt this trend.*

- **James De Flumeri** – Managing Principal, Trident Debt Capital Advisors
- **Ted Dow** – Managing Director, Paddington Street Finance
- **Heidi Wilson** – Transaction Lead, Macquarie Group
- Moderated by: **David Potter** – Head of Business Development, Apex Fund Services

### 2:00PM Indigenous Business Opportunities

*For-purpose private equity investing has the potential to play an important role in closing the notorious opportunity gap for Indigenous people. The major challenge is generating adequate returns for investors. In this interview we will talk with a firm that has taken on that challenge.*

- **David Liddiard** and **Michael Manikas** – Co-Founders and Directors, Biripi Capital; with **Anthony Ward** – Advisor to the Biripi Board
- Interviewed by: **Adrian Herbert** – Managing Editor, Private Equity Media

## 2:30PM Networking Afternoon Tea

### 2:50PM Climate Opportunities

*In this session, founders and managers of Australian climate technology businesses that have reached growth stage will discuss investment opportunities in the developing sector.*

- **Devon Long** – General Manager Aust & NZ, Regrow Ag
- **Olympia Yarger** – CEO and Founder, Goterra
- Moderated by: **Sarah Nolet** – Co-Founder and General Partner, Tenacious Ventures

### 3:30PM Opportunities for Individual Private Investors

*Growth businesses present excellent investment opportunities for small, and not so small, investors including family offices and high-net-worth individuals. Developing suitable structures for investing in the sector, however, remains challenging. Participants in this discussion are working on solutions.*

- **Hugh Dyus** – Partner, Navis Capital Partners
- **Simon Horne** – CEO, Angel Loop
- **Pete Seligman** – Search Investor
- **Darren Smorgon** – Managing Director, Sandbar Investments
- Moderated by: **Ted Dow** – Managing Director, Paddington Street Finance

### 4:10PM Closing remarks

- **Andrea Gallenca** – Head of Private Markets, Sales – Australia, Apex Group

## 4:30PM Networking drinks sponsored by Apex Group

*Upstairs in Ivy Penthouse (level 5)*

*\*This program is subject to change*