



*Working together to save more lives*

## MEDIA ALERT

24 August 2015  
For immediate use

### **6<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL G2Z SUMMIT & WORKSHOPS**

Leading national animal welfare program, Getting 2 Zero, delivers the 6<sup>th</sup> National G2Z Summit & Workshops on the Gold Coast from 14 - 19 September 2015.

The theme for this year's Summit is ***Reaching out to the community.***

This year's conference is focussed on working to meet community expectations and needs and therefore achieving safe communities for both people and their pets and better responsible pet ownership compliance.

Attendance at this conference is essential for everyone involved in companion animal policy and practice -including those working in all levels of government, the not for profit welfare, shelter and rescue sector, and veterinary and pet industries.

More and more people are turning to the resources available in the community, such as local government and not for profits, for guidance on how to solve their companion animal management and welfare problems. What issues could be prevented or minimised by these resources working proactively within the community? This and many more topics relating to community welfare, animal welfare, and responsible pet ownership will be discussed at this event. Industry and sector leaders from Australia and overseas will lead sessions to explore innovative solutions to guide Australia's approach to the management of companion animals now and into the future while providing insights on how the challenges are being met elsewhere.

Held every two years, this sixth Summit will attract more than 200 delegates from the Australasian region. Each Summit has built on the success of the previous meeting and is now an industry leading, unique and significant forum for the exchange of ideas and solutions to lead Australia's approach to saving the lives of companion animals into the future.

International expert speakers include:

- [Dr Cynthia Karsten](#) – Shelter medicine expert and Outreach Veterinarian for the UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program, USA
- [Trish McMillan Loehr](#) – Animal behaviour and training expert, Loehr Animal Behavior, USA



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- [Jan McHugh-Smith](#) – Animal sheltering expert and CEO Humane Society Pikes Peak Region, USA
- [Todd Stosuy](#) – Animal management expert, President of National Animal Care and Control Association (NACA) and Field Services Manager, Santa Cruz County, USA
- [Jon Cicirelli](#) – Animal management expert and Director Animal Care and Services, City of San Jose, USA
- [Betsy McFarland](#) – Companion animal welfare expert and Vice President Companion Animals, Humane Society of the United States, USA
- [Dr Arnja Dale](#) – Animal welfare expert and Chief Scientific Officer & Head of Animal Welfare Science and Education, New Zealand SPCA, NZ

G2Z Coordinator, Nell Thompson, says “The Summit provides a rare opportunity to tap into the wealth of knowledge and experience these international experts are bringing to Australia. In addition, there is great line up of local speakers presenting on a diverse array of issues. There are no other events like this in the Australasian region and G2Z is proud to deliver an economically viable professional development and networking experience that can facilitate best practice outcomes for abandoned pets around the country.”

#### **About G2Z**

[G2Z](#) is a national program aimed at preventing the unnecessary euthanasia of thousands of unwanted pets each year by providing strategies, support and resources to those involved in animal management and welfare.

#### **EVENT DETAILS:**

<b>Date:</b>	14 and 15 September 2015	Shelter animal behaviour workshop with <a href="#">Trish McMillan Loehr</a>
	15 September 2015	Shelter medicine workshop with <a href="#">Dr Cynthia Karsten</a>
		Animal Management workshop with <a href="#">Todd Stosuy</a> and <a href="#">Jon Cicirelli</a>
		Organisational management workshop with <a href="#">Betsy McFarland</a> and <a href="#">Jan McHugh-Smith</a>
	16 – 18 September 2015	6 <sup>th</sup> National G2Z Summit
	19 September 2019	Shelter medicine workshop with <a href="#">Dr Cynthia Karsten</a> (repeat)
		Organisational management workshop with <a href="#">Betsy McFarland</a> and <a href="#">Jan McHugh-Smith</a> (repeat)

**Location:** Mantra on View Hotel, 22 View Avenue, Surfers Paradise, Queensland



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The 6<sup>th</sup> National G2Z Summit is proudly supported by the following companies and organisations:

**Principal partner:** [Animal Welfare League of Queensland](#)  
**Platinum sponsor:** [Purina](#)  
**Silver sponsors:** [Animals Australia](#)  
**Bronze sponsor:** [Animal Welfare League of Australia](#)  
**Special sponsor:** [Shelter Buddy](#)



View more information [here](#)

View draft program [here](#)

For more information, interviews or photos please contact:

*Nell Thompson, G2Z Coordinator on [info@g2z.org.au](mailto:info@g2z.org.au) or 0427 981 759*

Ends.