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UDIA launches a world of opportunity for Victoria's property industry

The Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) in Victoria has officially started opening doors and building bridges for its members, international developers and finance organisations with the unveiling of its new Global Unit.

Launched last week, the UDIA Global Unit is a networking environment, an information hub, and an international community for all industry professionals operating in Victoria. The Global Unit welcomes development professionals from all backgrounds, assisting international players who may be new to the local property industry, and helping UDIA members forge meaningful relationships and discover new opportunities in an increasingly globalised world.

“The UDIA recognises that global developers and finance organisations are an extremely important and valuable part of the Victorian property industry, and play a critical role in delivering world-class projects to house our growing population.

“We are committed to supporting all members of our industry, and driving change to facilitate a connected, fruitful, and inclusive global community of industry professionals,” said Danni Addison, Victorian chief executive of the UDIA.

“Another key plank of this initiative lies in helping our existing members adapt in a globalised world. In light of policy and regulatory changes such as the Australian banks changing their lending limits to foreign buyers, tax increases on foreign investment, and China's stricter capital controls, we have been exploring ways to improve industry confidence,” said Ms Addison.

Key areas of focus for the UDIA Global Unit include advocating for policy in support of international relations, providing the insight required for international members to make educated business decisions, and helping members forge global partnerships with investors looking to place capital with confidence.

An expert Advisory Group will guide the Unit, consisting of individuals representing internationally active members of the UDIA. The Advisory Group will meet on a quarterly basis to direct the activities and agenda of the Unit, and provide the diversity, international immersion and industry intelligence crucial to guiding the Global Unit in its future endeavours.

“UDIA's Global Unit will ensure we give Victoria's urban development industry a loud, strong and inclusive voice, that accurately reflects the global community of development professionals in Victoria,” said Ms Addison.

Lord Mayor of Melbourne Robert Doyle spoke at the intimate launch of the Global Unit, expressing his support for the initiative and congratulating the UDIA for going where no other industry association has gone before.

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UDIA Global Unit: Key Priorities

- Be a new voice on local issues for an increasingly important and sophisticated group of professionals in our international marketplace
- Build a cohesive and inclusive global community of industry professionals
- Activate international relationships via government activity
- Provide members with international heritage the knowledge, insight and contacts required to make educated business decisions in Victoria
- Connect international members with government, policy-makers, regulators and the wider urban development industry in Victoria
- Publicly recognise and promote the positive contributions of global industry professionals in Victoria's residential property industry
- Inform all levels of government on global market information and requirements, and advocate for policy reform on issues affecting international investment conditions in Victoria
- Lead the discussion and public agenda on all matters of international property investment in Victoria • Attract global capital to Melbourne and Victoria
- Run networking and event opportunities tailored to UDIA members with a rich international heritage
- Produce advocacy and market intelligence materials in Mandarin • Provide education, assistance and professional development for new and existing entrants to the Victorian urban development industry

UDIA Global Unit: Annual Initiatives

- UDIA Global Unit Advisory Group, established to guide strategy, policy initiatives and government relations in Victoria
- International Boardroom Lunches
- UDIA Global Outreach events covering topics such as leadership, diversity, finance and international relations
- Networking events, each with a welcome address by a prominent government official or regulatory body executive
- UDIA Advocacy Agenda for the Global Unit (available in Mandarin)
- UDIA Property Development Program tailored to suit international developers who are new entrants to Victoria, with Mandarin translator available
- Award and recognise global members through the Victorian UDIA Awards for Excellence program

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UDIA Global Unit: Advisory Board

- Kevin Brown, RPM Real Estate Group
- Kriste Lintelo, Newcity AUS Developments
- Clement Lee, Riverlee
- Hugh Lu, Dahua
- Brae Sokolski, MaxCap Group
- Michael Argyrou, Hickory
- Gina McCartney, REA Group

-ENDS-

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ABOUT

Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) – Victorian Division

The Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) is a nationally recognised advocacy body that supports Australia’s urban development industry. The UDIA informs and engages government, key policy makers, and industry members, **enabling better policy and better business decisions.**

With a primary focus on the residential property sector, UDIA’s Victorian Division protects and promotes over 50,000 individuals from over 350 member companies across the state. UDIA members are property developers, consultants and a range of other professionals involved in producing, financing and marketing residential property.

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