

# MEDIA RELEASE



**2 August 2024**

## **Master Builders ACT Announces New Chief Executive Officer**

Master Builders ACT is delighted to announce Anna Neelagama as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

MBA ACT President, Frank Porreca, said the MBA ACT is moving into a phase of sustainable growth under new leadership.

“Anna has been selected following a comprehensive, competitive and nationwide recruitment process. She is well placed to lead the MBA ACT as we approach our 100 year celebrations in 2025,” said Mr. Porreca.

The incoming CEO said she was privileged to step into the role at such a critical time for the ACT construction industry.

“I am excited to get to work with the well-regarded team at MBA ACT at such a critical juncture for their members in the countdown to both the ACT and Federal Elections,” said Ms. Neelagama.

“With rising business costs and the housing supply and affordability crisis in the ACT, now more than ever MBA ACT is determined to support members across all aspects of their business including advocacy, training, legal and workforce planning,” she said.

Anna succeeds Michael Hopkins, who has remained in the Master Builders family after taking up a role at Master Builders Queensland.

Anna will commence at Master Builders ACT in September 2024.

**END**

### **Media enquiries**

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## **Background**

### **About Master Builders ACT**

Founded in 1925, Master Builders ACT (MBA ACT) represents over 1,000 residential and commercial builders and suppliers across the ACT and region. The building and construction industry employs around 14,000 Canberrans. MBA ACT is the Canberra region's largest and most influential peak body and also operates the Master Builders Fidelity Fund, MBA Group Training, Southern Training and the Civil Contractors Association of the ACT. In 2023-2024, MBA ACT recorded over 10,700 student enrolments and trained 185 apprentices.

### **About Anna Neelagama**

Anna Neelagama is an experienced industry leader with over nine years as a CEO, specialising in real estate and the built environment, and spent her formative career in state and federal agribusiness advocacy roles.

Anna holds a Bachelor of International Relations from Griffith University and a Graduate Certificate in Property Development from the University of Technology Sydney. She lives in Canberra with her husband and two children.