

Amanda MacKinnell

COORDINATOR – ACT



Amanda MacKinnell's career path traverses 16 years operational service as an officer in the Royal Australian Navy, then sought new adventures in the mining sectors of the Northern Territory and Queensland. She has also spent time with the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, shaping maritime policy, business systems, processes and strategy as well as consulting to Defence in C2 programs. Until January 2020, Amanda was the Australian Industry Capability Manager for Northrop Grumman's Aerospace and Mission Systems sectors, actively seeking to include Australian businesses and technology in major programs including the acquisition of the MQ-4C Triton for the Royal Australian Air Force.

Amanda has now started her own business and works as a Defence Business Adviser through the Centre for Defence Industry Capability, an initiative of the Australian Government through the Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Energy & Research. She provides expert advice to Australian small businesses on how to engage and deliver into the Defence sector, helping companies bring innovative technology and market-leading capability to major Defence programs including SEA1000 and LAND400.

Amanda's experience in operational and project environments is complemented by academic qualifications and certifications: she holds a Master of Business Administration (AIB) as well as a Master of Global Project Management (Torrens University). An avid volunteer, Amanda has spent time in Nepal providing disaster relief work as well as contributing to local organisations in the Canberra area, offering business development work plus engaging in 'hands on' activities, especially with turtles.

In her spare time, Amanda is a keen photographer and works with wool and other fibres to produce blankets, dragons and bears.