

2021 Awards for Excellence – Champions of Change – Female Leadership

The OneConsult 2021 Awards for Excellence Champions of Change – Female Leadership Award winner has been announced as Tiina Ratamo, KBR.

A career of championing positive change in business, industry and the community has been recognised with a major award for KBR Infrastructure Services (IS) Australia's Chief Engineer Tiina Ratamo, being named Consult Australia's Champion of Change Award Winner 2021. This award recognises a mid or senior level female professional who has demonstrated leadership capabilities and/or is championing change within her firm or in the industry more broadly.

Winner Tiina Ratamo KBR

With 35 years' experience in the resources, industrial, commercial, government and infrastructure sector, KBR Infrastructure Services (IS) Australia's Chief Engineer Tiina Ratamo upholds the business's technical excellence to ensure it delivers quality solutions to its customers.

As a qualified Electrical Engineer with an MBA in Technology Management, Tiina's 22-year journey at KBR has seen her transition from senior engineer to leadership and management roles, working on a variety of projects ranging from high rise office buildings, utilities, tunnels, mining, hydrocarbons, and defence facilities during concept development and through to the design and construction stages.

In November 2021, Tiina was appointed to one of the business's top technical engineering roles where, as Chief Engineer, she guides a team of Chief Technical Engineers (CTEs) in establishing and maintaining the technical standards within each discipline at IS Australia. Chartered in Electrical, ITEE (Information Technology and Electrical Engineering) and Leadership & Management and a Fellow at the Institution of Engineers Australia, Eng Exec and NER (National Engineering Register), Tiina uses her expertise to influence the future of engineering and boost the awareness of women in STEM roles.

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In her wider community, Tiina is passionate about empowering women and young girls by teaching Taekwondo, encouraging them to harness their strength to become strong-willed women of tomorrow.

Consult Australia has also recognised Candice Lam - KBR, Olivia Oliver - Tonkin, and Lara Kruk – Jacobs, as Highly Commended 2021 Awards for Excellence in the category of Champions of Change – Female Leadership.

Highly Commended

Candice Lam

KBR

Candice Lam, KBR's Manager, Project Management and PMO (Project Management Office) Business Improvement Advisor is a proactive campaigner and trailblazer determined to empower organisations and emerging leaders toward business transformation and inclusive leadership.

As the Australia President and Global Lead of KBR's women's leadership Employee Resource Group (ERG) ASPIRE, Candice is currently on a change-the-world mission for diversity, equity and inclusion, uplifting fellow leaders across the organisation to grow, learn, and lead inclusively.

Outside of her role at KBR, Candice is a passionate role model in the engineering community who continually volunteers her time and expertise to mentor the next generation of women engineers through several organisations, such as the Institution of Engineers Australia (IEAUST) (WA) Women in STEM, the University of Queensland (UQ) and Women in Subsea Engineering (WISE), using her sphere of influence to guide girls and women into successful STEM careers and, gradually, change the future of engineering.

Highly Commended

Olivia Oliver

Tonkin

Olivia Oliver, Chief Operating Officer at Tonkin, joined Tonkin four years ago. Olivia has held several positions in the organisation, quickly rising to her current role as Tonkin's Chief Operating Officer (COO).

As COO and a key member of the company's leadership team, Olivia brings operational and commercial acumen coupled with a strong client focus and people skills that consistently deliver exceptional outcomes.

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She plays a key leadership role as Tonkin embarks on an ambitious growth journey to expand its services on Australia's east coast. Olivia's leadership role is backed by over 18 years' experience as a water engineer, as well as Bachelors, Masters and PhD level engineering and environmental qualifications.

She also balances her career with her family commitments, currently raising two young children with her partner. Olivia's leadership achievements extend across several business and industry areas. This has included spearheading Tonkin's industry leadership in climate action, mental health and anti-modern slavery initiatives, as well as leading the company's learning and development program and mentoring young engineers.

Reflecting on her nomination, Olivia said: I'm honoured to be nominated for Consult Australia's Champion of Change – Female Leadership Award. A leader is only as good as the team around them, which is one of the reasons I'm so passionate about helping develop the young engineers around me, as well as helping lead business and industry-wide initiatives that create lasting benefit for our communities and the planet."

Prior to her appointment as Chief Operating Officer with Tonkin, Olivia held the positions of Team Leader—Stormwater, Technical Manager, and Operations Manager, Queensland and Northern Territory About Tonkin Tonkin is a leading provider of engineering, environmental and related services. Designing intelligent solutions for the buildings, environmental, land development, marine and riverine, transport, waste and water sectors. Our clients include commercial and residential developers, construction firms, municipal councils and government departments.

Highly Commended

Lara Kruk

Jacobs

Lara is the Substations Technical Director, Power – Asia Pacific and a Principal Protection Engineer who has been working with Jacobs in the Power team supporting energy projects since 2014.

Lara is championing change within Jacobs and how the organisation helps their clients in "Challenging today, reinventing tomorrow" for a more connected, sustainable world. Lara fulfils two other leadership roles at Jacobs.

She is Global Practice Leader and Communities of Practice (CoP) Leader in Substations, and Portfolio Technical Manager for a key energy client. The symbiosis of her leadership and technical roles connects Jacobs globally to promote industry best practice, and work with clients and challenge teams to innovate on how to

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connect clean energy to transmission networks and achieve sustainable installations and practices.

“Lara’s skill in bridging leadership, strategy, engineering, passion, and innovation is something that is unique and highly valued at Jacobs. Her ability to make a positive impact is critical for us to help our clients build a sustainable energy future”, says Rex Inger, Jacobs Substations ANZ Leader.

Lara’s championing change is not only technical, with her volunteer roles to help the wider community. In 2020 and 2021, Lara volunteered for Robogals (a student run organisation that aims to inspire and empower young women to consider studying engineering and related fields) and presented on her career and current role at online workshops.

Lara holds a strong belief that women can become engineers, have fulfilling careers and a family and maintain a work-life balance (like her). Lara also helped to conduct mock interviews with newly arrived refugee and migrants to help prepare them for job interviews with Australian employers via AMES Australia (Adult Multicultural Education Services) (2020).

Lara hopes to improve their chances of securing work acknowledging that helping migrants integrate into Australian life leads to increased diversity which is beneficial to communities and workplaces.

Congratulations to our Champions of Change – Female Leadership Award Winner Tiina Ratamo, and Highly Commended Award Winners Candice Lam, Olivia Oliver, and Lara Kruk.

Consult Australia is the industry association representing consulting businesses in design, advisory and engineering, an industry comprised of over 58,600 businesses across Australia. This includes some of Australia’s top 500 companies and many small businesses (97%). Our members provide solutions for individual consumers through to major companies in the private sector and across all tiers of government. Our industry directly employs over 285,000 people in architectural, engineering, and technical services, and many more in advisory and business support. It is also a job creator for the Australian economy, the services we provide unlock many more jobs across the construction industry and the broader community.

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NOTES TO EDITOR

1. About Consult Australia

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2. About Nicola Grayson

Nicola Grayson is the Chief Executive of Consult Australia. Nicola is responsible for implementing the organisation's strategy, building ongoing external relationships, and for leading Consult Australia's advocacy and government relations agenda on behalf of members.

Nicola is a member of and former chair of the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) Risk, Liability, and Quality Committee. In Australia she chairs the Australian Sustainable Built Environment Council's Urban Resilience Task Group and sits on numerous government forums representing the Consult Australia membership. Nicola is the Convenor for Consult Australia's Champions of Change leadership group for gender diversity and inclusion, a member of the Champions of Change Coalition.

Nicola is a government relations specialist, and has represented industry associations in the United Kingdom, the European Union, and Australia. Nicola has worked across a range of sectors including general insurance, consumer finance, alcohol, and education, in addition to consulting engineering. She has an Honours Degree in Law from the United Kingdom and is a member of the Australia Institute of Company Directors.

3. For interview

For more information and to arrange an interview, please contact Nicola Grayson directly on +61499 878 839 or email nicola@consultaustalia.com.au.