

# **The Foundational Purpose of Adelaide Thinkers in Residence is Systemic Innovation.**

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## **Adelaide Thinkers in Residence**

The Premier of South Australia, the Hon. Mike Rann, MP, identified the value of developing a climate of innovation and learning by inviting some of the world's most esteemed thinkers to come to South Australia to live and work for periods of two to six months. Some are people with long-established reputations and stellar careers; others are young people - emerging leaders in the fields of tomorrow.

By establishing collaborative partnerships the Adelaide Thinkers in Residence program has hosted fourteen Thinkers to date and the residencies have supported the work of South Australia's Strategic Plan in areas including health, education, science, homelessness, the environment, innovation, creativity, the film industry, water, new media, governance, research and economic development.

The evidence collected from across government demonstrates that the program:

- Contributes to the achievement of a broad range of the objectives and targets in South Australia's Strategic Plan
- Embeds world-class expertise in the strategic development and promotion of South Australia
- Delivers tangible outcomes and benefits for the State
- Builds local, national and international networks, strengthening horizontal work across agencies, sectors and jurisdictions
- Brings national and international recognition for the programs, policies and ideas that emerge from this State
- Contributes to improving sustainability, economic benefits and social inclusivity for South Australians
- Develops a collaborative climate of thinking, learning and innovation in South Australia.

Each residency has produced tangible benefits to the State, demonstrated in changes to:

- Legislation
- Commercialisation of local research
- Industry development
- Improved Services
- Recruitment of expertise
- Community engagement
- Data collection processes
- Public access to information

- Capacity building
- Youth voice and engagement
- Educational development
- International recognition.

The session will provide insights into the principles, processes and impacts of the program, which works across agencies, services and disciplines.

Papers referred to include:

- Werner Ulrich, *Systems Thinking as if People Mattered*, Working Paper No.23, 1998. [http://www.geocities.com/csh\\_home/downloads.html](http://www.geocities.com/csh_home/downloads.html)
- Tom Fitzpatrick, *Horizontal Management, Trends in Governance and Accountability*. The Treasury Board of Canada, Secretariat for CCMD's Action-Research Roundtable on the Management of Horizontal Issues, 2000