

Craig Hunter Profile



Craig Hunter is a passionate advocate for regional innovation and entrepreneurship, he serves as **Chair of the Startup Central Victoria consortium**, that has supported the training and mentoring of over **150 entrepreneurs** and played a pivotal role in catalyzing Central Victoria's **AI ecosystem**.

Craig is also the Vice President of Customer Relations at **GrantGuru**, where he brings over two decades of expertise in grant strategy and funding working with chambers, business networks, all levels of government, scaleups and ASX-listed companies. As former Chair of Central Victoria's largest business and exporters network, Craig facilitated its merger with the local chamber of commerce, forming **Be.Bendigo**. He also founded the region's **Young Professionals' Network**, which has fostered leadership and collaboration among emerging talent for over 20 years.

In recognition of his contributions to regional growth, Craig was recently **appointed by the Victorian Parliament** to the **Regional Partnership** Committee for the Loddon Campaspe region, where he helps shape strategic priorities and direction for the region's future.

Craig's executive management roles included **CEO and Director of Government Engagement**, where he has consistently driven innovation and strategic partnerships across diverse industries. These roles have given him extensive fund-raising experience including Angel Investment, Venture Capital, and Private Equity, **raising more than \$50 million**, an unprecedented achievement for the Central Victorian startup and scaleup ecosystem.

