



REI ACT

REAL ESTATE INSTITUTE
OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
ABN: 67 008 553 277



****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

REI ACT'S AUSLAN-INTERPRETED AUCTIONEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS BACK FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Canberra, ACT – 10.04.2024

The Real Estate Institute of the ACT (REI ACT) is hosting the Auslan-interpreted Auctioneering Championships for the second consecutive year on Thursday, 11 April at Hotel Realm, Canberra.

REI ACT Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Maria Edwards said that Australia's first-ever Auslan-interpreted auctioneering championships hosted by the Institute in partnership with the Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) and Expression Australia in 2023 was a success in terms of introducing Auslan to the real estate industry.

"Last year's competition where our Auslan experts interpreted calls for our novice session received such a positive response from the industry and community and we wanted to build on that achievement.

"This year, we are looking forward to again partnering with Expression Australia to bring our Auslan experts back to interpret calls for both the novice and seniors sessions.

"We have made the first step in highlighting the importance of access and inclusion for the deaf and hard of hearing community in property auctions, and we think the next step to sustain this momentum is to consistently make Auslan a part of our activities."

Chief Executive Officer of Expression Australia, Rebecca Adam said that these important steps in 2023 by both REI ACT and REIA brought a level of communication for our Deaf and Hard of hearing community not experienced previously.

"Together we will build upon our success of 2023 and keep moving forward to bring Auslan into the real estate industry, through industry best practice for our Deaf and Hard of hearing community and an ongoing Deaf awareness and capacity building program for real estate agents."



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This year's competition will showcase five finalists who will be competing for the Novice Auctioneer of the Year title. Meanwhile, six auctioneers for the seniors session will vie for the highly-coveted Auctioneer of the Year crown, with two of the best from this division representing the ACT and the Institute at the 2024 Australasian Auctioneering Championships in Hobart, Tasmania in May.

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