

A man in a black shirt and glasses stands at the front of a room, gesturing with his hands while presenting to an audience. Behind him is a large projection screen displaying a close-up of a man's face. To the left, a podium features a laptop and a sign for the Princeton Business Initiative. The audience, seen from behind, is seated at tables with water bottles and papers. The text 'THE SCIENCE OF DECISIONS WORKSHOP' is overlaid in large yellow letters.

# THE SCIENCE OF DECISIONS WORKSHOP

DECISION MAKING UNDER PRESSURE



The **Science of Decisions Workshop** has been created to help groups, including local government councillors, boards of directors and executive leadership teams who want to enhance individual and collective long term decision-making. It is offered with flexible options, from small team workshops to comprehensive programs designed to foster a cultural shift in decision-making practices.

## WHO IS THIS FOR

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- Councillors in local government looking to improve group dynamics.
- Boards of directors wanting to reduce risk and improve outcomes.
- Executive Leadership Teams and advisors who want to provide better briefings to decision-making groups such as councillors and boards.
- Leaders who want to develop next level decision-making and decision-advisory skills within their teams.

## WHAT IS COVERED

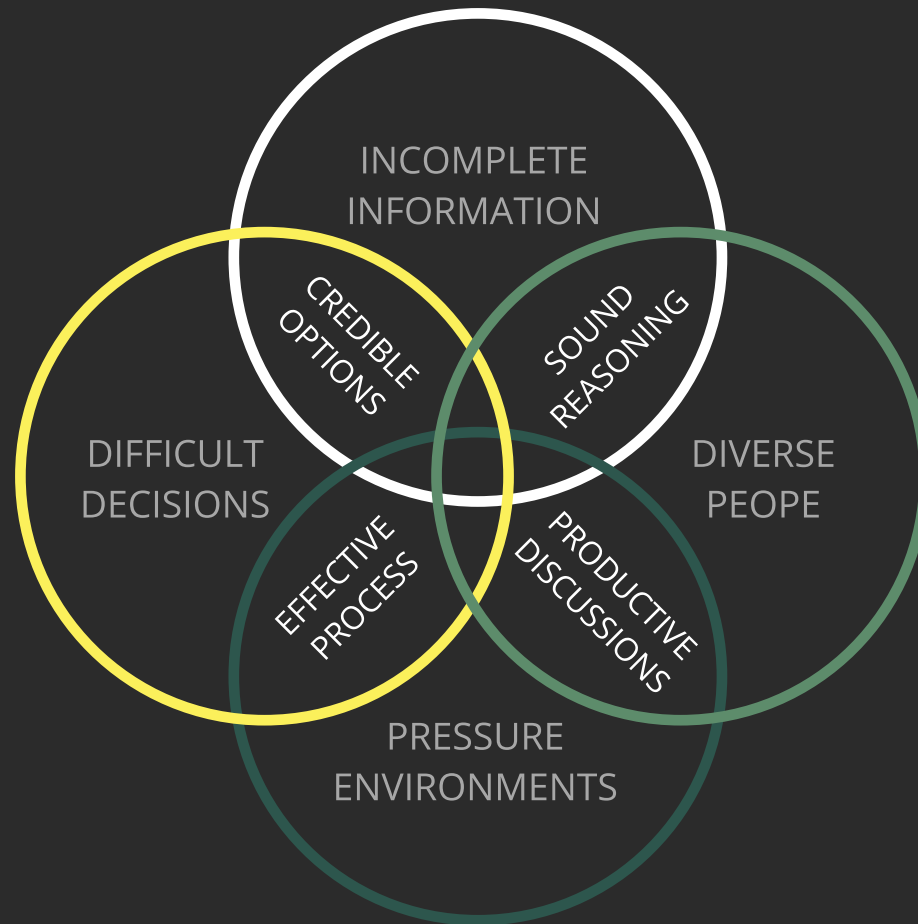
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- The principles of a great decision-making process.
- Understanding different types of decisions and appropriate decision-making strategies.
- How environmental conditions impact the decisions we make.
- The cognitive biases that undermine decision making.
- A rigorous approach to identifying, comparing, and assessing diverse options.
- The power of diversity in decision making groups and how to harness it.

## BENEFITS & OUTCOMES

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- Reduced interpersonal conflict within diverse decision-making groups.
- Improved transparency and accountability through an easy to follow process.
- Consistently better decision-making outcomes.



## THE SCIENCE OF DECISIONS FRAMEWORK

The calibre of decision-making in an organisation isn't defined by outcomes, it's defined by the integrity of the decision-making approach.

Great decision-making, like great science, focuses on the quality and consistency of the process. A strong process clearly defines the objective the decision aims to achieve. It establishes a methodology for identifying the right options to consider and ensures transparency in how those options are compared and how the decision is reached. In addition, an effective process provides a constructive environment where diverse people can share and challenge each other's ideas.

These are the principles at the heart of *The Science of Decisions* workshop.



## WORKSHOP DETAILS

The Science of Decisions workshop can be conducted in various formats, ranging from half a day to two days. It can also be presented as a shorter (one hour or less) presentation or keynote for conferences and multi-presenter events. Below is a sample of a two-day workshop format, but all workshops are co-designed with the client to reflect their specific needs.

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### DAY 1 (DECISION MAKING IN THEORY)

60% theory, 40% application

#### MORNING

- Welcome
- What gets in the way of good decision making
- An introduction to *The Science of Decision-Making* framework
- Establish the ground rules for a good decision-making workshop

#### AFTERNOON

- Using the right decision-making strategy
- Identify credible options
- Establish an effective and transparent decision-making framework

### DAY 2 (DECISION MAKING IN ACTION)

20% theory, 80% application

#### MORNING

- Use the decision-making framework to compare and prioritise options

#### AFTERNOON

- Complete the comparison and prioritisation activity
- Application beyond the workshop
- Commitment and next steps
- Close

## ABOUT SIMON

15 years ago, Simon was one of the founding members of Rio Tinto Iron Ore's internal scenario planning team. The team was tasked with developing long-range scenarios to help the leadership team understand global iron ore demand over 10+ year time horizons. This information was used to guide billion-dollar investment decisions, including the construction of new mines, railroads and port facilities.

Over the last decade, Simon has applied his extensive real-world experience in scenario planning and futures thinking to become one of Australia's leading strategists and a sought-after conference speaker. Along the way, he has also worked with countless business leaders to address their significant business challenges and help them make better big decisions.

Simon also recently published his third book, *The Scenario Planning Guide: How Scenario Planning Can Be Used to Align Thinking, Stimulate Ideas, and Overcome the Inertia of Uncertainty*.

## TESTIMONIAL

“

I would happily recommend Simon if you are looking for someone who will encourage you to expand your imagination, to get you thinking on another level, to consider new ideas, to think outside the box. Simon is engaging, interactive, and challenges your way of thinking. He is professional and creative, down-to-earth, and a likeable character who will help you get to where you need to be. ”

**ANNEMARIE MCCABE**

Chair, My Community Library  
Mayor, Baw Baw Shire Council



A person with dark hair, seen from behind, is sitting on a sandy beach. They are looking out at a calm ocean under a grey, overcast sky. The horizon line is visible in the distance.

## **SIMON WALLER**

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### **ENQUIRY PROCESS**

Get in touch to confirm Simon's availability  
and make a time to discuss your event.