



MEDIA RELEASE

4 November 2021

Industry Summit official communique

This Tasmanian Industry Summit agreed that encouraging and stimulating the private sector to grow and further invest is vital for Tasmania's future prosperity.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit agreed that the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in unprecedented levels of uncertainty for all Tasmanian businesses, and that creating greater certainty for business will be the key to future growth and investment.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit acknowledged the important role that Australian and Tasmanian government support through programs like JobKeeper and COVID support grants have played in keeping business going and providing a buffer while the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions impacted.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit heard that recent business conditions have been challenging for many businesses and industry sectors. While the economy has held up well and some businesses and industry sectors have held or improved their position; many have not and this is a source of significant concern to Tasmanian business people.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit agreed that Tasmanian Governments, businesses, and individuals have responded magnificently to the COVID-19 pandemic and put the greater good ahead of their own to keep the community safe.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit agreed that COVID-19 has led to extraordinary restrictions on individuals and businesses and that these

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restrictions have impacted on many businesses by reducing potential revenue and increasing costs.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit calls on the Tasmanian Government to ensure that COVID-19 restrictions on Tasmanian businesses are reduced as the economy and society transitions to normality.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit calls on the Tasmanian Government to remove the impractical requirement for COVID-19 testing that is planned to apply to arrivals to Tasmania from December 15 this year.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit calls on all Tasmanians to get vaccinated against COVID-19 if they have not already done so and allow businesses or industry sectors the legal protection to mandate that their employees are vaccinated.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit agreed that the future path for Tasmania will be similar to other places in the world where society must learn to live with COVID-19 as it becomes endemic in our community, and public discussion needs to reflect this.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit calls on all levels of Government to support business in Tasmania to recover, grow and invest after the shocks of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit acknowledges the rights of individuals and groups to protest and raise concerns about any or all businesses in Tasmania.

However the Summit expressed concern at the attacks on Tasmanian industry sectors and businesses by groups and individuals that have the express aim of shutting down legitimate businesses, impeding their operations, or reducing demand for their goods or services.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit calls on the Tasmanian media to better understand the business environment in Tasmania.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit calls on all Tasmanians to recognise the role of business as employers of Tasmanians and major investors and stakeholders in the Tasmanian brand, and economy.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit urges all Tasmanian businesspeople to better communicate the role that they play in the Tasmanian society and economy.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit agreed that there is a need for ongoing structural reform of the Tasmanian economy to meet the challenges



posed by the future. In particular, the areas that governments need to consider for reform include (in no particular order):

- Increased migration and population growth
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Vocational education and training
- Compulsory education and literacy
- Housing supply and affordability
- Labour and skills shortages
- Digital infrastructure
- Supply constraints
- Local government reform
- Taxation reform (including Payroll tax and GST)
- Infrastructure to support a low carbon economy

This Tasmanian Industry Summit calls on the Tasmanian Government to continue to implement the reforms outlined by PESRAC.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit calls on the Tasmanian and Australian Governments to increase their investments into critical programs and infrastructure that will stimulate the economy and further private sector investment in Tasmania.

This Tasmanian Industry Summit agreed to meet in the first half of 2022 and make the Tasmanian Industry Summit a permanent feature of the Tasmanian business landscape.

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