



## **Andrews Government Must Continue to Support Local Accommodation Industry**

The accommodation industry congratulates the Victorian Labor Party on their re-election to the Victorian Government under the leadership of the Honourable Daniel Andrews MP.

Speaking on behalf of the industry, the Accommodation Association of Australia would also like to welcome the new Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events, The Honourable Martin Pakula MP, and thank the outgoing Tourism Minister, The Honourable John Eren MP, for his support and commitment to the industry.

"It is imperative that the Andrews Government commits to support the compliant accommodation industry, given its scale and its long-term investment pipeline of new hotels entering the Melbourne market in Victoria," said the Accommodation Association's Chief Executive Officer, Richard Munro.

"Since 2016, 3625 new rooms have been added to the Melbourne market. There are currently 34,946 rooms in the city with the predicted supply by 2020 to be increased by 40% to 48,792.

"Similarly, the shortage of skilled workers in the industry needs to be addressed to ensure that there is access to highly trained and sustainable staff, to service the growing needs of the industry.

"The Accommodation Association also continues to strongly urge the Andrews Government to back the new, enhanced four-year funding agreement for Visit Victoria and Melbourne Convention Bureau. The importance of this four-year funding is that it would ensure that bids to host business and major events will continue, instead of being out on hold because of uncertainty surrounding the resources of the bureau."

Adrian Williams, Chair of the Accommodation Association's Victorian State Advisory Board, says they are excited to meet and work with the new Tourism Minister, the Honourable Martin Pakula, to address the State's visitor economy by investing in demand drivers to attract businesses and major events.

- ENDS -

### **Media Contact**

Richard Munro

Chief Executive Officer, Accommodation Association of Australia

02 8666 9015 | 0417 466 997

#### **National Office**

Suite 401, Level 4, 105 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000

#### **Contact Us**

P 02 8666 9015

F 02 8666 9017

E mail@aaoa.com.au

[www.aaoa.com.au](http://www.aaoa.com.au)

ABN 36 322 115 084

#### **QLD Office**

Suite 8, 37 Bundall Road, Surfers Paradise QLD 4217

#### **VIC Office**

Level 27, 101 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000