

Inquiry into the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Tourism and Events Sectors

Mr Shane Buzza

Organisation Name: Blu Event Productions

Your position or role: Managing Director

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

We are an Event Production business who, like so many, have lost so much work as a result of the COVID crisis.

As challenging as 2020 was for everyone, we found the recent snap-lockdown has been directly responsible for a huge loss in confidence from vendors involved in large-scale outdoor events - an area we specialise in. It was extremely disappointing that the snap-lockdown was enforced on the entire state of Victoria based on less than 10x COVID cases - there seems to be zero compassion for the ramifications this imposes on small-businesses, especially those in the events sector which has already lost so much, and was starting to generate increased traction.

Our industry desperately requires support in various ways, which can include:

- Messaging to the Victorian Community which creates confidence that it is safe to attend events, and that all events held have been recorded to comply with COVID regulations.
- Financial support for small businesses specifically within the event sector (Event Production, Theming, Audio Visual, Ride Hire)

As a small business, it has been a trying time, and we as a collective in the events industry have huge concern for our future when JobKeeper concludes this week.

Please look beyond the large-scale events (Australian Open Tennis, AFL, or any event that received State Govt funding), small events need your help too.

I cannot emphasise enough the messaging that needs to be pushed in order to help the mindset that currently exists with events.

I would be happy to speak on behalf of the events industry if there were any opportunities to do so.

Cheers,

Shane

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:



Signature:

Shane Buzza