

From: Simon Thewlis [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 15 April 2021 10:55 AM
To: Martin Foley
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Support for Save Victorian Events' Recommendations to the Tourism and Events Inquiry

Dear Martin Foley MP,

I'm writing to you as my local MP and to the Tourism and Events Inquiry to express my strong support for Save Victoria Events' recommendations to the Inquiry.

The recommendations are comprehensive and they need to be acted on very urgently - as many people and businesses will not survive the quiet winter period and still be there when events pick up again later in the year.

Please take the time to watch the opening session of the Inquiry here https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2FCqYOoU_85d4&data=04%7C01%7Ctourisminquiry%40parliament.vic.gov.au%7C2cbda574061a4908593408d8ffa9125b%7C821af0ec31404137af0e6690286fb673%7C0%7C0%7C637540449554050127%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sd=YA8uzJqsKGxoBrZiKcz2EgBYG9pxqNfmyoocoBVQXo%3D&reserved=0 to hear first hand what people in our industry are going through. And, what the solutions are.

The recommendations are very simple - and start with fixing the underlying problems.

1. We need the Event Industry to be recognised by the government as a real industry. As an important industry to Victoria, and to Victoria's future.
2. We need the real contributions that our events make to Victoria to be finally understood and valued by government. And, we need the extraordinary skills, talents and resources of the event industry to be valued - as they should be getting used during this crisis.
3. We need a dedicated government agency - Events Victoria - to be set up to support, develop and promote Victoria's event industry. Including, as an export industry. An agency that has people who understand the event industry and are committed to working with us and supporting us.
4. We urgently need some real financial support for the event companies, event suppliers and the freelancers and contractors so they can survive until later in the year when events start picking up again properly.
5. We need Covid cancel insurance to be underwritten by government so many events can start happening again.

You can read the full recommendations here:

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.savevictorianevents.com.au%2FFiles%2FRecommendations.pdf&data=04%7C01%7Ctourisminquiry%40parliament.vic.gov.au%7C2cbda574061a4908593408d8ffa9125b%7C821af0ec31404137af0e6690286fb673%7C0%7C0%7C637540449554050127%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6I1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sd=agFBR4w0Srimu3SmKpXwChIA%2BEEBaB9M6ASj88uhxpw%3D&reserved=0>

Victoria will not remain Australia's event state and Melbourne a global event capital if we lose so many of the great people and businesses that make these events happen.

We need urgent action now.

Yours sincerely,
Simon Thewlis

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Please reply to Simon Thewlis [REDACTED]

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