



Public hearing

Employment in the tourism sector

Skills and labour shortages, use of migrant labour and career opportunities in the tourism industry will be among the issues discussed at a public hearing of the House of Representatives Employment Committee's public hearing in Melbourne this week.

The Committee will hear from Victorian employer groups as well as private individuals and research organisations at the hearing on Friday, 9 February as part of its inquiry into employment in the tourism sector.

On the inquiry, the new appointed Committee Chair, Hon Gary Hardgrave MP, commented, "The tourism sector is of vital importance to Australia's economy and to promoting Australia on the world stage."

"The incorrect perception that the tourism sector does not provide long-term, satisfying career prospects is a serious impediment to its future employment growth. This inquiry will examine how best to support continued employment growth in the industry and ensure Australia remains a top tourist destination."

The Committee is to inquire into and report on workforce challenges in the Australian tourism sector, with particular reference to the following:

- Current and future employment trends in the industry;
- Current and emerging skill shortages and appropriate recruitment, coordinated training and retention strategies;
- Labour shortages and strategies to meet seasonal fluctuations in workforce demands;
- Strategies to ensure employment in regional and remote areas; and
- Innovative workplace measures to support further employment opportunities and business growth in the tourism sector.

Public hearing program: Friday, 9 February 2007

Time: 9am – 3.30pm

Venue: Committee Rooms 2/3, 35 Spring St, Melbourne

Details of witnesses follow.

Further details on the membership of the Committee, the inquiry and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ewrwp/> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4162 or emailing ewrwp.reps@aph.gov.au.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair, Hon Gary Hardgrave MP, on (02) 6277 4585 or (07) 3344 2622

For background information, contact the Committee Secretary, on (02) 6277 4162 or 0407 406 337



Public hearing program

9.00am	Tourism Alliance Victoria
9.45am	Victorian Industry Tourism Council
10.45am	Australian Ski Areas Association
11.30am	Australian Airports Association
1.15pm	Sustainable Tourism CRC
2pm	Private individual
2.45pm	National Centre for Vocational Education and Research