



The Place To Be

Media release

Geoff Howard MLA, Member for Ballarat East

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MEMBERS SOUGHT FOR NEW COMMONWEALTH–STATE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEES

Regional Victorians who are passionate about community and economic development are being urged to nominate for new Commonwealth-State advisory committees to help shape the future of regional Victoria.

“Victoria is pleased to join with the Commonwealth in this new initiative. Both of our governments are committed to genuinely engaging with regional communities and responding to local needs,” Geoff Howard MP, Member for Ballarat East, said.

“The RDA-Victoria Committees have been designed to tap into local expertise, with each one made up of 10 local community champions who will provide advice to both levels of government on community infrastructure, regional issues and opportunities, planning, economic development and investment attraction.”

Mr Howard said the RDA-Victoria Committees will:

- provide strategic input into Australian and Victorian government programs;
- provide information to regional communities on Australian and Victorian government initiatives;
- help to coordinate regional planning and regional development initiatives; and
- establish links and cooperative alliances as appropriate by closely working with other regional development organisations, neighbouring RDA committees and local government to promote regional development.

“This initiative is all about empowering communities and cooperating across all levels of government to find the best locally-developed solutions to local issues,” Mr Howard said.

“I would encourage enthusiastic people with leadership, vision and the ability to champion regional interests to apply for RDA-Victoria membership.”

The new Regional Development Australia network across Australia will build on and replace the Commonwealth Government’s Area Consultative Committees (ACCs) by aligning with State and Territory regional development bodies.

Previous board or committee experience is not essential. However, experience in one or more of the following areas is preferred: economic development, business or management, environment, health, education, community services or social inclusion.

For more information on applying for RDA-Victoria membership, visit www.rdv.vic.gov.au/rda to download an information package and nomination form. Applications close on 24 July.

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