



**QUEENSLAND
TOURISM INDUSTRY
COUNCIL**

Media Release

Tourism Industry Relieved- JobKeeper Extension 21/07/2020

The Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) welcomed the announcement today by the Federal Government to extend the JobKeeper program beyond September.

QTIC, Chief Executive Daniel Gschwind said, “Countless tourism operators in Queensland were desperately waiting for more certainty about this essential government support program.

“Many businesses in our industry will still need a partnership with government beyond September to sustain themselves during these devastating times”.

International visitors to Australia spent more than \$6 billion in Queensland in 2019, leaving an enormous gap in regional economies in 2020. With international visitors to Australia not likely to return until well into next year this support will be essential for the tourism industry.

“Businesses who had very successful, internationally-focused operations will struggle to keep afloat and retain staff for a long time.

“We support the measures announced today, which will give the certainty and confidence necessary to plan and restructure.

“This support is about keeping communities going and keeping hope alive for tens of thousands of employees in Queensland’s tourism and hospitality sector alone,” Mr Gschwind said.

QTIC and its national partner, Australian Tourism Industry Council (ATIC), advocated constantly to ensure a continuation of the program.

“It was very important for us to stand united, and in support of the government, to maintain JobKeeper as the effective and absolutely essential program that it is. We congratulate the Commonwealth Government on the announcements today.”

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