

Media Release

QTIC Lead Industry Standards and Safety for Tourism 7/05/2020

To support the efforts for a timely and smooth reopening of tourism businesses in the state, the Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) has activated an industry-wide working group for *Industry Standards and Safety*. The group will share and develop COVID-19 safety protocols to cover all tourism settings.

QTIC Chief Executive, Daniel Gschwind, said that a coordinated approach to tourism operations in a post-COVID-19 environment is essential for a successful and enduring return-to-business process.

"As an industry, we must give governments and their Chief Health Officers the confidence that our operators know what they are doing in terms of providing safe workplaces and safe customer experiences.

"We understand that authorities need that reassurance as they plan the staged easing of restriction. It is all about minimizing risk.

"Importantly, our industry will also have to meet the expectations of the travelling public. Consumers will put safety as the top priority when it comes to choosing destinations and services," Mr Gschwind said.

The work of QTIC, its stakeholders and government agencies will be supported and guided by world-leading health experts from Mater Health Services and Griffith University.

Sector associations and leading businesses are involved in the work which will proceed with great urgency in the hope that the industry can get back to work as soon as possible.

"The government support during this crisis has been prompt and comprehensive and along with our business community, we are very grateful for the government stepping up. Now it is time to focus on the recovery phase."

Mr Gschwind continued, the only thing that will ultimately tourism and the community is the return to business, generating activity and supporting jobs.

"We are optimistic that the domestic tourism market will spring back to life soon, with renewed vigour, given that we are all ready to 'get out there."



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Queensland has a lot to offer visitors and soon it will be the best time to get out of our backyard to explore the more commonly used proverbial backyard right here in Queensland.

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