



QUEENSLAND  
TOURISM INDUSTRY  
COUNCIL

# Media Release

## **Queensland Tourism Awards Cancelled for First Time in History 8/05/2020**

The Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) has had to make the agonising decision to cancel the 2020 Queensland Tourism Awards (QTA) for the first time in 35 years.

The decision comes after consultations with previous entrants, sponsors and other stakeholders, in recognition to the impacts caused by COVID-19.

QTIC Chief Executive Daniel Gschwind said, "Like so many other aspects of our industry, 'normal' no longer applies this year and the awards program was not viable under the current circumstances.

"This is a huge disappointment to us and to many operators, but the reality is that the industry has an overwhelming challenge on their hands to get through this crisis. It is the sole focus for everyone. We will be back with the program next year, bigger and better and remain fully committed to supporting excellence in business."

For decades, tourism operators have used the awards program to challenge themselves and their peers through continuous improvement in business practices, innovation and quality service delivery.

Mr Gschwind continued, "The awards are a celebration of the industry and provide tourism operators with encouragement for business development and success.

"We are keeping the option open to hold some kind of event in place of the Queensland Awards night, with date, place and format yet to be discussed. Our operators deserve recognition for keeping businesses, jobs and the tourism industry in Queensland alive.

"The tourism industry like many others are going through an extremely difficult time and the core focus needs to be on recovery.

"Our industry has faced many challenges and we have always come through strongly. This time we need to muster all the resilience and business skills we have accumulated in the thousands of tourism operations all around this great state.

"Our recovery is vital to regional communities in every part of Queensland".



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