

Media Release

The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC

Minister for Employment

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy

Minister for Small Business



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DIGITAL INNOVATION FESTIVAL HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Victoria's annual two-week Digital Innovation Festival is on and offering hundreds of events focused on technology, innovation and entrepreneurship – in an exclusively virtual format for the first time.

Running until 4 September, DIF 2020 offers live and on-demand events and webinars for all Victorians to engage with technology, connect with entrepreneurs, develop new skills and reimagine the way we interact with our communities and conduct business.

Celebrating Victoria's capabilities and success stories, the festival encompasses digital skills and advanced technology such as cyber security and Artificial Intelligence, with events also exploring the jobs of the future and promoting diversity and digital inclusion.

Key events include the Future Work Summit, the Churchill Club's Tech Trends Debate and Binary Shift which focuses on innovation for regional communities and businesses.

Aimed at Victorians of all ages, backgrounds and abilities, the festival also includes events and workshops for beginner coders, small business owners and women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Regional Victoria shows its strength in the digital realm with a number of events driven out of regional areas including the 10th annual Bendigo Invention and Innovation Festival which has a focus of "Optimism Through Innovation".

The Wangaratta Big Day In event will bring together secondary students – virtually – to hear from experts from Microsoft, Adobe, GHD Digital and Buzzy Games. Tech on Country will explore online career pathways for indigenous and non-indigenous secondary school students with a focus on games development.

Running since 2016, the Digital Innovation Festival is unique in its ambition and statewide approach to raise awareness and engagement with technology-driven innovation across the economy and community.

For more information on the festival and to register for events, visit dif.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford

"The festival will help people and businesses from across Victoria to connect, innovate, learn and capitalise on the amazing opportunities created by the digital economy."

"No matter where you live, what you do or how old you are, there will be something for everyone at DIF 2020 – I encourage everyone who can to get involved."