

Media Release

The Hon Ingrid Stitt MP

Minister for Early Childhood & Pre-Prep

Minister for Environment



Saturday, 4 March 2023

ALL ABILITIES FACILITIES NOW OPEN AT POINT LEO

Visitors, surfers, and swimmers of all abilities now have access to a range of new and modern facilities at Point Leo Foreshore Reserve, making this popular beach and camping destination more accessible for everyone to enjoy.

Minister for Environment Ingrid Stitt visited Point Leo today and thanked the Committee of Management for Point Leo Foreshore Park & Reserve for delivering the project with funding from two Victorian Government grant programs designed to improve the experience of community members in public and recreational spaces.

The committee was awarded a \$140,000 grant from *Victoria's Great Outdoors* Camping and Caravan Grant program in late 2021 to build a new kiosk and amenities block at the reserve. The committee was later awarded a \$91,252 *Changing Places* grant through the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing to install a new Changing Places facility.

The newly opened block provides visitors with a covered seating area, ambulant accessible toilets, showers and two public changerooms, as well as the Changing Places facility for those with higher support needs.

A further park upgrade is currently underway at nearby Balnarring Foreshore Reserve, where a \$113,235 Camping and Caravan Grant is being used to refit the campground's amenity block and camp kitchen installation. This project is due for completion in April.

To date, 46 projects across the state have been completed to increase accessibility, site capacity, and improve and renew recreational facilities so that more Victorians can enjoy quality and affordable camping and caravanning thanks to the Victorian Government's \$106.6 million investment in *Victoria's Great Outdoors*.

Our funding for campgrounds and visitor facilities will help bring more visitors and tourists to regional communities – creating jobs and boosting local economies.

Victoria's Great Outdoors Camping and Caravan Grants support local councils and committees of management to provide quality and affordable visitor accommodation across Victoria. These grants have been boosting regional Victorian economies and tourism by employing local businesses and supporting campgrounds and caravan parks to welcome more visitors.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Ingrid Stitt

"The Labor government is proud to provide funding to Point Leo Foreshore Reserve across two of our grants programs, making sure that the beauty of Point Leo can be enjoyed by everyone."

"Surfers, swimmers, and beach goers of all abilities now have access to a range of new facilities at Point Leo, making this wonderful destination more accessible for everyone to enjoy."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Disability, Ageing and Carers Lizzie Blandthorn

"We're delivering accessible facilities like this across the state, so that everyone can enjoy spending time at places such as the beautiful Point Leo."

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Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh

“Victoria’s Great Outdoors Camping and Caravan Grants support local communities so they can continue providing quality and affordable visitor accommodation across Victoria.”