

Media Release

The Hon Danny Pearson MP

Acting Treasurer

Minister for Government Services

Minister for WorkSafe and the TAC

Minister for Consumer Affairs

Acting Minister for Trade and Investment

Acting Minister for Industrial Relations



Thursday, 13 July 2023

BACKING VICTORIA'S WORLD CLASS PRODUCERS

The Andrews Labor Government is backing Victoria's agriculture businesses get their world-class produce onto more tables, while also supporting the skilled hospitality workers who service our booming food and drink sector.

Acting Minister for Trade and Investment Danny Pearson today visited Patient Wolf Distilling Co in Southbank to announce a \$31.2 million investment in the programs that promote Victorian producers.

Victorian distillers, wine makers and their communities will benefit from a further \$10 million in funding for the *Distillery Door* program and \$5 million for the *Wine to the World* program.

These programs support industry growth, skills development and domestic and international market expansion, while further strengthening regional towns as a tourism destination.

The Labor Government will continue to deliver hospitality scholarships through a \$5 million investment, ensuring Victoria's food and beverage industry is equipped with skilled workers.

Scholarships of up to \$10,000 will be provided to regional and metropolitan students, supporting them to succeed in their new careers while providing a much-needed workforce boost for our hospitality sector.

Underpinning Victoria's world class food and drink industries are the ingredients grown by Victorian farmers.

To help our farmers continue to grow the high-quality produce they are known for, a \$3 million funding package will be delivered over the next three years to address key farm safety risks.

Quotes attributable to Acting Minister for Trade and Investment Danny Pearson

"From paddock to plate, we're proud to be helping ensure Victoria's premium produce can be enjoyed by more consumers – at home and abroad."

"We're backing our drinks producers to take their products to the world and create jobs here in Victoria."

Quote attributable to Minister for Agriculture Gayle Tierney

"Not only are we helping the people at the heart of our agriculture sector, we're also providing hospitality training opportunities ensuring Victorian produce continues to play a starring role in the food and drinks we enjoy."