

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP

Acting Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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GATEWAY TO ALPINE ADVENTURE OPENS AT MT HOTHAM

Visiting Mount Hotham just got a whole lot better for snow-lovers in time for this year's opening snow season weekend, with a new visitor centre making it easier and more accessible to get on the slopes, thanks to \$4.2 million in funding support from the Allan Labor Government through Regional Development Victoria.

Minister for Environment and Acting Minister for Regional Development Steve Dimopoulos today toured the newly completed Alpine Gateway visitor centre which will be enjoyed by visitors from across Victoria and interstate this winter and support Mount Hotham to remain a major economic driver of our state.

The new architecturally designed two-storey building provides a much-needed visitor hub with a new under-cover carpark, observation deck and accessible amenities including showers, and heated lounge areas that offers panoramic views over the Victorian Alps.

More than 100 jobs were created during construction – boosting secure local jobs throughout the region.

In winter, the gateway will offer visitors a seamless experience including safe and direct ski field access for skiers and snowboarders of all abilities while outside of the snow season, it will improve year-round access to outdoor activities by providing an ideal starting point for exploring the area's network of walking trails.

The building will also operate as a new trailhead for the iconic Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing, providing a launch pad for a range of green season activities such as guided nature walks, hiking, trail running and mountain biking.

The new information panels celebrate and pay tribute to the Traditional Owners of the land while the design draws inspiration from the colors and shapes of the High Country.

The project is part of the Labor Government's record \$45 billion investment since 2014 in projects and programs that support regional Victoria to be an even better place to live, work, stay and play.

Our investments mean more locals have jobs close to home, more communities have the infrastructure they need to thrive, and more visitors can experience what our regions offer.

Thanks to our record investment regional Victoria continues to have among the lowest unemployment rate of 3.8% in regional Australia. For more information, go to rdv.vic.gov.au.

Quote attributable to Minister for Environment and Acting Minister for Regional Development Steve Dimopoulos

"Mount Hotham is one of Victoria's iconic visitor destinations and our support for the new Alpine Gateway project ensures it can continue to be a major economic driver of our state and offer unforgettable experiences for thousands of people year-round."

Quote attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

"With this new visitor centre, we're thrilled to see Mount Hotham become even more accessible and enjoyable for both locals and visitors, showcasing the beauty and adventure our region has to offer year-round."

Media contact: Lloyd Skinner 0457 138 806 | Lloyd.Skinner@minstaff.vic.gov.au