

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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SPRINGING INTO A PACKED CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Victoria's reputation as the nation's premier destination for world-class events will be reinforced this spring, with Melbourne set to welcome more than 6,000 visitors for business events in September backed by the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos said the events are expected to inject more than \$23 million into Victoria's economy and deliver more than 15,000 room nights – supporting hundreds of local jobs.

The events span key sectors such as health, renewable energy, trade and technology – solidifying Victoria's reputation as a leader in innovation and global engagement. Key events include:

- Progress 2030 Summit (2-3 September): 400 delegates will discuss innovation, sustainability and AI, with the summit expected to deliver more than \$1 million to the economy.
- World Chambers Congress 2025 (2-4 September): Hundreds of business leaders from across the globe will gather in Melbourne with the event contributing almost \$4 million.
- APAC Wind Energy Summit (16-18 September): Industry leaders and policy makers will focus on solutions to renewable energy development.
- World Congress of Gastroenterology (19-22 September): Attracting 3,000 delegates, this event is expected to generate almost \$18 million and reinforce Melbourne's reputation as a global hub for medical research.

Melbourne was recently ranked first in Australian and fifth worldwide for the average number of participants at business events in the International Congress and Convention Association rankings – meaning Victoria ranks ahead of London, Paris and New York.

There are more than 220 business events locked in for Melbourne over the next few years which are expected to deliver more than \$260 million to the Victorian economy.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos

"We're backing our business events sector by supporting conferences that attract thousands of visitors – supporting local jobs, businesses and investment in Victoria."

"Having so many incredible events across September will highlight Victoria's research and business leadership to experts and visitors from around the world."

Quote attributable to Melbourne Convention Bureau Chief Executive Julia Swanson

"These events deliver immense value – fostering innovation, developing skills and boosting the Victorian economy."

Quote attributable to Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre Chief Executive Natalie O'Brien AM

"We're proud to welcome these world-class events to Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre and showcase Melbourne's unique culture and hospitality, while strengthening Victoria's reputation as a leading global destination for business events."

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