



**REGIONAL  
AUSTRALIA**  
INSTITUTE

**REGIONAL  
AUSTRALIA  
COUNCIL**

**2031**

# **REGIONAL AUSTRALIA COUNCIL 2031**

**COMMUNIQUE #1**

**Monday 4 May 2020**

## FOUNDING MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

- Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA)
- Aurizon
- Bendigo and Adelaide Bank
- Commonwealth Bank
- Expedia Group
- KPMG
- NBN Co.
- Prime Super
- Telstra
- TransGrid

## INAUGURAL MEETING – 4 MAY 2020

The Regional Australia Council 2031 (RAC2031) was formally launched by Deputy Prime Minister the Hon. Michael McCormack on Monday, 4 May 2020. The Deputy Prime Minister said the Council will play an important role in promoting and shaping regional Australia as a good place to live, work and connect.

The founding members of RAC2031 committed to work together and address the opportunities in regional Australia.

Chaired by Liz Ritchie, CEO of the Regional Australia Institute (RAI), RAC2031 brings together some of the most influential corporate organisations in Australia and asks them to make regions a priority.

### RAC2031 REACHED CONSENSUS THAT:

- Members will ask corporate leaders to make regional Australia a priority and be positive examples of how this can work.
- Population strategy has an important role to play in the future of regional Australia to fill regional job vacancies and address challenges of overpopulated cities.
- Members will work with RAI to co-create a national awareness campaign to showcase the opportunities in regional Australia as a great place to live, work and invest.
- Founding members will work with RAI to survey their staff to identify what it would take for them to move to regional Australia.
- The work of RAC2031 will have a lasting legacy for the future of regional Australia.

Founding members recognised the value of the RAI's research and provision of robust evidence to help achieve RAC2031 endeavours. Members also identified that COVID19, while a devastating virus with wide-reaching impacts, may provide a platform for change in how organisations do business and open up options for employees to work remotely in regional Australia.

The Deputy Prime Minister challenged RAC2031 members to continue sharing positive stories of what they see in regional Australia.

The RAC2031 will come together four times a year to discuss and activate the four pillars identified by the RAI that are vital to regional Australia. These are:



## RAC2031 MEETING #2

The next meeting of RAC2031 will be held in July 2020.

RAC2031 will work to have 25 member organisations by the end of 2020. For enquiries, please contact RAI CEO Liz Ritchie [liz.ritchie@regionalaustralia.org.au](mailto:liz.ritchie@regionalaustralia.org.au) or phone 02 62603733.

For media enquiries, please contact Corporate Affairs Director, Amanda Barwick [amanda.barwick@regionalaustralia.org.au](mailto:amanda.barwick@regionalaustralia.org.au) or phone 0429142232.