



**REGIONAL  
AUSTRALIA  
INSTITUTE**



# **REGIONAL AUSTRALIA COUNCIL 2031**

**COMMUNIQUE #3**

**Tuesday 13 October 2020**

## RAC2031 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

- Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA)
- Aurizon
- Australia Post
- Bendigo and Adelaide Bank
- Commonwealth Bank
- Expedia Group
- KPMG
- National Australia Bank (NAB)
- NBN Co.
- Nutrien AG Solutions
- Prime Super
- Telstra
- TransGrid

## THIRD MEETING –10 OCTOBER 2020

The Minister for Population, Cities and Urban Infrastructure, the Hon. Alan Tudge, addressed the third meeting of the Regional Australia Council 2031 (RAC2031) on Tuesday 13 October, 2020. The Minister welcomed expressed enthusiasm for RAI's work and the importance of its research. The Minister spoke about the significant impact of COVID-19 on Australia's population growth and its effect on economic growth. He touched on three central themes: reviving Australia's population growth, ensuring regional population growth and addressing immediate workforce needs in regional Australia.

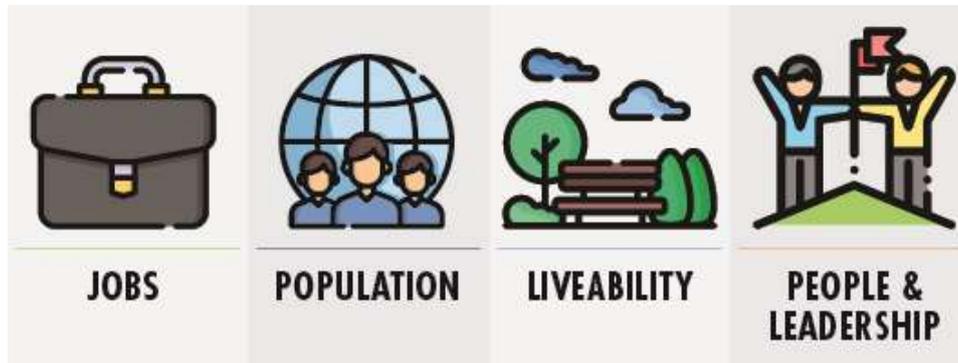
The third meeting of RAC2031 focused on Population. The Members of RAC2031 discussed the implications of RAI's population report *Regional Population Growth – Are We Ready?* and the importance of creating a long term strategy that ensures regional growth. Despite the devastating impacts of COVID-19, there was a sense of optimism that it has created an historic opportunity to promote regional living. With the critical input of RAC2031 Members, RAI will be launching a national campaign aimed at the regionalisation of our nation. The campaign will be underpinned by current and innovative data on population mobility.

Chaired by Liz Ritchie, CEO of the Regional Australia Institute, RAC2031 is a forum of the most influential corporate organisations in Australia who are committed to making regions a priority. At this meeting, RAC2031 welcomed Nutrien AG Solutions as its newest Member.

### RAC2031 REACHED CONSENSUS THAT:

- Members will work with RAI to create a new dataset on population mobility to underpin the national campaign.
- Now is the time to seize the opportunity for regional growth, showcasing the opportunities in regional Australia.
- COVID-19 recovery is being led by our regions. Job vacancy figures show that there are real opportunities and people are already "voting with their feet"
- Regionalisation can play an important part of Australia's national recovery story.
- The national campaign is timely and will have a lasting legacy for the future of 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 #4

The next meeting of RAC2031 will be held in December 2020 and will have a focus on Liveability.

RAC2031 will work to increase its membership base to 25 by the end of 2020. For enquiries, please contact RAI CEO Liz Ritchie [info@regionalaustralia.org.au](mailto:info@regionalaustralia.org.au) or phone 02 6260 3733.

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