

Inquiry into the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Tourism and Events Sectors

Mr Bruce Minchinton

Organisation Name: Tahbilk Pty Ltd

Your position or role: Tourism Manager

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

Tahbilk Estate is a sizable vineyard and winery located approximately 120 km north of Melbourne. The estate attracts significant visitor number and has a cellar door tasting and sales area as well as a 100 seat restaurant.

The COVID-19 economic effect through loss of sales was significant.

Visitation has resumed with the lessening of restrictions and is on par or higher than pre-COVID.

Our main issue is finding staff for our hospitality (Cellar Door & Restaurant) operations. We currently have opportunities for a full-time head chef, part time cook and several casual positions for sales people at cellar door.

We have received only a handful of applications for the head chef position and none are from Melbourne.

There is a reluctance for Melbourne (or other city) based workers to move into regional areas.

Assistance in attracting city based workers to move to regional locations would be beneficial.

That Government assistance could be:

- Relocation expenses reimbursed
- Rental accommodation expenses reimbursed whilst the person finds permanent accommodation
- If a person wants to live in Melbourne and travel daily to regional work, for a period whilst they decide to relocate or not, then a travel allowance is paid

Essentially these ideas are to take away the financial burden of relocating to a regional area.

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:



Signature:

Bruce Minchinton