

23 March 2021

Falls Creek siteholders and business operators

Dear Falls Creek stakeholder,

Alpine Resort Reform

I write to advise that the Falls Creek Alpine Resort Management Board has been notified by the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, of the Victorian Government's intention to merge the four existing Alpine Resort Management Boards (ARMBs), Falls Creek ARMB, Mount Hotham ARMB, Mount Buller and Mount Stirling ARMB and the Southern ARMB, into a new statutory body corporate to be known as Alpine Resorts Victoria. This follows a call for change from industry and sector stakeholders.

This decision has been made to support alpine resorts and associated communities as they recover from the effects of the 2019-20 bushfires and the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and will enable a sectoral approach to build the economic resilience of the alpine industry. It will also provide greater strategic focus on responding to the longer-term challenges from climate change, including an increased risk of bushfires and an expected reduction of natural snow.

The Minister has made it clear that the Victorian Government remains committed to supporting on-mountain alpine businesses through a range of packages including the commercial tenancies rent relief scheme, tourism accommodation program, and business support fund. Support will also continue to be provided directly to ARMBs to ensure financial solvency during transition to the new arrangements.

Although the proposed reforms will not take effect until such time as the Victorian Parliament has enacted legislative amendments, the Minister has requested that the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and ARMBs commence transition planning in consultation with resort and industry stakeholders, tourism bodies, Traditional Owners and local government to ensure the new arrangements are able to commence in 2022 or at an earlier time if possible.

Falls Creek Resort Management
ABN 21 789 770 569
1 Slalom Street, Falls Creek VIC 3699
PO Box 50, Falls Creek VIC 3699

T: 03 5758 1200
E: fcrm@fallscreek.com.au
W: fallscreek.com.au



While it is important this transition plan enables economies of scale and operational efficiencies, the Minister is committed to there being no reduction in the number of frontline operational roles across the resorts and that local regional communities continue to work closely with the new body and to be engaged in alpine sector matters.

As part of the institutional reforms, the Alpine Resorts Coordinating Council (ARCC) will also be abolished with the strategic policy function presently undertaken by the ARCC to be undertaken by DELWP and other ARCC functions transitioning to the new Alpine Resorts Victoria.

DELWP representatives have advised that regular communications will be forthcoming as the transition plan is developed and implemented. Further information is also now available on our website at <https://corporate.falls creek.com.au/2021/03/22/alpine-industry-sector-announcement/>

I thank you for your continued contributions to Falls Creek and I look forward to working with you as we plan for this significant change to the alpine resort sector.

Yours sincerely



Jo Shannon
Board Chair