



National Tourism Alliance
the united voice of the Australian Tourism Industry

August 8th, 2007

National Tourism Alliance, Annual Tourism Dinner

Tourism and hospitality industry united in Canberra.

The National Tourism Alliance Annual Dinner is being held tonight in the Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra. This is the main opportunity for the tourism and hospitality industry to come together to strengthen relationships between the Government, Opposition and the tourism industry.

With 2007 being an election year, the opportunity to celebrate and cement these relationships is more crucial than ever.

"With nearly 500 people attending this year, the dinner will provide us with a strong platform to network and present a united voice as we talk to Government and the Opposition," said Col Hughes, Chairman, National Tourism Alliance

"2007 has proven to be a milestone year for the tourism industry. We have secured a further three years of funding for the Tourism White Paper - this equates to more than \$193.3 million to support key aspects of the white paper until 2011.

"Results such as these are due to the relationships and networks that the tourism industry has built over the years."

The NTA Tourism Dinner was designed to promote to Federal Ministers, Senators and MP's the significant contribution that tourism makes to the Australian economy.

Minister for Small Business and Tourism, Fran Bailey and Shadow Minister for Transport, Roads and Tourism Martin Ferguson will be speaking at the Dinner.

The Tourism Industry is a \$81 billion industry for Australia, which directly employs more than 460,000 Australians. This is more than agriculture, forestry and fishing combined. Approximately 200,000 of these jobs are in regional Australia.

Tourism generates \$20.5 billion in export earnings- representing 10.5% of the total exports of good and services.

Over 45 Members of Parliament and Senators including key Ministers will be attending the Annual Dinner.

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For further information, please contact Nicole Sheridan at the NTA on 0411 114 176.