

On Friday, MEA distributed its Autumn edition of MEA Matters providing updates and information on what MEA is doing to support the membership and industry during this difficult time, and in keeping with our approach of Keep Calm and Carry On Meeting, we featured the highlights of Evolve and what the conference will offer you and your organisation.

Subsequently, the Government's announcement regarding the recommendations for mass gatherings of 500+ was received and like many of our clients are doing for their own events, the MEA Board is reviewing its options for Evolve 2020 and will update you shortly on what steps will be taken regarding holding the event.

There is no doubt that this is a fast-changing landscape and we need to stay calm and focused dealing with the realities we are presented with, and the realities we are facing.

As a member of the Business Events Council of Australia (BECA), questions have been compiled and are being shared with Government as a priority to understand and clarify the realities of the mass gathering statements. The outcomes will be shared with you as soon as we are able. BECA has appointed a new Chair, Dr. Vanessa Findlay, who is Canberra-based and will be making representations to government on behalf of the business events sector.

MEA is partnering with EEAA on Information Exchanges being held around the country over the next two weeks and we encourage you to attend. Your feedback will help us advise government on the impact that the Coronavirus is having on our sector. We also hope to hear and foster some creative and innovative solutions that can help our industry work through these challenging times.

MEA is also organising webinars on topics in the next few weeks that may assist you during these times. We would be keen to hear suggestions from you too as to what you need to assist your businesses and clients through this. Talk to us at the MEA office or to members of our Board.

We will keep you updated on any programs in relations to government stimulus packages.

These are undoubtedly challenging times and in many respects, uncharted waters for us all. The situation has impacted every single sector of our industry and every organisation – no one is spared. Through our collective strength, support and commitment, we are confident we will work our way through a recovery program and be back bigger and better than ever.

Kate Smith
Chair
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