

Media Release: 20 December 2023

MEGA CELEBRATES THE GRADUATION OF TWO MORE FROM DNSW REGIONAL EVENT MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Further to previous announcements of multiple graduates throughout the year, Meetings & Events Australia (MEA) is delighted to shine a spotlight on a further two exceptional students who have recently completed MEA's Diploma of Event Management SIT50316 course.

Recipients of a Destination NSW-funded MEA scholarship, Jacqui Moore from Moree Plains Shire Council and Jay Ross from Port Stephens Council are the latest students to be conferred this qualification by MEA.

Developed in partnership with [Destination NSW](#), this scholarship initiative was purposely crafted to facilitate industry practitioner-designed and delivered distance-based learning by individuals living and working in regional areas of New South Wales. The program caters to those already contributing professionally in an events-related capacity within their local community. The Diploma offers an unparalleled opportunity for those seeking to upskill through practical application of the Australian events industry's foundational concepts.

Peter McDonald, CEO of MEA, extended his congratulations to both Jacqui and Jay on their accomplishment, *"Big congratulations to Jacqui and Jay on earning their Diploma from MEA. I'm convinced that they are both now much more skilled, capable and confident event professionals than they were when they began the course. The Diploma of Event Management scholarship program offered through MEA by Destination NSW, of which Jacqui and Jay were beneficiaries, is a true windfall for the people of regional NSW. Our now regular graduation of people enrolled in the program is making for a more educated events workforce around the state beyond Sydney."*

Destination NSW CEO Steve Cox commented, *"Destination NSW is delighted to have had the opportunity to support the aspirations of more than 60 event professionals since 2018 through its partnership with MEA. It has been a key plank of our strategy to grow the contribution of business events to the visitor economy of regional NSW."*

Jacqui extended her thanks to those instrumental to helping her with this achievement, *"I would like to acknowledge and thank Destination Outback, Destination NSW, and Meetings & Events Australia for this unique opportunity to not only formalise my current skills but to also build a portfolio of new skills. Special mention to Jo Child for her delivery of the content over the past 18 months. Jo has been great to work with."*

Jay recommends the course for anyone looking to formalise their own event skills, *"I learned so much in the diploma, I gained a better understanding of the key principles and practices essential for planning, organising, and executing successful events. I learned how to develop event concepts, create detailed event plans, and effectively manage resources and budgets. Ultimately, having the certificate and qualification has put me in a prime position to pursue*

my passion, make meaningful contributions, and continue growing and thriving in this dynamic and rewarding field."

Whether an aspiring event professional or someone looking to enhance their existing skills, MEA's Diploma of Event Management [SIT50316] opens doors to a world of exciting opportunities in the vibrant events industry. People with an objective of becoming qualified, confident and accomplished event managers just like Jacqui and Jay can find more information on the MEA website: <https://bit.ly/MEAdiploma>

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About MEA: Meetings & Events Australia is the collective voice of the events industry in Australia. With the largest network of event professionals in Australia, MEA has been supporting the careers of our members and advancing the interests of the event industry since 1975. MEA's membership represents the largest community of businesses and individuals across the Australian events industry that employs more than 229,000 professionals who stage, produce, manage, support and supply the 480,000+ events held in Australia annually. These events include major events, festivals, conferences, meetings, exhibitions, launches, seminars, special events, community events and much more for associations, corporations, government and the general public.

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