

For Immediate Release

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Keep Our Venues Alive Campaign Launches Curated Hospitality Resource

The Keep Our Venues Alive Campaign, an initiative of the Night Time Industries Association, has launched a new online library of resources to help hospitality business owners, employees and suppliers navigate the COVID-19 crisis.

The curated resources, which can be found on the KOVA website, are organised by state and territory as well as by stakeholder category, with separate sections for business owners and employees. Each resource is clearly explained and has been vetted by KOVA volunteers to ensure its utility. The aim is to offer useful advice to the hospitality industry in the midst of an ongoing crisis, when information abounds but can quickly become overwhelming.

Along with other KOVA volunteers, industry expert Fred Siggins has been responsible for putting together the list of resources. "We've seen a huge volume of information being shared, and many opinions, but very little on how to cut through the noise. We wanted to create a page where everyone could find the resources that matter to them quickly and easily. A venue owner in Melbourne pivoting to take-out needs very different information to a waiter in Perth who's lost her job. We've also made sure to check every resource personally, and have only included clear and actionable information."

KOVA has also been working to pull together volunteer accountants, financial advisors and commercial lawyers to offer advice to businesses and employees impacted by COVID-19. Contact details for these professionals who are donating their time and knowledge can also be found in the online resource. In the coming weeks, KOVA will look to these professionals to host webinars to assist with managing the current crisis, and hopefully towards planning for recovery in the future.

Given the fluid nature of the situation, the list is not comprehensive, but KOVA will be updating and adding to the resources as new laws are passed and programmes implemented at federal, state and local government levels. KOVA will also be closely monitoring policy and advocating for a cohesive approach to relief for the hospitality industry across the country.

If there is a particular resource you'd like to see, or you have relevant information you think should be included, please reach out to Fred Siggins at esiggins@gmail.com.

If you are a professional who wishes to volunteer your time and skills to help hospitality businesses and employees in crisis, please reach out to KOVA on <u>info@ntia.org.au</u>

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For media enquiries, please contact: info@ntia.org.au

About Keep Our Venues Alive (KOVA):

KOVA seeks to:



Night Time Industries Association

1. mitigate the human impact on the hospitality sector (including venues and their supply chains) across:

- a. all employees whether full, part-time or casual, whether resident or foreign; and;
- b. self employed business owners;

2. help businesses in the sector trade to the best of their ability for so long as physical distancing measures prevail; and

3. otherwise protect the sector so that it can ramp up quickly after the crisis and as part of Australia's economic recovery

To achieve these aims, KOVA:

(a) works with government to advocate for the sector and better inform policy decisions;
(b) provides industry-specific analysis and commentary on any crisis related
Government support packages, measures, rules or restrictions that may help or
hinder businesses, consolidating information into one accessible point of
distribution; and

(c) harnesses the power of our collaborative industry into a force for good, cultivating new relationships between stakeholders and facilitating opportunities for innovation and creative approaches that will improve sector output and resilience in the medium to long term.

While KOVA is open to sector wide participation the NTIA recognises that many of KOVA's actively engaged stakeholders are either (i) small to medium hospitality businesses, or (ii) large operating groups.

Keep Our Venues Alive (KOVA): <u>www.keepourvenuesalive.com</u>

About the Night Time Industries Association (NTIA):

The Night Time Industries Association (NTIA) was formed in 2018, following the commencement of Sydney's Lockout Laws in 2014 and the ongoing effect it had on Sydney's Music and Arts Economy. The objective of the NTIA is to promote Sydney as a vibrant and creative city, and specifically, to build a new positive narrative for Sydney's lightlife. The NTIA membership comprises stakeholders in the night time economy from multiple sectors, including: Hospitality, Entertainment Venues, Festivals, Retail, Arts, Music & Culture, Precincts, Comedy and Visitor economy.

The Night Time Industries Association commenced as a Sydney-focused organisation, but recognising the Covid-19 impact is national, the Keep Our Venues Alive campaign has meant the NTIA has established satellite teams in Victoria and Tasmania.

Night Time Industries Association (NTIA): <u>www.ntia.org.au</u>