



\$330M ADELAIDE CASINO PLAN

ADELAIDE Casino has been given the green light for a \$330 million redevelopment as part of the wider rejuvenation of the Adelaide Convention Centre and Riverbank Precinct.

The owner of the casino, SKYCITY Entertainment Group, has committed to constructing a new tower attached to the existing site on the Festival Plaza forecourt.

Inside the expansion will be a luxury hotel, new VIP gaming facilities, three new bars and three additional restaurants.

There will be function spaces, which will cater for up to 750 people for banquets and events.

Construction of the expanded Adelaide Casino will begin in early 2018 and is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2020.

Adelaide Casino gm Luke Walker said the project would transform the Casino into an integrated entertainment area.

"I'm delighted Adelaide Casino will be joining the redevelopment of the Festival



Plaza, which alongside the Adelaide Oval, the new Convention Centre, the upgraded Festival Centre, and the rest of the Riverbank Precinct will create a stunning entertainment space in the heart of the city."

Graeme Stephens, chief executive of SKYCITY Entertainment Group said the casino opted to bring the

proposed room count up to 123 from 89, by adding an extra floor after careful plans.

"We believe there is demand for more quality hotel rooms in Adelaide from both domestic and international visitors."

SKYCITY has also allocated funds to remodel the existing Adelaide Casino building in the historic Railway Station to meet the new design standards.

Today's issue of BEN

Business Events News today has two pages of news plus the latest **BEN** Christmas Venue Guide on **page three**.

Singapore to town for MICE

SINGAPORE Tourism Board (STB) will bring its MasterMICE events to Australia next month with a three-city roadshow.

The roadshow will make stops in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne between 15-18 Aug.

Attendees will have the opportunity to receive product updates from a range of Singaporean MICE companies and suppliers.

Over 20 Singapore exhibitors will attend including Singapore Airlines, Gardens by the Bay, Marina Bay Sands and team-building provider CulinaryOn.

Getting ready for Get Global

OVER 120 exhibitors and 300 buyers will attend tomorrow's inaugural Get Global event at the International Convention Centre Sydney (ICC Sydney).

The one-day MICE event is focussed on the outbound market and has been designed to give buyers and exhibitors the opportunity to meet contacts and build their network globally.

Co-founder Donna Kessler said the event would allow buyers to liaise and network at their own pace.

Major exhibitors include Club Med, Marriott, Movenpick, Qantas, QT, Sofitel, Royal Caribbean, LA Tourism, Hyatt and more.



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27th July 2017

Crowne Plaza Christchurch debut

CROWNE Plaza Christchurch has had its first major test as an events venue with a launch party to mark its recent opening.

The building, previously an office tower, was severely damaged during the 2011 earthquake and has been reborn as the largest executive-style hotel in the city.

Crowne Plaza Christchurch gm Reiner Eulink said the opening was a great achievement and a special moment.

"We'll open 20-something



hotels this year, and none more important than this one," he said.

Pictured: Tim Pollock, IHG area gm NZ; Karin Sheppard, coo IHG Australasia and Japan; Reiner Eulink, gm, and Alan Watts, coo IHG Asia, Middle East and Africa.



IT MAY be summertime in Denmark, but that hasn't stopped 150 Santa delegates from around the world gathering to plan Christmas over the past few days.

The three-day World Santa Claus Congress, now in its 60th year, includes a fashion show, a parade, a swim in the sea and a herring tasting.

One German Santa said, "We have a discussion about important things in life - for example, which day is Christmas Day?"

Other hot topics discussed include what colour the Christmas tree should be and if Santa vehicles should receive parking tickets if illegally parked.

AIME Project leader named

REED Exhibitions' Angela Sciacca has been named project manager for the 2018 AIME expo.

She will be responsible for the overall delivery of next year's event.

Sciacca has been operations manager for AIME since 2004, and has been in the exhibition industry since 1992.

NZICC new sales role

THE New Zealand International Convention Centre is on the lookout for sales staff ahead of its opening in 2019.

Roles include sales manager - intl, senior sales manager NZ and sales manager Australia.

Gray's Say



Peter Gray, an independent Motivation Consultant, presents a regular **Business Events News** feature on current issues in the Conference and Incentive industries.

What value accreditation?

FELLOW columnist, Karen Sainsbury, recently set out a great case for accreditation within the business events industries. Let me say from the outset and as one who strived hard to develop and promote the incentive industry's accreditation scheme - the first such scheme for the business events industries developed by the now defunct AustralAsian Incentive Association - that I wholeheartedly support accreditation and agree with what Karen had to say about it.

However, as one of the initial 42 incentive practitioners to be accredited prior to the demise of the AIA, no client, prospect or enquirer has ever asked me about it or what it means for them. Sadly this is also true of many of my colleagues across the gamut of business events.

The reason is simple: hardly anyone knows they should ask about it! Nor is it government policy. Alas, although Karen's article will be seen by a number of incentive practitioners, meeting managers, event managers, PCOs and other readers of BEN it will generally not be seen by the people who matter - our clients. The organisations and associations that have developed accreditation schemes since the AIA started the trend hardly ever publicise them and certainly never point out what guarantees accredited operators offer their clients.

And what do they offer? Insurance against an event being mismanaged? Financial assistance when an accredited operator - company or individual - doesn't deliver on time, or at all? To investigate complaints about accredited operators?

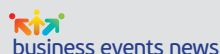
The answer is a resounding 'No'. They certainly require evidence of competency, previous client satisfaction and financial security all of which are essential. But no matter how much an individual or company can prove they know what they're doing (or have done in the past) and that they have all the required personal indemnity and public liability insurances, when an event goes wrong it's invariably in the latter stages when what's needed is not having to negotiate with insurance companies but someone to take over and deliver the goods!

Maybe there should be a set of minimum requirements for any accreditation scheme with the focus on client satisfaction and not just compensation (or not compensation at all if the project is completed as otherwise contracted).

The next question is 'who pays?'. Does the client pay a premium as a form of insurance that their project will be successfully managed or does the operator pay. I find it hard enough to convince clients to insure their projects for the normal risks let alone mine. The operator certainly pays to be accredited in the first place but what about continuous education? We live in an age of technological development which is so fast even the everyday technology we use in our offices is out of date as soon as it's purchased. So, keeping up to speed with what's happening in our respective industries can be time consuming and expensive.

Yes, we do need industry accreditation but it has to be relevant to our clients - and they need to know about it.

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www.businesseseventsnews.com.au

Business Events News is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Business Events News is Australia's newest online publication dedicated to the vibrant meetings, incentives, conferences and events sector.

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CHRISTMAS VENUE GUIDE



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