

28 July 2020

Media release

---

## Industry bodies unite to call for ongoing Govt assistance

Industry organisations from across the tourism, travel, aviation, hospitality and event sectors have joined forces to plead for assurance about Government plans for ongoing support.

Tourism Industry Aotearoa Chief Executive Chris Roberts presented the joint letter to Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern at a meeting at the Beehive this morning. Tourism Minister Kelvin Davis also attended the meeting.

The letter is signed by the Bed & Breakfast Association New Zealand, Bus & Coach Association, Conventions & Incentives New Zealand, Entertainment Technology New Zealand, Entertainment Venues Association of New Zealand, Holiday Parks New Zealand, Hospitality New Zealand, Luxury Lodges of New Zealand, New Zealand Airports Association, New Zealand Cruise Association, New Zealand Professional Fishing Guides Association, Rental Vehicle Association, Restaurant Association of New Zealand, Ski Areas Association New Zealand, Tourism Export Council of New Zealand, Travel Agents' Association of New Zealand and Youth Hostels Association New Zealand.

The letter is also supported by the the Board of Airline Representatives NZ, the New Zealand Hotel Owners Association and ProGuides New Zealand.

The letter congratulates the Government for the ongoing success of measures to protect New Zealand from the COVID-19 pandemic. However, all the organisations have members who are directly impacted by the closed border. With the end of the wage subsidy approaching, businesses need to know what the Government is planning, the letter says.

Australia recently announced a targeted extension of its JobKeeper programme until March 2021. However, the New Zealand wage subsidy is expiring from next month.

The tourism, travel, aviation, hospitality and event sectors are all suffering directly from the necessity to have border restrictions and will need a supportive Government partner for the foreseeable future.

"Thousands of vulnerable workers remain desperately worried about their futures. If there is to be no targeted wage subsidy extension, please signal as soon as possible what form ongoing Government support for our devastated sectors will take."

"We accept that not every business will survive this crisis, not every job can be saved. But well targeted Government support can limit the damage and give us something to rebuild from."

Mr Roberts says the Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism were very receptive.

### **TOURISM INDUSTRY AOTEAROA**

Inspire House, 125 Featherston St, Wellington 6011, New Zealand  
P +64 4 499 0104 [www.tia.org.nz](http://www.tia.org.nz) E [info@tia.org.nz](mailto:info@tia.org.nz)



"The Prime Minister understands why our sectors need more certainty around what support the Government is able to provide. I expect some further announcements soon.

"There is also strong agreement that government and industry must work together to rebuild a sustainable tourism industry that delivers for Aotearoa and its people."

TIA's [Tourism Election 2020 Action Plan](#), released last week, calls on the Government elected on 19 September to prioritise the survival and recovery of tourism businesses.

Click here to read the joint letter: <https://tia.org.nz/assets/9665475627/Tourism-Travel-Aviation-Hospitality-and-Event-Industry-letter-to-Prime-Minister-28-July-2020.pdf>

For more information, please contact:  
Ann-Marie Johnson  
Communications Manager  
0276 004 565  
[ann-marie.johnson@tia.org.nz](mailto:ann-marie.johnson@tia.org.nz)

## KEY FACTS

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Tourism in New Zealand was a \$112 million per day industry. Tourism delivered around \$47 million in foreign exchange to the New Zealand economy each day of the year. Domestic tourism contributed another \$65 million in economic activity every day.
- Tourism was New Zealand's biggest export earner, contributing \$17.2 billion or 20.4% of New Zealand's foreign exchange earnings (year ended March 2019).
- 14.4% of the total number of people employed in New Zealand worked directly or indirectly in tourism. That means 393,279 people were working in the visitor economy.
- The [Tourism 2025 & Beyond](#) sustainable growth framework/Kaupapa Whakapakari Tāpoi has a vision of growing a sustainable tourism industry that benefits New Zealanders.

Visit [www.tia.org.nz](http://www.tia.org.nz) for more information

## TOURISM INDUSTRY AOTEAROA

Inspire House, 125 Featherston St, Wellington 6140, New Zealand  
P +64 4 499 0104 [www.tia.org.nz](http://www.tia.org.nz) E [info@tia.org.nz](mailto:info@tia.org.nz)

