

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NEW NATIONAL & NSW HEAD OF TOURISM ACCOMMODATION AUSTRALIA**

Respected tourism industry hotelier Michael Johnson will be the next national and NSW head of the accommodation sector's peak body - Tourism Accommodation Australia (TAA).

The current general manager of the PARKROYAL Parramatta - and TAA NSW board member - has been appointed CEO of TAA National and TAA NSW after an extensive search process.

"Michael Johnson is well known and respected right across the tourism and accommodation sectors," Australian Hotels Association National and NSW President Scott Leach said today.

"He has extensive experience at the highest levels - including the successful relaunch of PARKROYAL Parramatta in 2016 - and strong industry connections across Australia and New Zealand. Michael will be an asset to TAA at both the NSW and national levels and I wish him all the best."

National Tourism Accommodation Australia Chair Martin Ferguson also welcomed Mr Johnson's appointment.

"Michael is of the highest calibre and he will bring his undoubted abilities and integrity to the position of CEO of Tourism Accommodation Australia," Mr Ferguson said today.

"I welcome Michael and look forward to working closely with him as we continue to advocate on behalf of the accommodation sector at all levels of Government."

Mr Johnson has been the general manager of PARKROYAL Parramatta since April 2013. He is also a former general manager of PARKROYAL Melbourne Airport and general manager of the Amora Hotel Jamison Sydney. He has previously been general manager of Totally Tourism New Zealand encompassing The Helicopter Line and Milford Sound Scenic Flights, PARKROYAL Hotels Queenstown and the Manly Pacific PARKROYAL.

Mr Johnson said he was looking forward to taking up the role of TAA NSW and National CEO from Monday, 20 May 2019.

"It is a great honour to represent the accommodation sector's peak body, an association which has seen its membership more than double in recent years and which advocates for its members at the highest levels," he said.

“An urgent priority will be working towards securing cheaper energy prices for our TAA membership nationwide, along with the continued focus on the issues of unregulated accommodation and the temporary skilled visa system.”

Today’s announcement follows the resignation of former TAA National and NSW CEO Carol Giuseppi in late February.

AHA WA CEO Bradley Woods is acting as the head of TAA National until Mr Johnson takes up his position. Dr Adele Lausberg is currently acting TAA NSW CEO.

TAA is the accommodation branch of the Australian Hotels Association.

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