

The Hon Stuart Robert MP

Minister for Employment, Workforce, Skills, Small and Family Business

The Hon Luke Howarth MP

Assistant Minister for Youth and Employment Services

Senator Hollie Hughes

Patron Senator for the Hunter Region

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

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Morrison Government delivering a stronger economy and stronger future with jobs on offer at Hunter Jobs Fair

A Morrison Government Jobs Fair in Maitland will connect job seekers with local employers and help address a shortage of skilled workers in key industries across the Hunter region.

The fair – to be held on **Thursday 7 April** at the **Maitland Federation Centre** (10 Bent Street Maitland) – will bring together employers, training organisations, trade associations, and employment services providers.

Minister for Employment, Workforce, Skills, Small and Family Business, Stuart Robert, said the jobs fair was part of the Morrison Government's Local Jobs Plan, which was helping build a strong economy and a stronger future in the Hunter.

'The Morrison Government is building a strong economy and a stronger future and our plan has the Hunter Valley's economy firing, something I saw firsthand at HVTC Hunter in Rutherford which is putting more apprentices into local worksites and mine sites than ever before,' Minister Robert said.

'Over coming weeks, locals are going to face a choice – a stronger economy and a stronger future with Nell McGill, our Liberal Candidate for Shortland, Brooke Vitnell, our Liberal Candidate for Paterson and James Thomson, our Nationals Candidate for Hunter, or a Labor Party that would weaken our economy and trade away jobs in the Hunter for a deal with the Greens.'

Assistant Minister for Youth and Employment Services, the Hon Luke Howarth MP, said the fairs had been held around Australia for 4 years now and had been successful in connecting thousands of job seekers with those looking to hire.

'More than 67,000 people have attended 65 jobs fairs since they began in 2018,' Assistant Minister Howarth said.

'We want to help as many people from the Hunter Employment Region as possible find work and improve their career prospects, through upskilling and reskilling. Job fairs are proving to be highly effective in helping us achieve this goal.'

Patron Senator for the Hunter Region, Hollie Hughes, encouraged job seekers in the Hunter region to take advantage of everything the jobs fair had to offer.

'With skills shortages in many industries, this is a great time to be looking for work. These jobs fairs are a fantastic way of meeting employers face to face and getting a foot in the door,' Senator Hughes said.

The Hunter Employment Region encompasses communities including Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Cessnock, Maitland, Kurri Kurri, Scone and Muswellbrook.

The Hunter Jobs Fair is a free event with sessions running from 10 am to 2.30 pm.

Registrations are encouraged but not essential. For more details visit: www.dese.gov.au/hunterif

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