

# MEDIA RELEASE



## MINISTER FOR SMALL BUSINESS TO SPEAK AT OVER THE HORIZON

6 January 2015

The Esperance Chamber of Commerce and Industry is pleased to announce that the Hon Joe Francis MLA, Minister for Small Business, has been confirmed as the keynote presenter for this year's Over the Horizon forum.

Over the Horizon is the ECCI's annual business and industry forum, which is coordinated in conjunction with the Goldfields Esperance Development Commission, and will be held on Thursday 5 March and the Esperance Civic Centre.







Tori Castledine, ECCI Events and Marketing Coordinator, said that having Minister Francis present at the forum was a great opportunity for members of both the business and wider community to hear from one of the state's key decision makers.

"Minister Francis will provide presenters with an overview of the Small Business portfolio, and will cover some of the key issues facing the sector and what strategies are being put in place to address these issues," Ms Castledine said.

"Minister Francis is a big supporter of WA's regional chambers of commerce network and we appreciate him taking the time to visit Esperance."

Tickets for Over the Horizon are now on sale! To register visit <https://overthehorizon2015.eventbrite.com.au>. Tickets are \$110 for non-ECCI members, \$80 for ECCI members and \$20 for the Port tour.

Other confirmed speakers and their presentation topics include:




-  Rob Dennis from Sirius Resources will provide an update on their projects and what opportunities will arise for Esperance and the South East region
-  Michael Rodriguez from Poseidon Nickel, to discuss the progress of their Lake Johnson mine and the flow on effect for Esperance
-  Julie Hill from CME WA, on what's 'over the horizon' in the mining industry for Esperance and the South East
-  Brett Thorp representing REIWA, to talk about real estate trends and predictions in Esperance
-  John Niccolaou from CCIWA will provide a snapshot of the State's economy and forecasted trends for 2015
-  Roban-Lynne Clark from AusIndustry will inform attendees of the grants and assistance available through the federal government and tips on how to maximise those opportunities

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-  Boyd Brown from Telstra and Penny Griffin from the Department of Commerce will present on the latest progress with the NBN and black spot concerns and solutions
-  Veronica Bertola from SEPWA, to discuss SEPWA's community wi-fi plans
-  Representatives from the Shires of Esperance, Dundas and Ravensthorpe will provide a snapshot of their upcoming projects

Participants will also have the opportunity to participate in a tour of the Esperance Port facilities before the forum.

**ENDS.**

*For more information please contact Tori Castledine, Events and Marketing Coordinator on 0438 546 526 or email [admin@esperancecci.com.au](mailto:admin@esperancecci.com.au)*