



MEDIA RELEASE

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IPA URGES GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN SMALL BUSINESS FOCUS

The Institute of Public Accountants (IPA) has extended its congratulations to the Hon Michael McCormack MP as the newly appointed minister for small business.

“The IPA looks forward to working with Mr McCormack to ensure the focus on small business is maintained as we all know that small business is the critical sector for Australia’s economic well-being,” said IPA chief executive officer, Andrew Conway.

“We have long advocated for a strong, dedicated voice for small business within the Ministry. We are pleased that this will be the sole focus of the newly appointed minister.

“We recognise the efforts of the Hon Kelly O’Dwyer MP and the former small business cabinet minister, the Hon Bruce Billson, and we urge the government to maintain the focus on small business productivity as there is still much to be done. We need to see an acceleration of the momentum created by the former small business ministers.

“Our members live and breathe small business; more than two-thirds working in or with small business on a daily basis so we are well qualified to offer an opinion when it comes to small business.

“In addition, we have extended our partnership with Deakin University to create the IPA-Deakin SME Research Centre, to provide invaluable research to inform government on small business policy issues.

“This builds on the foundation of the first ever Australian Small Business White Paper launched last year.

“We look forward to extending this knowledge base to Minister McCormack to advance policies designed to boost small business productivity including:

- Reforming the taxation system
- Simplifying the regulatory environment
- Improving access to affordable finance
- Improving education and skills of the small business sector
- Seizing export opportunities and taking advantage of trade agreements
- Ensuring a level playing field through fair competition laws
- Building an innovation system to support small business growth

For more information refer to the IPA Small Business White Paper at

www.publicaccountants.org.au/whitepaper

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About the Institute of Public Accountants

The IPA, formed in 1923, is one of Australia’s three legally recognised professional accounting bodies. In late 2014, the IPA acquired the Institute of Financial Accountants in the UK and formed the IPA Group, with more than with more than 35,000 members and students in over 65 countries. The IPA is a member of the International Federation of Accountants, the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board and the Confederation of Asian and Pacific Accountants. The IPA was recognised in 2012 as Australia’s most innovative accounting organisation and listed in the top 20 in the 2012 *BRW* Most Innovative Companies List.