

MEDIA RELEASE

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New CEO to lead iconic Port Stephens tourism organisation

Andrew McDonald, Chairman of Destination Port Stephens (DPS), has today welcomed the newly appointed and highly credentialed Eileen Gilliland as the organisation's new CEO.

Ms Gilliland, who has held a number of senior strategic positions with Destination NSW, most recently as International Partnerships Manager, will commence working in Port Stephens in February 2018.

Speaking today, Mr McDonald said the acquisition of Ms Gilliland was a huge coup for the local tourism industry.

"Eileen brings over 20 years tourism experience to Port Stephens after working extensively at Destination NSW and eight years in Central Coast Tourism," Mr McDonald said.

"DPS has spent a lot of time and effort in building a brand and industry in Port Stephens which benefits our community and economy. We expect Eileen's expertise and experience will help us strengthen these and take us to a new level," he added.

Ms Gilliland said she was relishing the opportunity to work in such an iconic destination.

"I am very much looking forward to taking on this new challenge and to be working with the local tourism industry to continue to grow the visitor economy. I have been interested in a move back into regional tourism and Port Stephens was always at the top of my list," she said.

"There are so many natural advantages that DPS have to work with and I'm hopeful I can build on them as well as uncover some new and exciting opportunities as well."

Eileen Gilliland will start as CEO of Destination Port Stephens on 12 February 2018 and will be available for comment at a later date.

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