

Media Release

10 JUNE 2016

New Chief Executive brings local ‘hands on’ knowledge of the region to Regional Development Australia – Northern Rivers

RDA-Northern Rivers is delighted to announce today the appointment of Alex Smith as its new CEO.

Alex’s experience as a Chief Executive, Corporate Manager, Importer, Retailer and Entrepreneur provides a diverse and comprehensive skillset, teamed with a passion for the Northern Rivers, which he brings to his role as CEO of Regional Development Australia – Northern Rivers.

RDA-NR Chairman, Don Page said “With hands on experience of doing business in the Northern Rivers and a solid background in business management we welcome Alex Smith to the position of CEO. His diverse set of skills and wealth of experience will be an asset to RDA Northern Rivers.”

Alex’s local background as a farmer, small business owner and senior manager in a national rural supply organisation, managing the Northern Rivers business operations, has given him experience and knowledge across a number of industries including the digital economy, agriculture and manufacturing.

“I am grateful to be given the opportunity to contribute my skills and experience in helping build the economic sustainability of the Northern Rivers.” said Alex

Alex has lived in the Northern Rivers for over 20 years and looks forward to working towards strengthening the economic growth of the region.

The RDA Northern Rivers Committee farewells outgoing CEO Ben Redden and thanks him for his outstanding contribution over the past 12 months.

– Ends –

Further information: Don Page, Chair RDA Northern Rivers 6622 4011

Notes to editors:

RDA-NR is a leadership voice for the region. We support the development of local economies and dynamic communities; and enhance liveability in the Northern Rivers by:

- Improving access to government funding and programs
- Facilitating partnerships and linkages with all tiers of government and the community; and

- Managing a diverse range of projects that strengthen regional economic development.

We are non-for-profit, community-based organisation. We have a broad and diverse skills base with demonstrated networks and alliances. We aim to reduce duplication and overlaps in regional activities and services and work with other regional organisations on projects and initiatives where there are common areas of interest.

The *RDA Northern Rivers Digital Activation Plan* was launched in May 2016.

Download <http://rdanorthernrivers.org.au/rda-northern-rivers-digital-activation-plan-digital-economy/>