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Media release

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## Tourism industry welcomes progress on easier border travel with Australia

Tourism Industry Aotearoa welcomes today's announcement by the Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand that work will begin on considering more seamless travel across the Tasman.

Chief executive Rebecca Ingram says that on the anniversary of our Closer Economic Relations agreement, it was great to hear an expert panel will look at border settings, reporting back in a year's time.

"The tourism industry on both sides of the Tasman is motivated to work with our governments to make this experience easier, something which would benefit business and holiday visitors.

"We recognise that it's not without complexity and it's important to balance security needs with desires to reduce barriers. However, technology is fast moving and can be utilised to make the experience of crossing the Tasman quicker and easier," she says

The announcement today not only marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CER but also the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Trans-Tasman Travel Arrangement.

Ms Ingram says both countries "have much to benefit and celebrate together and today's announcement is very much in the spirit of continuing to work in partnership."

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### KEY FACTS

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- TIA is New Zealand tourism's peak industry body. We are the only independent association that represents all sectors of New Zealand's large and diverse tourism industry.
- TIA has about 1300 member businesses from across the industry, ranging from small owner/operators to large publicly listed tourism corporates and international hotel chains.
- TIA is deeply involved in discussions on recovery and what the future of tourism in New Zealand will look like.
- TIA leads implementation of the industry's **Tourism Sustainability Commitment** which aims to see every New Zealand tourism business contributing positively to our people and cultures, our environment and our economy
- TIA delivers a comprehensive and diverse range of industry events including TRENZ, New Zealand Tourism Awards, Discussing Tourism regional events and the Tourism Summit Aotearoa.

Visit [www.tia.org.nz](http://www.tia.org.nz) for more information

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