



Media Release: 1 July 2021

## Get Local expo moves to August

Get Local owners have taken the decision to move the expo in light of the recent COVID-19 outbreaks and various government-imposed lockdowns, the person-to-person event will now take place on Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25 August 2021.

Donna Kessler and Gary Bender, co-owners of Get Local, believe the new dates in August are in the best health and safety interests of all involved, and will give attendees from around the country and New Zealand the ability and confidence to attend.

“We have always maintained that Get Local would be an in-person event and by moving it to August we are confident that will happen.

“Moving the expo allows both exhibitors and visitors time to do what they have to do in their own businesses right now. Over the past few days many companies have made the decision to reschedule their own events and that takes work for event planners and venue operators – our attendees – to manage,” said Ms Kessler.

The revised dates are all about being agile in the current environment.

“Unfortunately, the global pandemic has brought with it a new reality for all of us where we have to be agile in every single area of our business. Moving Get Local to August is simply a demonstration of this.

“Our overriding desire is for the entire business event sector to come together safely and to help kick-start this great industry of ours. We hope all our industry colleagues stay safe and we look forward to seeing you in August,” said Mr Bender.

Get Local has already exceeded exhibitor participation levels, has a strong line-up of speakers, and is almost at capacity with strategic partnerships.

**-ENDS-**

### Notes to Editors:

**Gary Bender and Donna Kessler are available for comment via media contacts at Zadro:**

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**Images:**

1. Get Local Co-Founders, Gary Bender & Donna Kessler,



More images can be found in this folder:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/l25mzhlrzsmqdz/AACRd53iOPhBcMsUvo5XN1XMa?dl=0>

**ABOUT GET LOCAL – 24 & 25 August 2021**

[www.getlocalexpo.com.au](http://www.getlocalexpo.com.au)

For many years Gary Bender and Donna Kessler have received strong support and encouragement from the industry to replicate the successful formula of Get Global for a local show.

Get Local is a meeting and events exhibition focused exclusively on Australia's MICE market. This event draws the industry together to give buyers and exhibitors the opportunity to meet with the right contacts and build their network. There's so much on our doorstep and Get Local is excited to showcase our beautiful country.

**GET ACQUAINTED**

**Gary Bender, Managing Director, World Corporate Travel.**

Gary has had 38 years' experience creating global corporate conferences, meetings and experiences for some of Australia's leading corporations. Beginning his career in travel back in 1982 in the UK for Thomas Cook, he has been in the business ever since. Gary is the owner and Managing Director of World Corporate Travel (WCT) based in Sydney; a successful PCO and Corporate Travel Agency that has delivered incentive programs and conferences in Australia and all over the world.

**Donna Kessler, Founder and Director, Tourism Portfolio.**

Since Tourism Portfolio's inception in 2002, Donna has represented high quality destinations, venues, resorts and event suppliers to the meetings, incentives and tourism markets. With almost three decades of experience in all aspects of tourism and the corporate industry, Donna has held positions at the InterContinental Sydney and Hilton International Australia, has won the acclaimed Meetings & Events Australia State and National Sales and Marketing Person of the Year Award in 2005 and 2008 and now supports these awards in a judging capacity.