

Be.Bendigo
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MEDIA RELEASE

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Have you recently come to Bendigo to work?

If you have recently moved to the Bendigo area to take up new employment, Be.Bendigo (Bendigo's Chamber of Commerce) would like to talk to you.

CEO of Be.Bendigo, Mr Rob Herbert, says that many Bendigo businesses are still experiencing difficulties in filling job vacancies across a whole range of occupations, and various theories are being put forward as to how Bendigo can attract more of the employees that we need.

"In some cases, and despite slowing in the economy resulting from interest rate rises, businesses are being constrained in growth plans and opportunities by an inability to attract the skills and talent that they need", according to Mr Herbert.

"While we are aware of many of the issues, we are also excited by the great opportunities that will present themselves over the next few years, with the Commonwealth Games now just under three years from Opening.

"In the short-term, the terrific new "Australiana: Designing a Nation" exhibition has just opened at the Bendigo Art Gallery; three full performances of Wagner's Ring Cycle are about to get underway; and Bendigo Writers Festival is on in early May. All of these events present tremendous opportunities for local businesses, and for us to impress visitors who will, hopefully, return – but staff shortages might mean that local businesses do not get the full benefit of this influx", Mr Herbert said.

"We know, however, that many people continue to move from other areas into Bendigo to take up roles that are advertised far and wide to attract the right talent, and this is an area that we are keen to focus on", he continued, " and we want to talk to these people to understand more about the things that helped them to make the decision, and how they went about making the move – including any issues they faced."

BeBendigo is hoping that there may be some common ingredients they can identify, and through this, help improve the recruitment outcomes for their members and partners.

"We know that Bendigo is a great place to live and work, and in an era where we are competing with other regional cities for talent and skills, it makes economic sense and is really important for us to make the move as easy as possible", Mr Herbert said.

Those interested in sharing their stories are encouraged to email Rob Stephenson at BeBendigo rstephenson@bebendigo.com.au

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