



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**SKILLS SHORTAGE ON AGENDA WHEN TAA MET UP WITH MINISTER**

The skills shortage facing the accommodation sector and the need for more Vocational Education and Training was high on the agenda when TAA National CEO Michael Johnson met up with Federal Minister for Employment, Skills and Small Business Senator Michaelia Cash recently.

Mr Johnson took the chance to speak with the Minister on the sidelines of the recent morning tea, hosted by the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and NSW Business Chamber, at the PWC Offices in Barangaroo.

He praised the Minister's knowledge of the on-going issues facing the sector.

"Minister Cash was extremely passionate about the future of jobs and the Morrison Government's focus on Vocational Education and Training (VET)," he said.

"She has a great knowledge of the tourism accommodation sector and we briefly discussed a range of issues including the on-going skills shortages.

"I pointed out TAA is committed to working with industry, government and education providers to enhance not only the perception of careers in the accommodation sector but to develop the skills of our industry participants in the effort to fill the skills gap."

Mr Johnson said during her address to the gathering the Minister reminded the audience, made up of business and industry leaders, of 35 continuous months of jobs growth.

"She also reiterated it is industry - small, medium and large businesses – which create jobs and it is the role of the Government to create the right framework and policies to allow that to happen," he said.

"The Minister outlined the Morrison Government's plans to address the need for more skilled workers and investment in vocational education and training.

"I look forward to meeting with the Minister again in the near future."

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