



# media release

4 June 2015

## Geelong Chamber of Commerce to take Smart Geelong Network to the next level of excellence

The Geelong Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Deakin University, will ensure the core purpose of the SMART Geelong Network will continue. This follows the recent public announcement that the current SGN would cease operations by the end of 2015.

“This is great news for SGN and great news for the Geelong region,” said SGN Chairman Professor Joe Graffam.

“The collaboration with the Geelong Chamber of Commerce and Deakin University will provide a contemporary perspective and new approach for SGN, ensuring the region’s entrepreneurialism and innovation excellence continues to be driven and showcased locally and further afield.

“I look forward to working with the Chamber in this exciting new chapter in the history of SGN.”

SGN was originally an initiative of the Geelong Chamber of Commerce and was established as a key strategic platform of the Chamber to help drive the knowledge economy in the Geelong region. In its 16 years of operation SGN has been instrumental in recognizing and supporting innovation and research and in creating a platform for building Geelong’s global reputation for research, innovation and entrepreneurship excellence.

“The Geelong Chamber of Commerce is passionate about positioning Geelong as a centre of innovation and entrepreneurial excellence,” said Chamber President, Kylie Warne.

“The objectives of SGN align perfectly with those outlined in the Chamber’s new five year strategic plan. Collaboration is central to future success, and we have commenced discussions with other peak groups in Geelong, such as the Geelong Manufacturing Council, as to how best take SGN’s objectives forward. The Chamber is delighted to help drive our region’s entrepreneurial spirit and transformative innovation.”

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