



Press release

MAY 28, 2019

Minister opens Sunshine Coast Convention Centre

SUNSHINE COAST CONVENTION CENTRE OFFICIALLY OPENS AT NOVOTEL TWIN WATERS RESORT

Queensland Tourism Industry Development Minister Kate Jones has today officially opened the \$10 million Sunshine Coast Convention Centre at Novotel Twin Waters Resort.

Positioned in the grounds of the Novotel Twin Waters Resort, the convention centre has been purpose-built by Shakespeare Property Group, who purchased the Resort in September 2018 for \$100 million.

Minister Jones was joined for a formal ribbon cutting ceremony with Sunshine Coast Mayor **Mark Jamieson**, Shakespeare Property Group Chairman **Mr Cheng King Law**, Shakespeare Property Group Managing Director **Yak Yong Quek** and Accor Chief Operating Officer, Pacific **Simon McGrath**.

Ms Jones said the 3,300 square metre convention centre, capable of hosting more than 2,700 delegates, would be a game-changer for the region.

"This centre has enough capacity to house 200 trade stands at once. It will be instrumental in securing events the Sunshine Coast has never been able to host in the past," she said.

"With the expansion of the Sunshine Coast airport and millions of dollars in new tourism infrastructure developments under way, the local tourism industry is booming."

"I look forward to coming back in November this year when the convention centre will come alive for Queensland's leading tourism industry event, the DestinationQ Forum, which will again be held alongside the Queensland Tourism Awards."

Shakespeare Property Group, have set the ambitious goal of increasing delegate numbers to the new convention centre by 30 per cent within two years.

Shakespeare Property Group managing director Yak Yong Quek said the company was proud to expand its operation on the Sunshine Coast.



"Shakespeare prides itself on being a proactive investor. Our style is to invest, improve and evolve product to ensure we are leading the market," he said.

"To complement the delivery of this state-of-the-art convention centre we have also committed to extensive upgrading of the hotel lobby, food and beverage facilities. These works will commence imminently and will be completed by October 2019.

"This upgrade will not only benefit our guests to the resort, but will create opportunities for the local economy and the community through employment and superior facilities to be enjoyed by all.

"This next phase continues to be supportive of our broader vision to create fresh opportunities for the economic and cultural growth of the community and our partnership with Accor will ensure the delivery of this vision."

Accor Chief Operating Officer Pacific, Simon McGrath said, "We look forward to continuing our successful partnership with Shakespeare Property Group with the management of the Sunshine Coast Convention Centre at Novotel Twin Waters Resort.

"Accor has strong experience in operating convention centres and premium meeting spaces at home and abroad.

"We are confident that this new convention facility, supported by our strong network of hotels in Queensland's South East and beyond, will drive visitor growth to the Sunshine Coast, create jobs, support local businesses and deliver broader economic benefits to the region as a whole."

The new-build Sunshine Coast Convention Centre, located within Novotel Twin Waters Resort, will offer a choice of six different dynamic meeting and event spaces across 3300sqm. The new Minyama room will cater for 1,500 delegates theatre style, or 1,000 banquet style.

The convention centre has been designed to seamlessly attach to the Wandiny Pavilion, an existing conference space located on the resort site. The Wandiny Pavilion can facilitate up to 1,200 delegates theatre style, or 80 exhibition booths (3x2 metres) making it an extremely versatile business events venue and taking the convention centre's overall capacity to 2,700 people.



The new Minyama and Wandiny function rooms acknowledge the local Indigenous Gubbi Gubbi people. Meeting and events delegates will enjoy access to the natural bushland and surrounding ocean, river and lagoon water features accessing playing fields and two premium golf courses.

For more information on the Sunshine Coast Convention Centre visit www.novoteltwinwatersresort.com.au/conventioncentre.html or www.SunshineCCC.com

To enquire about holding an event at the centre please contact Rachel Smith Executive Assistant Manager Commercial for the Novotel Twin Waters Resort on dosm@twinwatersresort.com.au

ENDS

ABOUT THE SHAKESPEARE PROPERTY GROUP

Armed with more than 20 years' experience, the Shakespeare Property Group is a private Melbournebased investment company that seeks to co-invest and build solid, enduring and mutually beneficial partnerships with stakeholders and the communities it operates in. Shakespeare Property Group currently have more than \$1.25 billion worth of commercial property interests (office, retail and hotel) under management across five Australian states. For more information on current projects, visit <http://theshakespearegroup.com.au/>

ABOUT ACCOR

Accor is a world-leading augmented hospitality group offering unique and meaningful experiences in more than 4,800 hotels, resorts, and residences across 100 countries. With an unrivalled portfolio of brands from luxury to economy, Accor has been providing hospitality savoir-faire for more than 50 years.

Beyond accommodations, Accor enables new ways to live, work, and play with Food & Beverage, nightlife, wellbeing, and coworking brands. To drive business performance, Accor's portfolio of business accelerators amplify hospitality distribution, operations, and experience. Guests have access to one of the world's most attractive hotel loyalty programs—Le Club AccorHotels. Accor is deeply committed to sustainable value creation, and plays an active role in giving back to planet and community. Planet 21 – Acting Here endeavours to act for positive hospitality, while Accor Solidarity, the endowment fund, empowers disadvantaged groups through professional training and access to employment. Accor SA is publicly listed on the Euronext Paris Stock Exchange (ISIN code: FR0000120404) and on the OTC Market (Ticker: ACRFY) in the United States. For more information visit accor.com. Or become a fan and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Contacts media relations

Ginni Post

Accor
T. +61 2 9280 9874
E. ginni.post@accor.com

Rebecca Astier

Accor
T. +61 417 667 042
E. Rebecca.astier@accor.com