

Media Release

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Melbourne to host Meeting of the International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Physical Therapists

The world's leading Musculoskeletal Physiotherapists have chosen Melbourne as the place to exchange knowledge, share research and celebrate innovation within the neuromusculoskeletal physiotherapy sector.

The 2020 Meeting of the International Federation of Orthopaedic Manipulative Physical Therapists (IFOMPT 2020) will take place in Melbourne in October 2020 at the award winning Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC).

Melbourne Convention Bureau (MCB) secured the meeting which will generate \$5.5 million for Victoria and attract 1300 international and local delegates.

Minister for Tourism and Major Events, John Eren said the IFOMPT 2020 would present another welcome boost to Victoria's visitor economy.

"Staging the big international conferences provides valuable returns for all Victorians. It means more business for our hotels, restaurants and other small businesses – and that means more jobs for locals."

"We work hard to remain the first choice for international conference organisers worldwide, because we know what value they are to our state."

Karen Bolinger, CEO Melbourne Convention Bureau said physiotherapy is a highly regarded profession in Victoria, making it the ideal host city for the meeting.

"Physiotherapy is a continually growing area of interest for the general public, which has seen the industry expand and significantly advance the field of neuro musculoskeletal physiotherapy locally.

"Melbourne is home to the Australian Physiotherapy Association, Australia's peak body for physiotherapists.

"The 2020 IFOMPT Meeting will bring together leaders and innovators in the clinical, academic and research fields who will deliberate on initiatives that will leave lasting legacies on the community including patient care and public health awareness and promotion," Ms Bolinger said.

Melbourne's winning bid was a testament to the successful collaboration between MCB, State Government and industry partners.

"Melbourne is a city that demonstrates true collaboration and is committed to continually heightening its strong knowledge city credentials and capabilities.

"Collectively as 'Team Melbourne' MCB, State Government, MCEC and the Australian Physiotherapy Association delivered a solution that will deliver on the meeting objectives and leave a lasting impact on the local and global community," Ms Bolinger said.

Annalie Basson, President of IFOMPT said she and her colleagues were looking forward to holding IFOMPT 2020 in Melbourne.

“Australian physios are considered amongst the very best in the world, in terms of research, clinical practice and global leadership.

“IFOMPT will promote international excellence and unity in clinical and academic standards for musculoskeletal physiotherapists, “Ms Basson said.

MCEC’s Chief Executive, Peter King said “We look forward to welcoming IFOMPT delegates to MCEC in 2020, to gather, learn, connect and engage with one another in our expanded venue.

“Our track record in delivering international conferences is second to none and we pride ourselves on providing the best platform for delegates to share knowledge and create lasting legacies.”

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