



**The Hon Simon Crean MP**  
Federal Minister for Regional  
Australia, Regional Development  
and Local Government  
Minister for the Arts

**The Hon Andrew Stoner MP**  
New South Wales Deputy Premier, Minister for  
Trade and Investment, and Minister for Regional  
Infrastructure and Services

## **JOINT MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Thursday, 2 February, 2012**

### **STRENGTHENING REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MURRAY**

Regional Development Australia (RDA) NSW is set to benefit from new appointments to each of its committees.

The appointments of nine new members to RDA Murray were announced today by Regional Australia Minister, Simon Crean and NSW Deputy Premier, Andrew Stoner.

Mr Peter Crowe has been appointed as Chair and Ms Jennifer Weller has been appointed as Deputy Chair. The following individuals have been appointed as committee members:

- Mr Pete Clinnick
- Mr Mike Duncan
- Mr Chris Littlemore
- Ms Anne Mcnaught
- Mr Brian Mitsch
- Ms Christine Sanger
- Mr Les Tomich

Minister Crean said the new appointments will ensure RDA Murray continues as a vital connection between all three levels of Government.

"The RDA committees are more than the eyes and ears for Canberra," Mr Crean said.

"Their input is central to our place-based approach because it will help us better respond to the challenges and opportunities different regions face and enable us to embed regionalism into the way we govern in a way that can't be unpicked.

"Strong RDA committees are engaging with local communities to maximise economic growth, flexibility, diversity and resilience.

"Committee members are local leaders with diverse skills and experience, who understand the challenges, opportunities and priorities in their communities.

"They volunteer their time and energy and work tirelessly for their regions, and we are committed to ensuring they have the support and resources to do their job well."

Deputy Premier Stoner said the appointment of the new committee members to RDA Murray will be instrumental to identifying strengths and opportunities in each region and providing the national policies and programs that will drive local solutions.

"The NSW RDA network helps drive policy for regional NSW, and is vital for setting the agenda on regional issues," Mr Stoner said.

"That is why it is important that each committee is made up of highly qualified people with a deep understanding of local issues, and today's appointments reflect that."

RDA is a partnership between Australian, State, Territory and Local Governments to strengthen regional communities.

RDA consists of a national network of 55 committees which are made up of leaders who work with all levels of government, business and community groups to support the development of their regions.

RDA Murray is based in Albury and Deniliquin and comprises of committee members from across the region.

For more information on the work being undertaken by RDA Murray visit [www.rdamurray.org.au](http://www.rdamurray.org.au)

For more information and the latest news from the national RDA network at [www.rda.gov.au](http://www.rda.gov.au)

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