

Small grants to make a big difference for Blue Mountains community

14 August, 2017: The Blue Mountains community is set to benefit from small grants to support local projects that contribute to the vitality of the region, thanks to a new partnership between [Scenic World](#) and the [Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal](#) (FRRR).

Scenic World, through its new philanthropic program [Scenic World Shared](#), is investing in a number of programs to support the Blue Mountains community, including through FRRR's Small Grants for Rural Communities program.

This flexible program allows not-for-profit community groups to apply for grants of up to \$5,000 to address issues such as the environment, poverty and disadvantage, and health and wellbeing.

The program will include two funding rounds annually for the Blue Mountains region, with the first round opening on August 14. The next round is expected to open in December 2017.

Natalie Egleton, FRRR's CEO, explained that the Small Grants for Rural Communities program was developed to address a broad spectrum of issues.

"We know that every community has different issues and unique ways to address those challenges, so this program is designed to allow groups to apply for whatever they need to build strong, vibrant, and sustainable communities," she said.

"We are delighted to be working with Scenic World to enable community groups in and around the Blue Mountains to invest in the projects and initiatives they know will make the biggest difference."

Scenic World's Managing Director, Anthea Hammon, said the Shared program, which was developed with the input of staff, visitors and the local community, will help bring much needed resources to the region.

"We want to support community groups to champion change at a local level by providing grants for projects that develop stronger, better connected and more sustainable communities," she said.

"Working alongside FRRR will allow us to give back to the Blue Mountains in a more structured way and create a lasting impact that will improve lives locally."

For more information and to apply through FRRR's new web-based application system Grants Gateway, visit the [Small Grants page of FRRR's website](#). There are also links to case studies of previously funded projects. Applications close on 27 September 2017.

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Notes for Media: For more information about FRRR's **Small Grants for Rural Communities** program, contact Jeanice Henderson, National Program Manager on 03 5430 2399; email news@frrr.org.au or call Julie Weldon on 0423 110 802.

For more information about Scenic World Shared, contact Louise Wallace, Communications – Strategy & Social, LouiseW@ScenicWorld.com.au or call +61 [0] 2 4780 0200

About FRRR: The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) was established in 2000 to support the renewal of rural, regional and remote communities in Australia through partnerships with the private sector, philanthropy and governments. Since inception, FRRR has managed the distribution of more than \$70 million in grants and provided substantial capacity building support to community organisations across the nation. To find out more about FRRR, visit www.frrr.org.au.

About Scenic World Shared:

Scenic World Shared is Scenic World's philanthropic program which is committed to sustaining the local community and protecting the Blue Mountains for future generations to enjoy. Developed with the input of visitors, staff and the community, the Shared program gives back to the vibrant Blue Mountains region and shares the benefits of tourism on a broader scale. Visit www.scenicworldshared.com.au for more information.