



IMAGINE
THE YARRA

DRAFT YARRA STRATEGIC PLAN

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

Submission Number:	184691
Name (Individual/Organisation):	Skysportz
Attachments:	Attachment 1 – Supporting document



Wednesday 6 September 2017

The Honourable John Eren
Minister for Tourism and Major Events
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Dear Minister,

SUBJECT: HELIPORT FOR MELBOURNE

I am pleased to provide this letter of support to the Helicopter Association of Victoria regarding the operations of the Microflite helicopter service.

Visit Victoria is Victoria's tourism and events company formed to 'shift the needle' on the economic contribution of visitors to this state. It brings together the functions dedicated to growing Victoria's visitor economy through tourism marketing and event acquisition.

Microflite operates emergency and tourism charter helicopters from the North Wharf helipad. The helipad began operating from Batman Park, opposite Crown Casino, in 1996.

Melbourne's inevitable growth into the dynamic Docklands precinct has brought more residents, but also more tourists and a greater appetite for charter flights.

Tourists, lured by our world class major events and business calendar are excited by the easy access from Melbourne's business district to the natural wonders of Victoria, such as the Twelve Apostles, or food and wine experiences in the Yarra Valley, Gippsland, Sorrento and Daylesford.

As such, I support Microflite's proposal to establish a permanent heliport. The heliport could be established at Turning Basin or Batman Park.

Termination of the service from the city would have immediate economic impact on the tourism sector, undermining business events and removing competitive advantage.

Yours sincerely

Peter Bingeman
CEO
Visit Victoria