



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## LANDMARK GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT FOR MUCH NEEDED RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION CAPACITY IN THE GRAMPIANS

### Windana to expand services into the Grampians

Melbourne, Victoria, August 29, 2017– Windana Drug and Alcohol Recovery Inc. has been selected to operate the new 20 bed residential rehabilitation facility in the Grampians region which was initially announced in the 2016/2017 Victorian State Budget.

This much needed facility will address a crucial service gap within the region. Currently, residents in the Grampians requiring residential rehabilitation need to travel to Bendigo or Melbourne, away from their families and support networks. This new service will ensure that the community has access to local residential rehabilitation programs.

*Anne-Maree Kaser, Windana's CEO says, 'we are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with the people from the Grampians community. We also look forward to meeting the local service providers and building and enhancing partnerships with them so that we can deliver together, positive community outcomes and reduce the harms related to alcohol and other drug use.'*

Windana, a leading Victorian alcohol and other drug (AOD) treatment agency, is proud to be able to work with this community. We know that there are a number of areas within the Grampians experiencing very high levels of AOD related harms and, with the existing quality local AOD service providers we look forward to making a positive contribution together.

*Ms Kaser continues, 'we understand the need for this facility given the number of individuals experiencing alcohol and other drug related trauma and harm is more than double the state average in some parts of the region. We will bring our vast experience of working with highly complex clients, including co-occurring AOD and mental health issues, to assist this community.'*

Windana is a proven collaborator across the AOD sector and with this new service, will bring the same approach. We are committed to working with the wide range of stakeholders, including government, to ensure the facility will enhance AOD service access in rural and regional Victoria.

#### **About Windana:**

Windana is a leading Melbourne-based drug and alcohol treatment center with over 30 years' experience in the industry. Windana specialises in holistic, client-focused recovery services including residential and supportive community-based recovery and rehabilitation, as well as medically supported withdrawal programs in addition to its pioneering evidence-based, non-medical treatment programs. The organisation operates across a number of areas including Bayside, Frankston Mornington Peninsula, Barwon, Dandenong, Latrobe and our Therapeutic Community in Maryknoll.

**For further information:**

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